

A
V O Y A G E

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A B Y S S I N I A.

Rich BY *Wilson 98*
Father Ferome Lobo,

A PORTUGUESE JESUIT.

C O N T A I N I N G,

A Narrative of the Dangers
 he underwent in his first
 Attempt to pass from the
Indies into Abyssinia; with
 a Description of the
 Coasts of the *Red-Sea*.

An Account of the History,
 Laws, Customs, Religion,
 Habits, and Buildings of
 the *Abyssins*; with the
 Rivers, Air, Soil, Birds,
 Beasts, Fruits and other
 natural Productions of

that remote and unfre-
 quented Country.

A Relation of the Admis-
 sion of the Jesuits into
Abyssinia in 1625, and
 their Expulsion from
 thence in 1634.

An exact Description of the
Nile, its Head, its Branch-
 es, the Course of its Wa-
 ters, and the Cause of
 its Inundations.

With a Continuation of the History of *Abyssinia*
 down to the Beginning of the Eighteenth Century, and
 Fifteen Dissertations on various Subjects relating to the
 History, Antiquities, Government, Religion, Manners,
 and natural History of *Abyssinia*, and other Countries
 mention'd by Father **FEROME LOBO**.

By MR. LE GRAND.

From the FRENCH.

L O N D O N.

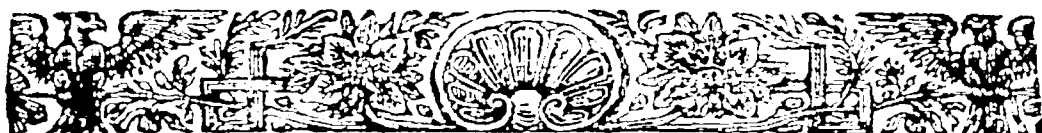
Printed for A. BETTESWORTH, and C. HITCH
 at the *Red-Lyon* in *Paternoster-Row*.

MDCCLXXXIV.

XII, 396 pp

Translated by Samuel Johnson

witness of. A Lyon having taken his Haunt, near the Place where I lived, kill'd all the Oxen and Cows, and did a great deal of other Mischief, of which I heard new Complaints every Day. A Servant of Mine having taken a Resolution to free the Country from this Destroyer, went out one Day with two Lances, and after he had been some time in quest of him, found him with his Mouth all smear'd with the Blood of a Cow he had just devour'd, the Man rush'd upon him, and thrust his Lance into his Throat with such violence that it came out between his Shoulders, the Beast with one dreadful Roar, fell down into a Pit, and lay struggling, till my Servant dispatch'd him. I measured the Body of this Lyon, and found him, twelve feet between the Head and the Tail.



C H A P. II.

The Animals of Abyssinia, the Elephant, Unicorn, their Horses and Cows, with a particular account of the Moroc.

TH E R E are so great Numbers of Elephants in *Abyssinia*, that in one Evening we met three Hundred of them in three Troops; as they filled up the whole Way, we were in great perplexity a long time what Measures to take, at length, having implor'd the Protection of that Providence, that Super-intends the whole Creation, we went forwards through the midst of them, without any Injury. Once we met four young Elephants, and an old one that play'd with them, lifting them up with her Trunk, they
grew

grew enraged on the sudden, and ran upon us; we had no way of securing ourselves but by flight, which however would have been fruitless, had not our Persuers been stop'd by a deep Ditch. The Elephants of *Æthiopia* are of so stupendous a Size, that when I was mounted on a large Mule, I could not reach with my Hand within two Spans of the top of his Back. In *Abyssinia* is likewise found the Rhinoceros, a mortal Enemy to the Elephant. In the Province of *Agans*, has been seen the Unicorn, that Beast so much talk'd of, and so little known; the prodigious Swiftness with which this Creature runs from one Wood into another, has given me no Opportunity of examining it particularly, yet I have had so near a sight of it as to be able to give some Description of it. The Shape is the same with that of a beautiful Horse, exact and nicely proportion'd, of a Bay Colour, with a black Tail, which in some Provinces is long, in others very short; some have long Manes hanging to the Ground. They are so Timorous, that they never Feed but surrounded with other Beasts that defend them. Deer and other defenceless Animals often herd about the Elephant, which contenting himself with Roots and Leaves, preserves those Beasts that place themselves, as it were, under his Protection, from the Rage and Fierceness of others that would devour them.

THE Horses of *Abyssinia* are excellent, their Mules, Oxen, and Cows are without number, and in these principally consists the Wealth of this Country. They have a very particular Custom, which obliges every Man that hath a Thousand Cows, to save every Year one Day's Milk, of all his Herd, and make a Bath with it for his Relations, entertaining them afterwards with a

splendid Feast. This they do so many Days each Year as they have Thousands of Cattle, so that to express how rich any Man is, they tell you he bathes so many times. The Tribute paid out of their Herds to the King, which is not the most inconsiderable of his Revenues, is one Cow in Ten every three Years. The Beeves are of several kinds; one sort they have without Horns, which are of no other Use than to carry Burthens, and serve instead of Mules. Another twice as big as ours which they breed to to kill, fattening them with the Milk of three or four Cows. Their Horns are so large the Inhabitants Use them for Pitchers, and each will hold about five Gallons. One of these Oxen fat and ready to be kill'd, may be bought at most for two Crowns. I have purchased five Sheep, or five Goats with nine Kids for a piece of Callicoe worth about a Crown.

THE *Abyssins* have many sort of Fowls both wild and tame, some of the former we are yet unacquainted with: There is one of wonderful Beauty, which I have seen in no other Place except *Peru*, it has instead of a Comb, a short Horn upon its Head, which is thick, and round, and open at the top. The *Scitan Favez* or Devil's-Horse looks at a Distance like a Man dress'd in Feathers, it Walks with abundance of Majesty, till it finds itself persued, and then takes Wing, and flies away. But amongst all their Birds, there is none more remarkable than the *Moroc*, or Honey-bird, which is furnished by Nature with a peculiar instinct or faculty of discovering Honey. They have here multitudes of Bees of various kinds, some are tame like ours and form their Combs in Hives: Of the wild-ones, some place their Honey in hollow-trees, others hide it
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