

NEW, ROYAL, AND COMPLETE

S Y S T E M

OF

UNIVERSAL GEOGRAPHY,
ANTIENT AND MODERN;

INCLUDING

All the late important DISCOVERIES made by the ENGLISH, and other celebrated NAVIGATORS
of various NATIONS, in the different Hemispheres,

FROM THE

Celebrated COLUMBUS, the FIRST DISCOVERER of AMERICA, to the Death of our no less
celebrated Countryman CAPTAIN COOK, &c.

AND CONTAINING A

GENUINE HISTORY AND DESCRIPTION

OF THE

W H O L E W O R L D,

AS CONSISTING OF

EMPIRES, | STATES, | PROVINCES, | ISLANDS,
KINGDOMS, | REPUBLICS, | CONTINENTS, | OCEANS, &c.

WITH THE VARIOUS

COUNTRIES, CITIES, TOWNS, PROMONTORIES, CAPES, BAYS, PENINSULAS, ISTHMUSES,
GULPHS, RIVERS, HARBOURS, LAKES, MOUNTAINS, VOLCANOS, DESERTS, &c.

THROUGHOUT

EUROPE, ASIA, AFRICA, AND AMERICA:

TOGETHER WITH

Their respective Situations, Extent, Latitude, Longitude, Boundaries, Climates, Soil, natural and artificial Curiosities,
Mines, Metals, Minerals, Trees, Shrubs, Fruits, Flowers, Herbs and vegetable Productions.

With an ACCOUNT of the

Religion, Laws, Customs, Manners, Genius, Habits, Amusements, and Ceremonies of the respective Inhabitants:
Their Arts, Sciences, Manufactures, Trade, Commerce, Military and Civil Governments, &c.

Also exact DESCRIPTIONS of

The various Kinds of Beasts, Birds, Fishes, amphibious Creatures, Reptiles, Insects, &c.

TOGETHER WITH A

Complete HISTORY of every EMPIRE, KINGDOM, and STATE.

ALSO

An Account of the most remarkable BATTLES, SIEGES, SEA-FIGHTS, and various Revolutions that have taken
Place in different Parts of the World.THE WHOLE FORMING AN AUTHENTIC AND ENTERTAINING ACCOUNT OF EVERY THING WORTHY OF NOTICE
THROUGHOUT THE WHOLE FACE OF NATURE, BOTH BY LAND AND WATER.

To which is added,

A complete GUIDE to GEOGRAPHY, ASTRONOMY, the USE of the GLOBES, MAPS, &c.

WITH AN ACCOUNT OF THE

RISE, PROGRESS, and present STATE of NAVIGATION throughout the KNOWN WORLD.

Likewise containing every important, interesting, and valuable DISCOVERY throughout the WHOLE of

Captain COOK's VOYAGES ROUND the WORLD.

Together with those of other MODERN CIRCUMNAVIGATORS, particularly

Byron, Carteret, Wallis, Clerke, Gore, King, Forrest, and Willson.

Also containing a particular Account of the

P E L E W I S L A N D S, &c.

By the REV. THOMAS BANKES, Vicar of DIXTON, in MONMOUTHSHIRE,

And Author of the CHRISTIAN'S FAMILY BIBLE.

EDWARD WARREN BLAKE, Esq.

ALEXANDER COOK, Esq.

And THOMAS LLOYD.

Embellished with near Two Hundred beautiful Engravings, consisting of Views, Antiquities, Birds, Fishes, Reptiles, Customs, Ceremonies, besides Whole Sheet Maps,
Plans, Charts, &c. executed in a much superior Stile than any Thing that has ever appeared in this Kingdom.

L O N D O N:

PRINTED FOR C. COOKE, No. 17, PATER-NOSTER-ROW; and sold by the Bookfellers of BATH, BRISTOL,
BIRMINGHAM, CANTERBURY, CAMBRIDGE, COVENTRY, CHESTER, DERBY, EXETER, GLOUCESTER,
HEREFORD, IPSWICH, LIVERPOOL, LEICESTER, MANCHESTER, NEWCASTLE, NORWICH,
NOTTINGHAM, OXFORD, SALISBURY, WORCESTER, YORK; and by all other Bookfellers in
ENGLAND, SCOTLAND, and IRELAND.

Cape, bringing his young children with him from a distance some hundred miles up the country, and which took him fifteen days journey. On being asked why he had not left his children with some neighbour, he said there was no inhabitant within five days journey of his farm. There are no trees that are even two yards in height, except in some plantations in the vicinity of Cape Town.

The animals found at the Cape are very numerous, as the elephant, rhinoceros, lion, tyger, leopard, buffalo, elk, hart, Cape sheep, wild ass, zebra, wild goat, wolf tyger, civit cat, &c.

There is great variety of birds and fowls, as wild geese, gulls, penguins, ostriches, peacocks, pheasants, snipes, ravens, owls, &c. But the most singular is a particular kind of eagle called dung-birds. They will attack an horse or cow in great flights, and making a hole in the belly of the beast with their beaks and talons, scoop out the inside, leaving only the bones and hide. The seas adjoining to the Cape abound with various kinds of fish.

As a very singular curiosity we cannot omit to insert the description of an extraordinary species of cuckoo, communicated in a letter from a member of the Royal Academy in Stockholm, to a fellow of the Royal Society in London. "The Dutch settlers (says he) at the place where these birds are found have given them the name of *Konig-wizer*, or *Honey-guide*, from its discovering wild honey to travellers. It has nothing remarkable either in colour or size, but the instinct which prompts it to seek its food is truly admirable. Not only the Dutch and Hottentots, but likewise a species of quadruped, which the Dutch name a *Ratel*, (probably a new species of badger) are frequently conducted to wild bee hives by this bird, which, as it were, pilots them to the very spot. The honey being its favourite food, its own interest prompts it to be instrumental in robbing the hive, as some scraps are commonly left for its support. The morning and evening are its times of feeding, when it is heard calling, in a shrill tone *Cherr Cherr*, to which the honey-hunters carefully attend as the summons to the chase. From time to time they answer with a soft whistle, which the bird hearing always continues its note. As soon as they are in sight of each other, the bird gradually flutters towards the place where the hive is situated, continually repeating its former call of *Cherr Cherr*. At last, the bird is observed to hover for a short time over a certain spot, and then silently retiring to an adjoining bush, or other resting place, the hunters are sure of finding the bees nest in that very spot. While the hunters are busy in taking the honey the bird is seen looking on attentively to what is going forward, and waiting for its share of the spoil. The bee-hunters never fail to leave a small portion for their conductor, but commonly take care not to leave as much as would satisfy its hunger. The bird's appetite being only whetted by this parsimony, it is obliged to make another discovery in hopes of a better reward. It is further to be observed, that the nearer the bird approaches the hidden hive, the more frequently it repeats its call, and seems more impatient."

The reptiles of this country are various, and among them they have the six following of the serpent kind, viz. the tree serpent, the ash-coloured asp, the shoot serpent, the blind flow worm, the thirst serpent, and the hair serpent. There are also many insects of divers kinds.

In the neighbourhood of the Cape are three principal eminences, called the *Table-hill*, *Lion-hill* and *Wind-hill*. There are no navigable rivers in this country, but the brooks and rivulets which descend from the mountains tend greatly to the fertilization of the land.

Captain Cook, when he touched at the Cape in his last voyage, went, accompanied by a party, to see a remarkable large stone in the colony of *Drakenstein*, called by the inhabitants *The Tower of Babylon*, or *the Pearl Diamond*. It stands on the top of some low

hills, is of an oblong shape, rounded on the top, and lying nearly south and north. The circumference of this stone is about half a mile, as the party were half an hour walking round it, including allowances for stopping and a bad road. Its height seemed to equal the dome of *St. Paul's cathedral* in London. Except some few fissures, it is one uninterrupted mass of stone.

Cape Town, the principal European settlement here, situated in *Cape-Colony*, in 34 deg. 15 min. south lat. and 16 deg. 5 min. east long. is large, commodious, pleasant and populous; the streets are spacious, and regularly laid out; the houses are tolerably handsome, but very low, and only thatched; in general they have pleasant gardens behind, and neat court-yards before them. Building, as well as tillage, is greatly encouraged at the Cape, and land given for either purpose to those who chuse to accept of it; but then the government claims an annual tenth of the value of the former and produce of the latter, and a tithe of all purchase money when estates are sold. The town extends from the sea shore to the company's garden, spreading along the *Table Bay*. The fort is in a valley at a small distance, and its form is pentagonal: it commands the landing-place, and is garrisoned by 200 soldiers: the government store-houses are within it: the governor and other officers have apartments here, as well as 600 servants: the same number of slaves are lodged in a commodious building in the town, which is divided into two wards, the one for the men, and the other for the women; and the dissolute of either sex are sent to a house of correction.

The Dutch ships derive great benefit on their outward and homeward bound passages to and from India from the hospital founded here for diseased mariners.

The church is a large commodious edifice, elegantly plain, but the roof and steeple are thatched. Thatching, indeed, from the nature of the hurricanes, seems absolutely necessary, but from the method in which it was formerly done, it appears that it was frequently attended with danger, as we are informed that there were formerly shelving pent-houses erected on both sides the streets, to shelter passengers in rainy weather; but these brought the inhabitants under such dangers and inconveniences, that they were quickly all pulled down by order of the government. Sailors and Hottentots were continually crowding and smoaking their pipes under them, and sometimes through carelessness set them on fire. The government very dextrously laid hold of that occasion to rid the streets of those fellows that were continually pestering them, by publishing an order, which is still kept up, and from time to time republished, that no Hottentot or common sailor shall smook in the streets; with a declaration, that the sailor or Hottentot who should presume to do so shall be tied to the whipping-post, and severely lashed. This cleared the streets at once, and keeps them clear to this day, of all sailors and Hottentots who have no business there: for it is with great difficulty that either an Hottentot or a Dutch sailor, if they have tobacco, and they are seldom without it, can forbear smoaking while they are awake.

SECTION III.

Country of the Hottentots.

THE country of the Hottentots extends towards the north to the tropic of Capricorn, and on all other parts is bounded by the Southern Ocean. It is divided into twenty parts or provinces, which being independent of each other, are termed nations. These Hottentot States are as follow:

1. The country of *Heykams*. This country abounds in cattle, though there is no fodder but flags and reeds, nor any water but what is brackish.

2. The *Camtours* district contains the finest and most lofty trees of any in the country of the Hottentots. The land in general is flat, the soil rich, and the water excellent.