

THE
WORLD displayed;
 OR, A
 CURIOUS COLLECTION
 OF
VOYAGES and TRAVELS,

Selected from
 The WRITERS of all NATIONS.
 In which the
 CONJECTURES and INTERPOLATIONS
 OF

Several vain *Editors* and *Translators* are
 expunged,

Every Relation is made concise and plain,

AND
 The DIVISIONS of *Countries* and *Kingdoms* are
 clearly and distinctly noted.

Illustrated and Embellished
 With Variety of MAPS and PRINTS
 By the best HANDS.

V O L. X.

L O N D O N :

Printed for J. NEWBERRY, at the *Bible and Sun*,
 in *St. Paul's Church-Yard*; and J. HOEY, jun.
 in *Skinner-Row, Dublin*, MDCCLX.



THE
VOYAGE
OF
PETER KOLBEN, A. M.
TO THE
CAPE of GOOD HOPE.



CHAP. I.

*The Author's Voyage to the Cape of Good Hope.
A concise History of the Proceedings of the Eu-
ropeans at the Cape, and the Manner in which
it was settled by the Dutch; with a general
View of the Country.*

AS I had early felt an ardent desire to travel, which I had long sought for a favourable opportunity of gratifying, the reader may imagine that I was filled with a transport of joy, when I was told by my generous patron the

If after this the young man is seen eating and drinking with the women, he is treated with the utmost contempt; he becomes the jest and derision of the whole kraal, and is excluded from the conversation of the men, till the ceremony is performed over again.

A *Hottentot*, thus freed from the care of his mother, may be so brutish and unnatural as to cudgel her, merely to shew his independence; and it is common for a young fellow on his being admitted into the society of the men, to go and abuse his mother, and, as a testimony of the sincerity of his intentions to follow the admonitions given him, to insult and triumph over her, on his being discharged from her tuition.

We have already observed, that some of the *Hottentots* have a kind of honourable distinction in wearing bladders tied to their hair as trophies of their valour. These are those who having singly encountered and slain a lion, tyger, leopard, elephant, rhinoceros or elk, are considered as heroes. Such a person on his return home squats down; but is soon visited by an old man deputed by the rest of the kraal, to thank and congratulate him upon so beneficial an exploit, and to acquaint him that the men of the kraal expect him immediately to receive from them the honours that are his due. The hero instantly rises, and attends the messenger to the middle of the kraal, where all the men wait for him, and squatting down on a mat spread for him, all the men squat round him, while the hero's face is flushed with joy.

of these weapons, the *Hottentots* shew such quickness of eye, and sureness of hand, as I believe no people upon earth have besides themselves. If a *Hottentot* sees a hare, deer, or wild goat within 30 or 40 yards of him, away flies the rackum-itick, and down falls the animal, generally pierced through the body. They are not less expert in the use of the bow and arrow, for if there be no wind, they will hit a mark no bigger than a silver penny, at a considerable distance. They are equally expert in throwing the hassagaye, and slinging a stone. In all these cases they stand not, as the *Europeans*, like statues, to take their aim, but while they gather it, which they are not long in doing, they skip from side to side, and brandish and whirl the weapon about in such a manner, that you would take the whole for idle flourish; but on a sudden away it flies to the mark. Their dexterity on these occasions is quite incredible, and can hardly be conceive.

When all the men of a kraal are out upon a chace, and discover a wild beast of any considerable size, they endeavour to surround him, which they generally do very soon, tho' the beast, of whatever kind, betakes himself to his heels. If they thus encompass an elephant, or a rhinoceros, they attack him with hassagayes, the hardness and thickness of his hide fortifying him against a shower of arrows. If they do not lay him dead upon the spot, and he is able to return the attack upon the *Hottentots*, they form as large a ring as they can make, so as to

reach him with their hassagayes. The creature being wounded, runs with great noise and fury at the persons who threw the weapons. Then others attack him in the rear. He turns about to attack the last assailants, and is again attacked in the rear. Again he turns about, and is again attacked. The hassagayes multiply upon his body. He roars, tears up the ground, and has sometimes as it were a forest of hassagayes upon his back before he falls.

When a lion, tyger, or leopard is thus encompassed, they attack him both with hassagayes and arrows. With flaming eyes and the wildest rage he flies upon those who discharged them. He is nimble, they are nimbler, and avoid him with astonishing dexterity till they are relieved by others. He leaps towards one so quick, and, as you would think, with so sure a paw, that you shudder for the fellow, expecting to see him in an instant torn to pieces; but the man in danger leaps away in the twinkling of an eye, and the beast spends all his rage upon the ground. He turns and leaps towards another, and another, and another; but still in vain: they avoid him with the quickness of thought, and still he fights only with the air. All this time the arrows and hassagayes are showering upon him in the rear. He grows mad with pain, and running and leaping from one party of his enemies to another, and tumbling from time to time to break the arrows and hassagayes that are fastened in him, he foams, yells, and roars in the most terrible manner. Nothing in the world can



*The Hottentot's manner of attacking
Wild Beasts.*

can be more admirable than the activity and address with which the *Hottentots* escape the paws of the beast, and the incredible speed and resolution with which they relieve each other. If the beast is not quickly slain, he is soon convinced that there is no dealing with so nimble an enemy; and then he makes off with his utmost speed; but having by this time a multitude of arrows and hassagayes on his back, some of which are commonly poisoned, he soon falls.

But the *Hottentots* do not often engage an elephant, a rhinoceros, or an elk after this manner: the elephants going always to water in troops in a line, make a path from their haunts to the water side. In this path the *Hottentots*, without spade or pick-ax, for they have no such tools, make a hole from six to eight foot deep, in the middle of which they fix a strong stake tapering up to a point almost to the top of the hole. When this is done they cover the hole with small boughs, leaves, mould, and grass, so that no man living would suspect the trap. The elephants keeping pretty close to the track, one or other of them is sure to fall in with his fore feet, when his neck or breast being pierced by the stake on which his whole body rests, the more he struggles, the farther it penetrates. The rest of the elephants immediately make off as fast as possible. Mean while the *Hottentots* seeing the elephant thus caught, issue out of their covert, get upon the neck of the beast, and either break his skull with heavy stones, or cut his large veins with their knives. The
carcase

carcase is then cut in pieces and carried to the kraal, where all the inhabitants feast upon it very joyially. The rhinoceros and the elk are also frequently taken in the same manner.

The *Hottentots* are likewise very dexterous swimmers: this they perform in a different manner from other nations; they beat the water with their feet, and raising themselves erect, paddle along with their necks and arms above the surface. Thus they cross deep rivers, and proceed with great swiftness in the sea, dancing forward without the least apprehension of danger, in the manner which the *European* swimmers call treading the water, rising and falling with the waves like so many corks. They are also extremely expert at fishing.

I have already observed, that the wealth of the *Hottentots* consists in their cattle, and it is never to be seen in any other kind, unless it be in elephants teeth, of which they get a great number, though they bring but few to the *Cape*. The *Dutch* imagine they dispose of the best part of them to the inhabitants of *Terra du Natal*, or to the *Portuguese* at *Mosambique*. They have no such thing as money among them; for their traffic with one another, as well as with strangers, is always in the way of barter. A few of them now and then get the eggs of ostriches, and the skins of wild beasts, which they dispose of to the *Europeans*, in exchange for wine, brandy, tobacco, pipes, coral, beads, small looking-glasses, knives, iron, small bits of polished brass or copper, ear-rings, &c. Generally speaking, they part with the cattle,
both

from her breast between her forelegs. I am certain those authors are mistaken who say that they sleep standing; for I have many a time seen very perfect impressions of their bodies on the ground where they have slept. Their ordinary food is grass, heath, roots, and the tender branches of shrubs. They have no hair, and their skins have a multitude of scars and scratches, which they receive by pressing through thorns and bushes.

The *Cape* Rhinoceros is of a dark ash-colour approaching to a black. His skin is also without hair; but is so hard that it is difficult to pierce it with a sharp knife. He is represented as armed all over with scales; but those at the *Cape* have really none, though the numberless scars and scratches on his hide make him look at a distance as if fenced with scales. His mouth resembles that of a hog, and upon his snout grows a solid dark grey horn near two feet long, somewhat bent, with which, when he is angry, he will tear up the ground, and throw stones a great way over his head; and on his forehead is another horn, about six inches in length, hollow, and in the form of a half bowl inverted. His ears are small, and his legs shorter than those of the elephant. With that animal he is at perpetual enmity, and wherever he surprises him he rips open his belly with the horn on his snout. He catches the scent of any creature that is to the windward of him, and marches towards it on a right line, grunting and tearing his way thro' all opposition of trees and bushes. He never at-

tacks

tacks a man unprovoked; unless he wears a red coat, in which case he rends and destroys every thing that stands between him and the object of his rage; if he seizes him he throws him over his head with great violence, and then feeds upon him by licking the flesh off the bones with his rough and prickly tongue. His eyes are very small, and he only sees strait forward: though he is pretty swift of foot, he is very slow and awkward in turning. The way therefore to avoid him is to suffer him to come within eight or ten paces of you, and then to slip a few paces aside, by which means he loses sight of you, and it costs him a great deal of awkward trouble to get you again in his view. This I have more than once experienced. He feeds chiefly on shrubs, broom, and thistles.

The Buffaloes of the *Cape* are larger than those of *Europe*, and of a brown red. Their horns are short, and their skin so hard and tough, that it is difficult to kill them without very good fire-arms. They are also enraged at the sight of any thing red, and at the discharge of a gun near them: on these occasions they roar, stamp, tear up the ground, and run with fury at the offending party.

The Eiks of the *Cape* are generally five feet high. Their heads resemble that of the hart, and are very small. The horns are about a foot long and twisted; but the ends are strait, smooth, and pointed. The neck is slender and beautiful, and the hair on the body smooth, soft, and of an ash-colour. The legs are long
and