

THE TRAVELS
OF
PETER MUNDY,
IN EUROPE AND ASIA,
1608-1667.

EDITED BY
LT.-COL. SIR RICHARD CARNAC TEMPLE, Bt.,
C.B., C.I.E., F.S.A.
EDITOR OF "A GEOGRAPHICAL ACCOUNT OF COUNTRIES
ROUND THE BAY OF BENGAL."

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1634-1638.

PART I.
TRAVELS IN ENGLAND, WESTERN INDIA, ACHIN,
MACAO, AND THE CANTON RIVER,
1634-1637.

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MCMXIX

Dutch vessels lying in wait for Portugalls
and bound for Tywan.

The 17th [June 1637]. There came uppe with us a Dutch vessell come From Battavia And bound for Tywan, a place of theirs on Isla Fermosa¹ on the Coast of Chincheo in China². Shee kept company with us $\frac{1}{2}$ Day and then stood in to the shoare to awaite For Portugalls thatt com this way bound For China. Shee had a consortt nott farre offe.

La Varella : a very high rocke or stone.

The 18th June [1637]. Wee past by la Varella³, which is an exceeding high rocke or stone, even and

In 1618 Richard Cocks saw a boat load of "banished Christians" from Kokura going to Nagasaki; in 1620 he notes the destruction of churches and monasteries there; and in 1622 he records a massacre of priests and of Christian Japanese. See Danvers, *Portuguese in India*, II. 94; *Diary of Richard Cocks*, ed. Maunde Thompson, II. 67, 315, 334; *Recit de la persecution des Chrestiens du Japon in Voyages de Thevenot*, vol. 1. pt. 2, pp. 34—48; see also Mandelslo, pp. 154—155 for "Diabolical inventions to put Christians to death" in Japan.

The Japanese Christians referred to by Mundy no doubt made for Cochin China because of their expectation of meeting co-religionists, and because of the long establishment of Islām there (from about 1300) and the fact that many of the Chāms were Muhammadans.

¹ Tai-wan (The Terraced Harbour) or Formosa, called Ilha Formosa (Beautiful Isle) by the Portuguese. The Dutch occupied a large part of the island from 1624 till 1662 when they were expelled by the Chinese. The old Dutch fort (Zelandria) at Tai-wan-fu still exists.

² Mundy is using the European term current in his day for the Chinese Province of Fuhkien, off the coast of which, as he says, lies the island of Formosa. The term Chincheo grew out of the name of a port in Fuhkien in the Formosa Channel, well known to mediæval and early English travellers, and is now variously identified with Chwan-chau-fu (Fr. Thisiouan-cheou-fou, Chinchew, Chincheo), the Zayton of Marco Polo, and Chang-chau-fu which is some 140 miles distant.

³ Cape Varella (Mui Nai, Pagoda Cape), lat. 12° 55' N. and long. 109° 26' E., so called because on the top of the hill behind it is a large perpendicular rock resembling a chimney, which the native mariners mistook for a pagoda. Montanus, *Atlas Chinensis*, p. 63, says, "Cabo Avarellas being a very high mountain, appears a great distance off like a Man on Horse-back, and serves for a Beacon." In the Log of the *Carolina* (*Marine Records*, vol. LXXVIII.), under date 31st May 1683, "Cape Avorella" is described as "a hye land that have a rock a little within, yet is one the hye land. This rock is lyke a light house and is verie remarkable," and in the Log of the *Oley* (*op. cit.*, vol. 704A), under date 2nd March 1707, "Cape Avarello" is said to be "very remarkable Land, having a high rock on the top makeing like a Steple."

straightt, resembling a tower, standing Near the toppe of a high Mountaine by the sea side, allmost such another as wee saw by Shehana [Siwānā] comming with a Caphila [kāfila, caravan] From Agra as in the forepart of this booke¹. The figure of it is thus² :

This Varella Divides Champa From Cauchin-China, 2 kingdomes att variance aboutt itt each striving to have it added to his Dominion³. It may bee aboutt 10 or 12 yeards high : one of Natures Wonders. Itt is much revered by the Chineses and Japones who performe certaine superstitious Duties unto itt as they passe this way with their vessells The Coast of Champa very hilly, barren, rocky and sandy, abounding (by report) with wild beasts, as Elephantts, Rinocerosses, Tygers etts. The Coast of Cochinchina better to see to, beeing low and levell.

The Iland and gulffe of Aynaon.

The 22th [June 1637]. Wee saw the Iland of Aynaon [Hainan]. Beetweene this and Pulo Caetaon lieth a greatt inlett or gulffe called [blank⁴], And beetweene Pulo Caetaon and Sanchean [St John I. or San Shan] by Macao is accompted the gulffe of Aynaon, somtimes Daungerous For greatt Seas, Currantts, Foule wether, etts.

Tympaon.

The 23d [June 1637]. Wee were thwart off Tympaon where Captain Carter in the *Unicorne* was cast away, as afforementioned⁵.

¹ See vol. II. p. 252.

² See Illustration No. 25.

³ Mundy's history is here accurate. See note¹, p. 154.

⁴ Mundy's Pulo Caetaon is Kulao Rai (Kulai Rai, Broken Face) or Pulo Canton, an island off the coast of Cochinchina (Annam). In the Log of the *Rising Sun* (*Marine Records*, vol. CLII.), under date 11th December 1701, Pulo Canton appears as Pullo Cattao. "This Pullo Cattao are 2 little Islands and pretty high out of the Water; they lye within 4 or 5 Miles of the Coast of Cutchin China."

⁵ Tympaon represents Tihen-pien, the first considerable town in China north of Hainan. For the wreck of the *Unicorn*, see *ante*, p. 141.