

the hole, so that the hunters should not have the satisfaction of its capture, preferring rather to kill it than allow it to fall into their hands. This tender mother, not fearing the crowd who stood around with various weapons, and angry sounds directed against her, confident in her own strong nature was unwearied from morning till night in trying to drive them back, and failing to do so acted as we have related. The elephant is a gentle beast, and, trusting in its great strength, has no fear, doing injury to none when unmolested, and approaching dwellings without any sign of ill-will. They do not attack, unless interfered with, only sometimes they will gently hoist with their trunk into the air any one they may meet by the way. They delight in water, and may best be seen by the rivers and lakes, where it is their habit at noontide to go and drink and refresh themselves, bathing and standing up to their middle in water, and throwing over the rest of the body great quantities of water by means of their trunk. On account of the large pastures and number of fords in the Kingdom of Congo great numbers of these creatures are found there. Duarte Lopez says he has seen them pass from Cazanze to Loanda through a small grassy valley to the number of 100 (going in companies, like cows, camels, and suchlike animals, and not alone, like lions, and other wild beasts), large and small, the latter following the mothers, and being the first young ones he had seen. Abundance of ivory being found here, must be the produce of the great number of elephants; and besides, ivory was not accounted valuable till after the Portuguese begun to trade in these regions. As it must have accumulated to a great extent for centuries, it is, even to this day, to be had for a small price.

It is not known if there are any other animals as large as the elephant in these countries, nor if the rhinoceros, similar

to it, and called Bada in India, exists here. But it is well known that the horns which grow on the nose of that beast are brought to the country of the Anzichi, and greatly prized there, being used for divers maladies, so that it is possible some may be found in these parts. The lions in the Anzichi country are similar to those found in different parts of the world, but they are not seen in Bamba, where, however, tigers of the very same form as those seen by Duarte Lopez at Florence are found in great numbers, who testified to their being really tigers. He told also of a curious habit amongst them, which is, that they do not molest white men, but only black ones, and even kill and eat black men whilst asleep, sparing white ones. If unable to satisfy their hunger in the open country, they fearlessly drag from the very courts of the houses any animals they find there, sparing none. In the Congo tongue they are called Engoi. These beasts are as fierce as lions, roaring in the same manner, and resembling them in all respects, except the skin, that of the tiger being spotted, whereas the lion is all of one colour. Tigers are caught and killed in various ways, poison being sometimes mixed with their food. Snares also are laid, in which a kid is placed, and when the hungry beast seeks for prey he is suddenly caught in one of these snares, and, trying to release himself, becomes more and more entangled, and so is secured. Another mode of capture is to attack him with arrows, spears, and fire-arms. The tiger is an enemy to the negro, to sheep-folds, and even to cattle. Notwithstanding, Duarte Lopez tells of one reared by himself from 15 days old, and fed on goat's milk. When full-grown it followed him like a dog, being quite tame, but allowed no one to touch it but its master. Nevertheless, this creature roared, and its eyes glared fearfully. In process of time it killed a favourite dog, and also a pet

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Zebra belonging to its master, who, seeing the tiger was a dangerous animal, shot him. He adds that in this region the whiskers of the tiger are considered deadly poison, and when given in food cause death, as if from madness. Therefore, whoever brings a skin of this animal without the whiskers, the king causes to be punished.

In this country another animal is found, called the Zebra. It is common also to some parts of Barbary and Africa, and, though in all respects like a mule, still is not one, as it produces male progeny. It has a very peculiar skin, and different from all other creatures, inasmuch as from the back bone round towards the body it is streaked with three colours, black, white, and dark brown. These large stripes are three fingers' length from each other, and meet in a circle, every row with its own colour. The neck and head are marked in the same manner, as well as the ears and legs; so that a streak beginning with white is invariably followed by black, and then by dark brown, always maintaining the same regularity of colour. The mane is not long. The tail, like that of the mule, is very glossy, and of good colour. The feet and hoofs are also like those of the mule. This animal resembles the horse in its fleetness, for so rapid is its motion that, in Portugal and Castile, they still say, as swift as a zebra, to denote extreme speed. These animals bring forth their young every year, and are found in large numbers quite wild. When tamed, they are used for riding, for transport service, and also as good war-horses, as well as in many other ways. From all this we see that mother nature has provided in every country for the convenience and necessities of man a variety of animals, of food, and of climate, so that nothing is lacking for his comfort. Not having, however, horses in any part of the Kingdom of Congo, nor knowing how to train oxen to the yoke or the

pack saddle, for drawing or carrying, neither how to tame zebras with bridle and saddle, or, indeed, in any way to transport their merchandise from place to place by means of these animals, they are of necessity obliged to employ men instead of beasts of burden. And so, lying down in a sort of litter, or seated in them, and protected from the sun with umbrellas, the people are carried by their slaves, or else by men who are stationed at various posts for hire. Whoever wishes to travel quickly must take many slaves with him, and when the first carriers are tired a second set take up the load, so changing continually, in the same way as the Tartars and the Persians do with their horses. These men travel very rapidly, being accustomed to their burdens, and, by constant changing rival a postillion's gallop. Of the manner in which these people are carried, whilst travelling, we have furnished pictures, and also of the zebra, of the dress of men and women, of soldiers, of military instruments, and of the palm-tree.

Other animals are found in these regions standing about four feet less than oxen, with red-coloured skins, and horns like a goat, black, smooth, and glistening, of which they make pretty ornaments, such as are made also from buffalo horns. Their heads and hair resemble those of the ox, and their skins are much prized, being taken to Portugal, and from thence to Germany to be dressed, and are called Dants. The King of Congo was desirous of having workmen skilled in the art of dressing and cleansing these skins, so as to make them into weapons of defence. Nevertheless, these people use them as shields and targets against the blows of different weapons, and especially against arrows. These animals are killed both with guns and arrows, but if they espy the hunter they attack him, and, being fierce and courageous, will injure him with their feet and muzzle,

being able to do so with their horns, and leave him
 aloft, or indeed altogether dead. Innumerable herds of
 wild buffaloes, wander about the deserts of the Anzicana
 kingdom, as well as numbers of wild asses, which the
 Arabs call Onagri. Besides these, one finds also other
 beasts called Empalanga, which resemble the ox in bigness
 and form, except that they hold the head and neck aloft.
 Their horns are broad and crooked, three spans long,
 and divided into knots, but sharp at the points; and
 from these fine sounding horns are made. Although these
 creatures live in the forests they are quite harmless.
 The skins of their necks are used for shoe soles, and their
 flesh for food. They might be taught to draw the plough,
 and also serve in various ways for husbandry. Large herds
 of kine and tame oxen feed here. There are also pigs,
 wild boars, and flocks of sheep and goats. These sheep and
 goats, Don Lopez says, bring forth two, three, or four
 kids, or kids, at a time, but never only one. On account
 of the pastures being so rich these animals are all brought
 by their own dams, and Lopez proved this to be the case,
 as he had several head of them in his own dwellings.
 Wolves, too, live in these regions, who are beyond
 measure fond of palm oil, and scent it afar off, as they possess
 the same sense of smell which Virgil attributes to dogs, *odora-
 tum vis*. The oil, as has been said, is made from the
 palm-tree, and is thick and hard like butter; and it is
 wonderful how these wolves can take a gourd full of it
 between their teeth and carry it away on their shoulders, in
 the same way as wolves carry off sheep with us. Foxes
 abound here, which also, like those in our own parts, steal
 poultry. In this Province of Pamba there are innumerable
 animals for the chase, such as stags, fallow deer, roebuck,
 gazelles, of which last Lopez said he had seen great

herds, and also numbers of rabbits and hares, there being no
 hunters to kill them.

In this same province are many wild civet cats, called by
 the Portuguese *Algazia*, and some had been tamed by the
 people of the country for the sake of their perfume, in which
 they greatly delight. This was before the Portuguese
 traded in those parts. In Manibatta a great number of
 fables are caught, which have exceedingly fine grey hairs.
 They are called *Incire*, and no one is allowed to use the skins
 of these creatures except by permission of the prince of the
 province, their value being such that one skin is equal to the
 price of a slave. Towards the Anzicana region martens also
 are caught, and their skins made into garments, to which we
 shall refer in due time.

Apes, monkeys, and similar animals of every description,
 both large and small, are found in the country of Songo,
 which lies by the River Zaire. Some of these creatures are
 very amusing, and are kept by the Lords in those parts for
 pastime, but especially for sport; and although without
 reasoning powers, yet they imitate to a great extent the actions
 and manners of mankind. In all the above-named regions
 these different animals are found in greater or lesser numbers.

The snakes and serpents here are of an entirely different
 species from those of our own countries, being enormous and
 frightful in form, and some measuring 25 spans long, and
 5 broad. The stomach and mouth of these creatures are so
 large that they can swallow a stag, or any other animal of
 equal size. They are called * * * * *, that is, a
 large watersnake, which comes on land to feed, and then
 returns to the river, living in both elements alike. They
 cling to the branches of trees, and lying in wait for animals
 who come to feed near, when they are sufficiently close that
 they can drop on to them they wriggle down, and catching

imal by the tail, crush and strangle it to death, after they drag it to some solitary wood, or other spot, they slowly devour it, even to the skin, the horns, the claws. Now, when thus gorged they remain in a state of torpor, and might be killed by a child, being satisfied with this food for five or six days, and then again seek prey. They change their skins at certain seasons, and sometimes after having eaten largely, which skins are afterwards and collected as specimens of the size of creatures. This snake is much prized as food by the natives, even more so than fowls and like delicate and they eat it roasted, finding great numbers of them burnt on the ground, when they set fire to their thick

les these there are vipers, well known to be so poisonous that any one bitten by them dies in 24 hours, yet the natives know of a certain herb which heals their wounds. There are certain other creatures about the size of a ram, they have wings and tails like dragons, and a long snout, with rows of teeth, and which eat raw flesh. Their colour is blue and green, their skin having the appearance of scales and they are two-footed creatures. The pagan natives regard them as gods, and to this day some are preserved as curiosities by these people. To make them still more valued, the natives have them in their own keeping, in order to show them from those who come to worship them gifts and sacrifices. Four-footed chameleons are found here on the same about the size of lizards and such-like creatures, spotted heads, and tails like a saw. They are mostly of a bluish and greenish colours, and even whilst looking at one sees their colours change rapidly. They are chiefly on high rocks and trees, to breathe the air, in which they are nourished. Other venomous serpents

found here carry at the end of their tails a sort of ball, like a bell, which rings as if nature had placed it there to warn those who were approaching to beware of danger. These bells and the heads of the serpents are remedies for fever and palpitation of the heart. Such are the kind of creatures found in these regions, with others also common to other countries.

It remains now to speak of the Birds, and first of Ostriches, as being larger than any other. These are found in those parts of Sundi and of Batta bordering on the Muzombi, the young ones issuing from an egg warmed by the sun. Their feathers are used as standards and banners in battle, and are mixed with those of the peacock in the form of a sun umbrella. And as we are talking of peacocks I may say that in these parts of Angola peacocks are reared in a wood surrounded by walls, the king not permitting any one to have these birds but himself, on account of the royal standards above mentioned. One reads in the ancient histories of Alexander the Great, that this bird was as highly prized when it was first seen in Europe. Here also are the cocks called Indian ones, and hens, geese, and ducks of every kind, both wild and tame, and partridges in such numbers that children can catch them with a noose. There are also other birds like pheasants, called Gallinules, doves, pigeons, and great numbers of those birds called fig-peckers. Birds of prey, such as Royal eagles, falcons, goshawks, sparrow-hawks, and others found here are not used for hawking. Sea-birds, such as large and white Pelicans, so called by the Portuguese, swim under the water, whose throats are so large that they swallow a fish whole, and whose stomachs are so strong, and so hot by nature, that they easily digest fishes entire. Their skins are so warm that the people of the country use them as covering, and prize them greatly. Great numbers of white herons and grey

A REPORT
OF THE
KINGDOM OF CONGO,

AND OF THE
Surrounding Countries;

Drawn out of the Writings and Discourses of the Portuguese,

DUARTE LOPEZ,

BY FILIPPO PIGAFETTA, IN ROME, 1591.

Newly Translated from the Italian, and Edited, with Explanatory Notes,

BY
MARGARITE HUTCHINSON.

With Facsimiles of the Original Maps, and a Preface by
SIR THOMAS FOWELL BUXTON, BART., F.R.G.S.,
ETC., ETC.

"There lies the Congo Kingdom, great and strong,
Already led by us to Christian ways;
Where flows Zaire, the river clear and long,
A stream unseen by men of olden days."

The Lusials, v. 13.

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