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The Navigator

The Log of John Anderson
VOC Pilot-Major
1640–1643

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With the assistance of

Ben Teensma

heir also ane wther kynd of Ratts more harmeles, they are litle and Redische and are called sueitt smelling Ratts, for they smell as If they were full of Muske.

The, Tigres, Leopardes, Monkees and Eliphants, are beasts, both hurtfull to Men, and ye food of Man, ye Eliphants in ye Rice fildes and ye Monkeis amongst ye fruittes and trees, does grate hurte and damage, And as ther beasts ar Noysome abrod, So are ye Antts pismers¹⁷⁸ mothe wormes, and suche lyke at home, amongst ye meat and clothes amongst wich ther is one sort of pismere, a finger longe, wich with maney feette runs to ye feildes and destroyes ye fruitts, herbes & cornes

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Apryle. The¹⁷⁹ Abada¹⁸⁰ or Rinoceros is not in India bot onlie in Bengala¹⁸¹ and Patane¹⁸² they are lesse and louer then ye Eliphant, it hath a shorte horne wpone ye Nosse, in ye hinder pairt somequhat bigge and touard ye end sharper, of a blew, broune and whitische color; it hath a snout lyke a hogge, and ye skine vpone ye wper pairt of ye bodey is wrinckled as If it wer armed with targetts and sheildes, it is a grate enimie to ye eliphant, some thinke yat it is ye Right Vnicorne, because as zet ther hes no wther beine found: bot only by heir say. ye Rinoceros quhen he drinkes ye other beasts standes & waittes vpone him till he haue done, for quhen he¹⁸³ drinkes. he thrusts hes horne in ye watter, for he can

¹⁷⁷ Numerous.

¹⁷⁸ Ants.

¹⁷⁹ For this section, see *Itinerario*, chapter 47.

¹⁸⁰ Rhinoceros.

¹⁸¹ Bengal, now split between India and Bangladesh.

¹⁸² Pattani. A region at the east coast of the Malay Peninsula.

¹⁸³ 'h' is written over a 'd'.

not drinke till it be wnder ye watter, because it standes so closse vpon his Nosse, & Muzzle, and then after him all ye wther beasts doe drinke, Ther hornes in India are muche esteemed and vsed aganist all maner of venome & poyson, & maney wthe deseases ze a his teeith. claues, skin flesche, dunge & watter are all much esteimed of in India and wssed aganist maney sicknesses and deseasse, wich they Cure,

Fische¹⁸⁴ in India is wery plentiful. and some wery plesant & sueeite, most of ther fische is eaten with Rice yat they boyle in brothe, ye cheiffe fische are Shades, Sooles, Crabs and Creuishes wery good & Grate, with ws, they are best in ye full Moone, bot one ye Coaste of India, they are best in ye change & New Moone. ther are also Muscells wery good, and at Cochin abundance of Oysters.

The¹⁸⁵ Indian fruitts ar Ananas,¹⁸⁶ Iaacas¹⁸⁷ wich grow one trees lyke nutt tries. Mangas¹⁸⁸ a fruitt goning one trees lyke ye Iaaca trees and in shape resemling a peache, they are Ripe in Lent and continew till ye mounth of Agust. Caius¹⁸⁹ is a fruitt lyke a peare, and groueth one trees lyke Aple trees, of a zallowische color and being rype are softe, in the hand. Iambos¹⁹⁰ is a fruit most plesant lyke ane Apell, and they grow one trees plume trees. Iangomas¹⁹¹ are a fruitt lyke small round plumes of a darke read color and grow one trees lyke cherrie tries. Carambolas¹⁹² are a fruit .8. cornerd of ye bignes of a small Aple, soure in eating lyke wnrype plumes & most vsed to make conserues.

¹⁸⁴ For this section, see *Itinerario*, chapter 48.

¹⁸⁵ For this section, see *Itinerario*, chapters 49–55.

¹⁸⁶ Pineapple.

¹⁸⁷ Iaca. Jackfruit (*Artocarpus heterophyllus*) is a species of tree of the mulberry