

AN
EMBASSY
FROM THE
East-India Company
OF THE
UNITED PROVINCES,
TO THE
Grand Tartar Cham
EMPEROUR OF
CHINA,

Delivered by their Excell^{cies}
PETER De GOYER, and JACOB De KEYZER,
At his Imperial City of

PEKING.

WHEREIN
The **CITIES, TOWNS, VILLAGES, PORTS, RIVERS, &c.**
In their Passages from CANTON to PEKING,
Are Ingeniously Described by Mr. **JOHN NIEUHOFF**, Steward to the
AMBASSADOURS.

ALSO
*An Epistle of Father **JOHN ADAMS** their Antagonist, concerning the whole
Negotiation.*
WITH
An Appendix of several Remarks taken out of Father **ATHANASIUS KIRCHER.**

Englised and set forth with their several Sculptures, by **JOHN OGILBY**, Esq; Master of
his **Majesties Revels** in the Kingdom of *Ireland.*

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City *Linyao* lye some Mountains upon which are bred wild Oxen, and Creatures like Tygers, with whose Skins the Inhabitants make their Cloaths.

In the Province of *Suchu*, near the City *Po*, is a Creature called in Greek the *Rhinoceros*. It is of a swarthy hue, like unto the Elephant: The Skin is full of wrinckles, and so hard withal, that it can scarcely be pierced with a Sable or Sword. It has a Snout like a Hog, but sharper, and above the Nostrils stands the Horn, which is generally black, now and then there is one of white, but very feldom, and that is sold much dearer then the other; and indeed one is larger then the other, according to the age of the Beast.



In bigness and thickness of body the Rhinoceros differs but little from the Elephant, only it has much shorter feet; and that is the reason why it is not so comely to the eye. This Creature is of that temper, that it will do no body hurt, unless it be first assaulted; and then it falls on with great fury, not only upon him that gave the offence, but upon every thing that comes in his way, which he will never leave till he hath destroyed. When he has got a man down, he kills him with a lick of his tongue, which is both sharp and rough; afterwards tears off his flesh to the very bone: But his ordinary food is thorny Bushes. He is always at enmity with the Elephant, to whom before he goes to give battle, he whets his Horn against a stone, and in fight endeavours to wound him in the belly, which he knows to be the weakest part. He makes a noise like the Grunting of Hogs. The *Moors* eat his flesh, but it requires good stomachs as well as teeth to feed upon him. Some prescribe the Horn against Poyson.

There is great store of Tygers in the Province of *Chekjang*, mischievous and fierce, according to their Nature: But upon the Mountain *Kutien* are some that will not hurt a man.

In several parts of *China* are also bred Elephants, but the best are in the Provinces of *Nanking* and *Junnan*: Concerning whom so much has been already written by several Authors, that I shall only add a few words. The bigness of the Elephant is various: At *Constantinople* was one seen, which from the Eyes to the furthestmost part of the Back, was eleven foot, and from the Eyes to the end of his Snout, eight foot long. In height, some are twelve, others thirteen and fourteen foot high. They are all of them black, except the Ethiopians: but some *Chinese* Writers affirm, that the King of *Narzinga* had a white one. Their Skin is like

Net-

Net-work, but so extraordinary hard, that it will turn the edge of a Sword; yet it is harder upon the back than the belly. For the chewing of their meat, they have four Teeth within, besides those that stick out before, which stand crooked in the Male, and down-right in the Female. The nether Jaw-bone is only moved in chewing, the upper always rests. In that place where the Nose is placed in other Creatures, the Elephant has a long Trunk or Snout, which reaches to the ground, and has a slit at the end: This is both plyable and slippery, which they make use of instead of a hand; for they can take up any thing with it either moist or dry, and put it into their mouths.



Of the extraordinary Docility of this Beast there are several Examples to be found, both by the ancient and modern, as well *Chinese* as other Writers. *Plinius* writes, that they fling up Arms into the Air, and that they fence with one another. Of the time and manner of Copulation there is as great variety among Historians. *Pliny* says, that the Male and the Female at ten years old begin to couple: but *Aristotle* gives them a longer time, ascribing twenty to them both; the Female at twelve, and the Male at eight years. This Act of Generation they do most commonly in the Water, as being most easie for them both; and that in the most private recesses they can find out, and but once in three years: neither does the Male make use of one Female any more than once. After they have done coupling, they grow wild and furious, doing much hurt where they come. How long they go before they cast their Young, is uncertain: Some speak of a year and six months; others say three years, and some ten. They bring forth with great pain, leaning backward upon their hinder Legs. Some write, that they bring forth but one at a time; others four: as soon as it is brought forth, it fees, goes, and sucks with the mouth, and not with the Snout, till it is eight years old. They wage War with the Rhinoceros, Lyon, Snake, Tyger, Ram, Hog, and Dragon, as also with some Colours, and with Fire. The Rhinoceros, as is said before, is his mortal Enemy, preparing for battel by whetting his Horn against the Rocks, and aiming in fight chiefly at his Belly, which he knows to be the softest part about him.

In the Province of *Junnan*, the Hill *Nalo* is full of wild Tygers and Leopards, so also is the Mountain *Xepao*. In the Province of *Quangsi*, they are much fiercer than Lyons, and very hot and eager in the pursuit of Man, Woman, or Child: But Nature has in some sort provided a means whereby to avoid the cruelty

cruelty of this Beast; for it is always accompanied with a small Creature, which with continual barking gives notice of his coming: upon which noise every living thing endeavours to get out of the way by flight, or otherwise. The people of *Bengale* stand in very great dread of this Beast. The Tyger and Rhinoceros (as *Bontius* writes) are great friends to one another, conversing much together, the reason whereof the Islanders of *Japan* told me, was, as they supposed, and which is not improbable, because the Tyger is altogether a devourer of flesh, which must of necessity occasion a weak stomach; whereas the Rhinoceros feeds only upon Greens, and therefore the Tyger follows him for Dungs sake, which he eats for a Cure when he is out of order, as the Dogs Grafs, and the Cats Nip or Cat-mint.

In the Province of *Quangsi* are very large Hogs, with great and strong Bristles, of a foot and half long, which by a particular and strange motion of the body they know how to dart toward any one, and that not without great prejudice of those they hit.

In the Province of *Xenfi* is found the Creature called *Xee*, from whom proceeds the Musk; and which is very strange, if at any time it be carried out of the Kingdom of *Lu*, into the adjacent Kingdom of *Laos*, it dyes immediately as a fish out the Water.

In the Kingdom of *Gannan* is a certain Creature called *Tese*, which in his shape comes very near to a man, having long arms: he is black and hairy upon the body, swift of foot, and laughs aloud as a man, but is of so voracious a nature, that if he can meet with him, he will instantly murder and devour him.

In the Province of *Suchu* lyes a Mountain called *Toyung*, upon which are Monkeys or Baboons, which for bigness and shape are very like a man. These Creatures are more then ordinarily addicted to Venery, so that they often attempt to surprize Women on purpose to satisfie their bestial lust, and have their wills on them. The *Indians* call them *Wild Men*, and the *Indian Women* are in such fear of them, that they dare not come near those Woods where they frequent.

Of FOWL.

IN the Province of *Xantung* are Hens and fat Capons to be had very cheap; as also great abundance of all sorts of Fowl, as Pheasants, Partridges, &c. In the Province of *Xenfi* about *Minchen*, are Cocks and Hens, having Wool upon them instead of Feathers.

In the Province of *Quantung* is an innumerable number of Ducks, which the Inhabitants take great delight to breed and increase. They never suffer the Duck to sit upon her Eggs to hatch them, but put them into an Oven moderately heated, or else bury them in a Dunghil, and so hatch the young ones.

In the Province of *Huquang* near to the City *Hanyang*, may be taken great store of wild Geese.

There are several other sorts of Fowls and Birds in the other Provinces, whereof we have already made mention in the former part of the Description of *China*.

Of FISH.

IN the Province of *Xantung* the Pools and Rivers do so abound with Fish, that for the value of a penny you may buy ten pound of Fish.

In the Province of *Kiangsi* is a great abundance of all manner of Fish, especially of Salmon, and the like.