

O. 1797.  
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VOYAGES  
AND  
DISCOVERIES

IN

South-America.

The First up the River of *Amazons* to  
*Quito* in *Peru*, and back again to *Brazil*,  
perform'd at the Command of the King  
of *Spain*.

By *CHRISTOPHER D'ACUGNA*.

The Second up the River of *Plata*, and  
thence by Land to the Mines of *Potosi*.

By *Mons. ACARETE*.

The Third from *Cayenne* into *Guiana*, in search  
of the Lake of *Parima*, reputed the richest  
Place in the World.

By *M. GRILLET* and *BECHAMEL*.

Done into English from the Originals, being the on-  
ly Accounts of those Parts hitherto extant.

The whole illustrated with Notes and Maps.

LONDON, o:ls

Printed for *S. Buckley* at the *Dolphin* over against  
*St. Dunstan's Church* in *Fleetstreet*. 1698.

## ADVERTISEMENT.

**W**HEN the Introduction was going into the Press, Advice came from *Lisbon* by the way of *Paris*, That the *Sieur de Ferolle*, Governour of *Cayenne*, being informed that the *Portuguez* were building a Fort on the North-side of the River of *Amazons*, to secure a rich *Silver Mine* which they had discover'd there, sent notice to the *Portuguez*, that they had invaded the *French King's Territories*, and therefore desir'd 'em to retire, that River being the Limits of the two Nations; but the *Portuguez* refusing to quit their Enterprize, *Monsieur de Ferolle* march'd against them, and attack'd 'em with so much Success, that those who guarded the Mine and the Fort were killed, or put to flight. How this Contest between these two Nations will be decided, is uncertain; but this is certain, that whatever Europeans first possess themselves of the *Isle of the Sun*, and the *Bosphore* or *Strait of the Amazone*, will command the Entrance into, and Passage up that noble River, and secure the Trade of it to themselves.

# INTRODUCTION.

**T**HE following Relations discovering some of the richest Parts of the World, not yet planted by the Europeans, and others but little known, worthy the perusal of the Curious, can hardly fail of a favourable Reception at this Juncture; for of all the Blessings of Peace, none appear more charming or profitable than Navigation and Commerce, especially to the English Nation, whose Genius is much bent upon Improvements at Sea, and Plantations abroad, which bring great Riches into the Kingdom, particularly those in America, where the Spaniards by their ill Conduct have given Opportunities to some of their Neighbours to put in for a share of the Wealth and Trade of that vast Tract of Land.

The frequent Sacking of their Towns and seizing of their Ships by the English, French, and Dutch, put Philip the Third upon searching out new ways of transporting the Treasures of Peru, Chili, and Granada into Spain; to which end (the Coasts about, and in the Gulph of Mexico being as well known as those in Europe) Orders were dispatched from the Court at Madrid to the Governours of Brazil and Peru to attempt the Navigation of the great River of *AMAZONS*, that if 'twere found practicable, the Gold, Silver, and other Merchandizes of Peru and the adjacent Countries might be safely and commodiously sent down to Para to be put on board the Galleons, which would lie less expos'd there, than at Cartagena, Porto Belo, or Vera Cruz, the Soundings of the Mouth of that River being unknown, and dangerous to Strangers. What Essays

were made pursuant to these Instructions, is best seen by the first Chapters of the ensuing Relation of F. Chr. d' Acugna, to which the Reader is referr'd, as the true Journal of the only Voyage upon, and Discovery of that noble River from the Source to the Mouth: 'twere needless to offer any other Recommendation of the Work, except some Account of the Author.

† Christopher d' Acugna was born at Burgos in Spain, Anno 1597. and entred into the Society of Jesus at 15 Years of Age. After some Years spent in Study, he went into America, and was Rector of the Jesuits College at Cuence under the Jurisdiction of Quito, when Peter Texeira the Portuguez General came thither from Para in Brazil up the River of Amazons. The Viceroy of Peru ordered our Author to embark with Texeira (who return'd by the same way he came) and to inform himself exactly in his Voyage of every thing that might enable him to give a satisfactory Account of the Amazone to the K. of Spain. Accordingly they departed from Quito Jan. 16. 1639. and arriv'd at Para Dec. 12. following. Thence he went into Spain, and presented to the King his Master an ample Relation of the said River; which was published at Madrid in 1641, and entituled \* Nuevo descubrimiento del gran Rio de las Amazonas, in 4°. He was sent to Rome in Quality of Provincial; came back to Spain honoured with the Title of Qualificator of the Inquisition, return'd agen into the West-Indies, and was alive at Lima in 1675. according to Father Sotwel. || 'Tis thought that the Revolutions of Portugal in 1641. which

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† Nat. Sotvelli Bibliothec. Scriptor. Societ. Jesu. Romæ, 1677. Fol.

\* Nic. Antonii Bibioth. Hispan.

|| Dissert. de M. Villamont, and Hist. du Monde par Chevreau.

which occasion'd the Loss of all Brazil, and the Colony of Para, at the Mouth of the River of Amazons from the Spaniards, were the Cause of this Relation being suppress'd both in Spain and America, lest being of no use to the Spaniards, the Portuguez might make too great Advantages of it: Thus the Copies of it became so scarce, that the Editor of the French Translation says, there was not one single Book any where to be had, except that the Translator (M. Gomberville of the French Academy) made use of, and perhaps there might be another in the Vatican Library; for Philip the Fourth had taken all possible care to get and destroy most of the printed Copies in Europe and the West-Indies.

† In the Year 1655 the Count de Pagan, Master of the Artillery, presented to Mazarine Proposals for conquering and planting this great River; but the Cardinal being involv'd in Domestick Troubles, was not at leisure to push on the Enterprize, tho it had been first started by that eminent Minister himself. This Discourse of Monsieur de Pagan is extracted for the most part out of Acugna, and is a sort of Paraphrase upon him, full of Digressions, and not comparable to the Original it self, which is more uniform and authentick, containing abundance of remarkable Observations, not mentioned by Pagan nor any other Copist whatsoever. The Cardinal was once resolv'd to plant five several Colonies; the first in the Isle of the Sun, to guard the best Entrance into the Mouth of the Amazone; the second on the Bosphore or Strait, to keep the Passage; the third on the Points of the Rio Negro; the fourth on the Zuanes near the Golden Mines; the last on the Mouth of the Maragnon, to watch over the Spanish Frontiers on that side  
of

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† Description de la Riviere & Pais des Amazones par M. Le Comte de Pagan 12°. Paris 1655.

of the Andes: This was the Plan of his Design. The many Difficulties of entering the Mouth, and getting into the true Channel of this River of Amazons, have often discouraged the Spaniards, English, and Dutch from attempting to trade in it, whereas upon Practice and Experience it might prove as navigable as most of the great Rivers of the World, whose Mouths are generally encumbered either with Sands, Flats, Isles, or impetuous Currents, which after a few Trials become familiar. The way propounded to the Cardinal was this. First shun the strong Currents, by passing aside into 2 Degrees of South Latitude; then, steer up agen by the Coast of Brazil at 30 min. South Lat. double the Point of Zaparara, and sail to the South-west; after that follow the Coast of the Province of Para, and pass the Channel of the Isle of the Sun at 1 Deg. 15 Min. South Lat. and 26 Leagues from the main Sea; lastly, sail Westward, leave the side of Para, and keep the same Latitude to gain the Bank-side of Curupa, and there enter into the best Road of this River at 2 deg. S. Lat. and 30 Leagues beyond Curupa, which is but 1 deg. 30 min. on the same side of the Line.

Since that time the French being Masters of the Isle of Cayenne (which they have fortified and cultivated) to the North of the Amazone, have not (nor any other Nation that we know of) planted any Countrey on this River, but have contented themselves with making Journeys into Guiana, particularly in search of the vast Lake of Parima, which the Spaniards have long fancied to be \* the richest Place in the World, calling it the Kingdom of Dorado, whither all the great Families of Peru retir'd, and built the  
Golden

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\* Lopez de Gomara, also Hakluyt, and Purchas in their Collections concerning Guiana.

*Golden City of † Manoa.* What grounds the Spaniards went upon in their Attempts to find out these Places at a mighty Expence of Blood and Treasure, will best appear by the following Travels of M. Grillet and Bechamel, who went beyond the suppos'd Longitudes of these Places, and could not learn the least Tidings of them from any of the Indian Nations, tho' the Circumference of the Lake alone is generally reckon'd to be above 1500 Miles. 'Tis true, some may object that this doth not wholly destroy the common Geography of that Country, and give this plausible Argument, that the simple innocent Indians are grown so extremely sensible of the cruel Dispositions of the Europeans, that they begin now to conceal industriously every thing from them, and lead them out of the way, lest they should fix in their Country and exercise their Barbarities over them; \* for by a modest Computation, the number of Americans murder'd in cold Blood exceeds that of the People now living in Europe. To this Journey a short Description of Guiana was thought fit to be annex'd, being drawn up by M. Gomberville out of Original Papers for the Instruction and Use of Marechal D'Estreade, Vice-roy of all the French Plantations in America. The Notes are from another hand, perhaps M. Villamont, who was pleas'd to divert himself with such sort of Papers.

It remains now that we give some Account of what Voyages have been made up the River De la Plata.  
 || In the Year 1512. Joannes Dias de Solis ( and  
 again

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† Herrera, and John de Laet speak doubtfully of these places.

\* Barth. de las Casas (obispo de las Chiapas) Hist. dela destrucion de los Indios, Venet. 1630. Also Hist. novi orbis per Hier. Benzon. And the Comment. Reales delos Yncas, Reyes del Peru. fol. || Per. Martyr. Decad. 3. cap. 10.

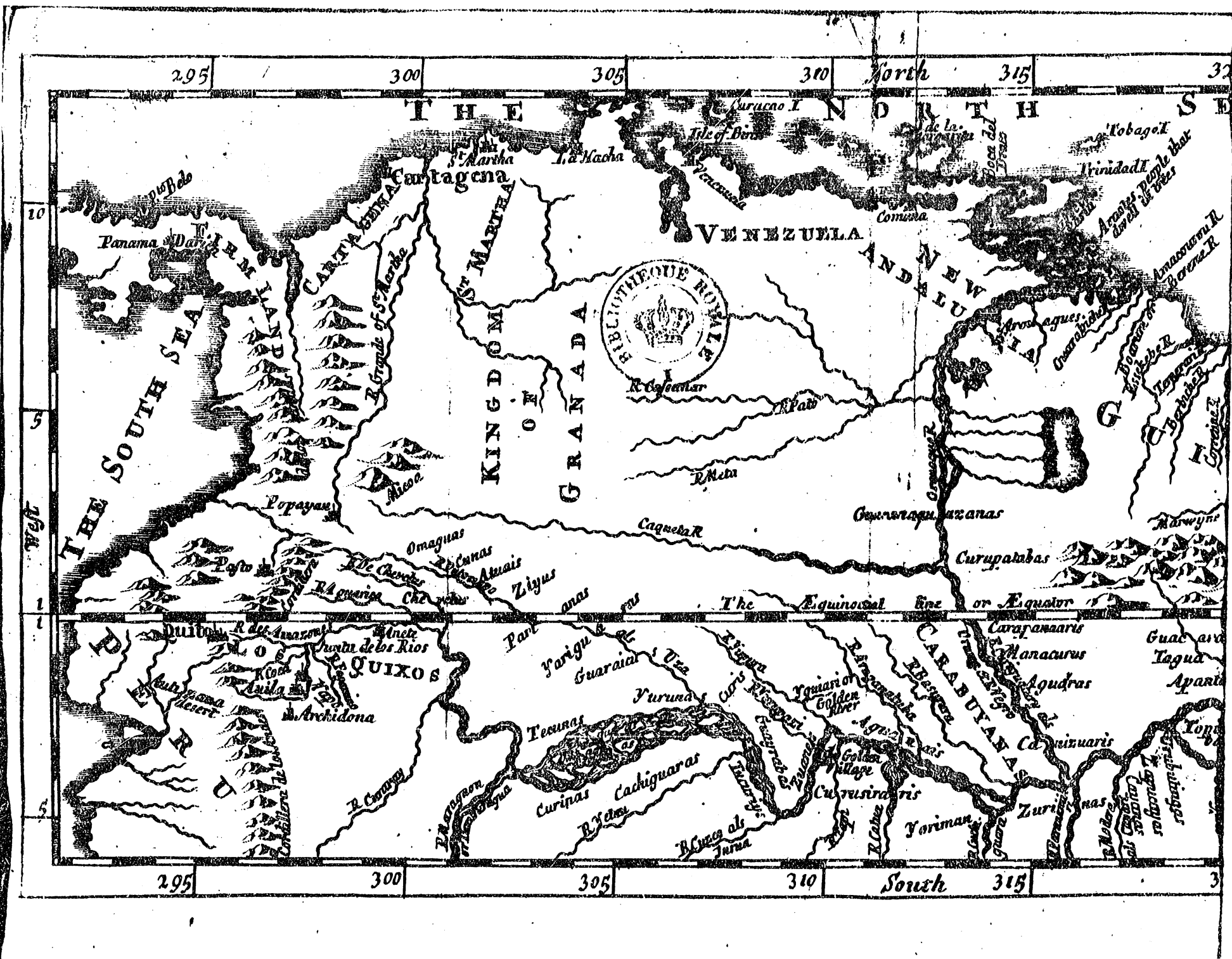


again in 1515.) was the first Discoverer of this Plate or Silver River, wherein he and most of his Relations spent their Lives and Estates. || An. 1526. Sebastian Cabota, a Venetian by his Father, but born at Bristol in England, went above 120 Leagues up this River, and staid in it above 15 Months. An. 1527. Diego Garcias a Portuguez, made further Discoveries in it; but nothing more was done till nine Years after, when Pedro de Mendoza return'd with 12 Ships and 1000 Men. And about the Year 1540. \* Alvarez Cabeza de Vacca went and peopled the Provinces to some purpose. At first they found much Gold and Silver, with infinite numbers of different Nations (soon lessened under the Tyranny and Devastations of their new Masters) the Country prodigiously fertile, the Rivers overflowing every Year upon the Stationary Rains, as the Amazone and Orenoque in Guiana, and as the Nile and the Niger in Africa. Since then the Spaniards have been possessors of this part of America, and no Strangers have pass'd up this River to Potosi to give us any exact Relation thereof; this of M. Acarete is the latest, and much more copious and particular than that of Martin del Barco, or the Dutch Journal translated from a Manuscript by J. de Laet in his Hist. Ind. besides, what is here related by Acarete of the Mines of Potosi is wholly new, and merits our notice. The way he went seems to be a shorter and a safer Passage to and from the Mines of Potosi than that usually practis'd by Arica, Lima, Panama and Porto-Belo, especially now the Boucaniers are so well acquainted with those Seas and Countries; but he has given a pretty good reason why the Spaniards don't open a Trade that way.

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|| Ant. Galvanos's Discoveries, 4<sup>o</sup> and Fol.

\* Herrera D. 6. l. 3. c. 18.





*A Relation of the Great River  
of AMAZONS in South-America.*

Containing all the Particulars of  
Father Christopher d' Acugna's Voy-  
age, made at the Command of the  
King of Spain.

Taken from the Spanish Original of the  
said Chr. d' Acugna, Jesuit.

CHAP. I.

*Of the Country in which the River of Ama-  
zons is situated. Of its Reputation, and  
of the first Discoveries the Spaniards made  
of it.*

**T**HE Spaniards were no sooner be-  
come Masters of that Part of  
*America*, which is now called  
*Peru*, but they extremely desir'd  
to make a Discovery of the great River  
of *Amazons*, which some Geographers  
through a vulgar Error have call'd the  
B River

River of *Maragnon*. They were induc'd to attempt this not only by the Account they had receiv'd of the Fertility of the Soil, and of the Riches of the People along that famous River, but also because they had very good Reasons to believe that it took its Course from the West to the East, and that receiving all the Rivers that descend from the Mountains of *Peru*, it was a kind of Canal through which there was a Passage from the Southern to the Northern Sea. Upon these Conjectures some Persons undertook to go in search of this River, but to no purpose. Others afterward made the like Essay, but with no better Success. At length in the Year 1539. *Gonzalles Pizarre* being made Governor of the Province of *Quito* by the Marques *Francis Pizarre* his Brother, who was Governor of *Peru*, put himself in an Equipage to go to his Government, and from thence to pass on to the Conquest of the Country of *Cannelle*. He got together two hundred Foot and a hundred Horse, partly at his own Charge, and partly at the Expence of some that accompanied him in this Expedition, which cost above fifty thousand \* Castilians of Gold. Being arriv'd at *Quito*, he order'd all necessary

\* A Castilian  
is about 5 s.  
& d. English.

ry Provisions to be made for his Journey, took a great number of Indian Slaves to carry the Baggage, and set forward at the end of *December* in the Year 1539, with four hundred Spaniards and four thousand Indians. He order'd for the Subsistence of his Men four thousand Sheep, Cows, and Swine to be driven along with 'em; and taking his Course directly Northward, he enter'd into the Country of the *Quixos*, where the Conquests of the *Incas* of *Peru* ended. This Province is forty Leagues in length, and twenty in breadth; and was inhabited by a People that never us'd to dwell together in Towns or Villages like those of *Peru*, but liv'd in a straggling manner scatter'd up and down the Country.

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C H A P. II.

*The way Gonzalles Pizarre took in passing out of Quito, and the Difficulties he met with in his Journey.*

**T**HE March of our Adventurers was retarded, not only by the Opposition they had from the People of the Country, who disputed their Passage, but also

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by continual Rains and Earthquakes so violent, that many Houses were overturn'd, and deep Breaches made in the Earth before 'em, together with such terrible Storms and Claps of Thunder, that any one but *Gonzalles Pizarre* would have abandon'd such an Enterprize as seem'd to be oppos'd both by Heaven and Earth. However he with his Men did not give over their March for all this bad Weather, but cross'd the Province of the *Quixos*, till they came to the foot of some high Mountains all cover'd with Snow, which make a part of those which the Spaniards call the *Cordeliers*, and which bound the Province of the *Quixos* on the North. Tho the Rains still continued they resolv'd to pass over the Mountains, but were not far advanc'd before the Rain turn'd into a Snow so thick and cold, that many of the Indians were kill'd by it. The Spaniards were likely to have undergone the same fate, if they had continued their March as they began: They concluded that nothing but Expedition could save 'em from the Rigor of the Cold, and therefore left all the Cattle they had with them, and lighted themselves of the rest of their Provisions and Baggage, hoping they should find enough on t'other side of  
the

the Mountains. When they were got over them, they enter'd into a Valley call'd *Zumaque*, which is a hundred Leagues from *Quito* by the account of good Geographers; there they found abundance of Provisions and Refreshments, and continued there two Months to acquaint themselves with the Country, and to see if they could make any advantage of it. But this Place not answering the great hopes they had conceiv'd of their Adventure, *Pizarre* parted from *Zumaque* with sixty good Souldiers to discover the Country of *Cannelle*; but in pursuing the Course he had taken towards the North, he found the way so rough and mountainous, that he was constrain'd to change his Road; he therefore turn'd directly to the East, and after some few days march, enter'd into that famous Country call'd by the Inhabitants *Cannelle*, from certain great Trees, like Olive-Trees, that are call'd so in that Place.

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## CHAP. III.

*The Countries near the River of Amazons  
discover'd by Gonzalles Pizarre.*

**H***Errera* the Spanish Historian says; *Pizarre* exercis'd the greatest Cruelty imaginable on the Inhabitants of these Regions, insomuch that he gave Men to be eaten alive by his Dogs. This engag'd all the Country to put themselves in Arms against him, so that he was oblig'd to encamp himself as in an Enemy's Country: And his Cruelties, together with the Despair he was in of ever being able to find what he was seeking after, had like to have put an end to his Enterprize at once. He was encamp'd on the Bank of a River, which swell'd so much in one Night, that if the Sentinels, who perceiv'd the Water was apace getting ground of 'em, had not warn'd 'em of their Danger, they had been all drown'd; but at the Alarm they gave 'em they soon secur'd themselves by making towards the Cottages of the wild People, and *Pizarre* resolv'd to return to *Zumaque*, not knowing what other course to take.

take. From thence he proceeded again with all his Men, and after a March of four Leagues, he met with a great Village call'd *Ampua*, govern'd by a *Cacique*, and found a great number of the Inhabitants in a posture of Defence expecting their Enemy. But there was another and a greater Obstacle in his way than this *Cacique* and all his Troops, and that was a River so wide and deep, that he could have no thoughts of venturing to swim over it. He could therefore find no better Expedient than to enter into a Treaty with the People of the Country, and to desire the help of their Canoos to cross this River. The *Cacique* receiv'd this Proposal with great Civility, offer'd 'em what they ask'd, and gave 'em as many of those little Boats as they desir'd, and *Pizarre* made 'em a return of a great many little Spanish Toys by way of Requit. This *Cacique* having receiv'd Advice of the ill Treatment many of his Neighbours had receiv'd from the Spaniards, thought of nothing more than how to get rid of them: And to deliver himself from the danger of the Company of such bad Guests, endeavour'd to make 'em believe there were great Riches to be found among the People that dwelt

upon this River some days Journey lower. *Pizarre* both by his Actions, and by the Mouth of his Guides, who were his Interpreters, return'd him Thanks for his Courtesy: but finding no appearance of those pretended Riches, he return'd to *Zumaque*, very much dissatisfied with his Expedition. However, he had too much Courage to return back to *Quito* just as he came; he had a mind therefore to attempt some great Exploit, and by the Discovery of some other *Peru*, to render himself as considerable as the Marques of *Pizarre* his elder Brother: He open'd his Mind to *Francis Oreillane*, a Gentleman of *Truxilla* in *Spain*, who was come to join him in the Valley of *Zumaque* with fifty Troopers well appointed: He very much encourag'd his Design; and the the Rainy Season was not yet past, that did not hinder him from advancing forward; he left his little Army at *Zumaque*, and having taken a hundred effective Soldiers, and some Indians for Guides, and to carry Provisions, he march'd directly to the East.

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## C H A P. IV.

*The first News he receiv'd of this famous River, and of the Riches of the People that dwell near it.*

**E**ither the Ignorance of his Guides, or the Hatred they bare him engaged him in a Country all full of Mountains, Forests and Torrents, so that he was necessitated to make Ways where he found none, and to open himself a Passage through the Woods with Hatchets, where none had ever gone before. At length after many days March he pierc'd through as far as the Province of *Coca*. The *Cacique* of which Province came before him, and offer'd him all the Accommodations the Country afforded for his Refreshment. *Gonzalles* promis'd himself much from this kind Entertainment, and by the Assistance of his Guides enter'd into Conversation with the *Cacique*. He inform'd him that the Country through which he had pass'd, which was so full of Mountains, Forests and Brooks, was the only Passage he could have taken to come thither; that it was extremely difficult to get through it, but that

that if he were willing to embark on the River he saw before him, or to follow it by Land, he might assure himself, that along the Banks of another River much greater than this, he should find a Country abounding with all things, whose Inhabitants were cover'd with Plates of Gold. There was no need of saying any thing more to *Pizarre* to incite him to any kind of Enterprize; who presently sent two of his Guides to *Zumaque* with Orders to his Officers to come and join him, who march'd immediately, and surmounting all the Difficulties of the way, arriv'd much fatigued to the Town of *Coca*. *Pizarre* having rested 'em some few days, and afterwards put them in Battalia before the *Cacique*, who was much terrified at them; he amass'd almost all the Provisions of his whole Province to make a Present of them to *Pizarre*, that by this Magnificence he might civilly acquit himself of his new Acquaintance, who was more impatient of his stay than the other; and the next Morning having filed his Troops along the River, he took his leave of the *Cacique*, presenting him with a fine Sword, and put himself at the head of his Cavalry, and followed the pleasant Course of the River. This good way  
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did not last long, but they had Rivulets to swim over, must go up-hill and down-hill in uneven ways, and march forty three days without finding any Provision for his Troops, or any Fords or Canoos by which to pass the River.

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CHAP. V.

*The Discovery which Pizarre made of the River of Coca, and Oreillane's floating on this River by Pizarre's order, and so entering into the River of Amazons.*

**T**His long March having mightily fatigued our Travellers, they were stop'd by a very surprizing sight: The River was press'd by two Rocks, one on each side its Passage, at no more than twenty foot distance from one another; and the Water going through this Strait, precipitated it self into a Valley, and made a Leap of two hundred Fathom. Here it was that *Pizarre* caus'd that famous Bridg to be made for his Troops to pass over, which is so much boasted of by the Spanish Historians. But finding the Way not at all better on the other side, and their Provision growing  
more

more and more scarce every day, *Pizarre* resolv'd to make a Brigantine to carry by Water all his sick Men, Provisions, Baggage, and a hundred thousand Livres in Gold which they had got amongst 'em. This was no small Difficulty, but Industry and Necessity surmounted it; and the Vessel being finished, *Pizarre* embark'd all in it that hindered his March, and gave the Command of it to *Francis Oreillane* with fifty Souldiers, giving him express Order not to part far from him, but to come every Night to the Camp. He observ'd this Order exactly, till his General seeing all his Men were much pinch'd with Hunger, commanded him to go and seek some Provisions and Cottages, where his Men might be refreshed. *Oreillane* had no sooner receiv'd his Orders, but he launched out into the middle of the River; and the Rapidity of the Stream carry'd him as fast as he could wish, for he made above a hundred Leagues in three days without the use of either Sails or Oars: The Current of *Coca* carried him into another River which was much larger, but nothing near so swift; he made his Observation of it one whole day, and seeing that the farther he went down, the more the River

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ver widen'd, he did not doubt but this was that great River which had been so often and in vain sought after. The Joy he conceiv'd at his good Fortune so transported him, that it made him quite forget himself; so that he thought of nothing but the Enjoyment of this good Success; and trampling upon his Duty, Oath, Fidelity and Gratitude, he had now nothing in view but how to bring about the Enterprize he was contriving.

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CHAP. VI.

*Oreillane hoping for an extraordinary Success from the Discovery of this River; and being willing to have the sole Glory of it, leaves his General, and makes himself the Head of this Enterprize.*

**T**O this end *Oreillane* perswaded his Companions that the Country whither they were arriv'd, was not the same with that which their General had described; that it had not that great Plenty the *Cacique* had told him he should find at the joining of the two Rivers; that they must certainly float along farther to find that pleasant and fertile Country,



try, where they might store themselves with Provisions; and besides that, they all saw there was no likelihood of getting up this River again, which indeed they came down in three days, but, as he believ'd, could not make the same way back again in the space of a whole Year; that it was much more reasonable to wait for their Company on this new River, and that in the mean time it was necessary for 'em to go seek Provisions. Thus concealing his Design, he hoisted up the Sails, and abandoning himself to the Wind, to his Fortune, and to his Resolution, he thought of nothing but of pursuing the course of the River, till he should discover it quite to the Sea. His Companions were startled at the manner of his putting in execution the Design he had been proposing to 'em, and thought themselves oblig'd to tell him that he went beyond the Orders of his General; and that in the extreme want he was in, they ought to carry him the little Provision they could find; and that he had given sufficient Evidence that he had some ill Design, because he had neglected to leave two Canoes at the Bank of the two Rivers, as the General had appointed him, for his Army to pass over in. These Re-  
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monstrances were made to him chiefly by a Dominican Frier nam'd *Gaspard de Carvajal*, and by a young Gentleman of *Badajos* in *Spain*, call'd *Fernand Sanches de Vargas*. The Consideration they had for these two Persons occasion'd a Division of the Company in this little Vessel into two Parties; and from Words they were like to have fallen to Blows, but that *Orellane* stifling their Gratitude by his Diffimulation, by fair Protestations and great Promises appeas'd this Disorder. By means of the Friends he had in the Vessel he gain'd most of the Souldiers that were against him to his side; and seeing the two Heads of the other Party left almost alone, he caus'd *Fernand Sanches de Vargas* to be set ashore, leaving him quite alone, without Victuals and without Arms, in a dismal Wilderness, bounded on one side with high Mountains, and with a River on the other: He had more Prudence than to treat the Frier after the same manner, yet he gave him to understand, that it was not for him to penetrate any more into the Pretensions of his Commander, unless he had a mind to be severely chastis'd: After this he continued his Voyage; and the next day being willing to know if he might depend upon  
all

all that were with him for the success of his Resolutions, he let 'em know that he aspir'd to a much higher pitch of Dignity than what he might have obtain'd in the Service of *Pizarre*, that he ow'd every thing to himself and his King; and that his Fortune having as it were led him by the hand, to the greatest and most desirable Discovery that was ever made in the *Indies*, namely, the great River upon which they were sailing, which coming out of *Peru*, and running from West to East, was the finest Channel in the new World, through which one might pass from the Northern to the Southern Sea: that he could not without betraying them all, and without ravishing from them the Fruits of their Voyage and Industry, make others share in a Favour which Heaven had reserv'd for them alone. That as for himself, his Design was to go into *Spain*, to beg of his Catholick Majesty the Government of this great Country all along this noble River; he promis'd them they should be all Governours of Castles and Towns, and have other Recompences proportionate to their Valour and Generosity; that they should only follow him; that they knew him well; that he was not incapable of the  
Post

Post he design'd to ask of the King, and that it was certainly due to him for having made a Discovery of the Country. That as for the Oath he had taken to *Pizarre*, he disingag'd himself of it; that he was resolv'd to be commanded by him no longer; that he renounc'd the Power he had receiv'd from him, and would have no other Authority nor Command but what he ask'd of them, and what they would give him in naming him chief Commander, under the King their Master, in the Discovery of this great River.

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CHAP. VII.

*Orellane gives his Name to this River. The Change of the Name he had given it by a Fable himself compos'd, to render his Discovery the more famous.*

**H**IS Harangue was followed with a general Consent to make him the Head of this Enterprize. He began to use his Authority in giving his Name to this great and famous River, and not content to know the course of it, he was desirous of discovering the Country it water'd. He therefore went ashore to get  
C Provi-

Provisions, and to acquaint himself with the Inhabitants: But he found the People able to defend their Bread, and had several Battels with the Natives, who let him know they were not without Courage; nay, they were so stout and resolute in the defence of their Country, that the Women mix'd themselves with the Men in the Battel, and seconded them with admirable Bravery both in shooting of Arrows, and in standing their Ground. 'Twas this that gave occasion to *Oreillane*, that he might render his Discovery more considerable and glorious, to tell that he had enter'd into a Country of vast Extent along this River, which was govern'd by *Amazons*, a sort of Women who had no Husbands, who destroy'd all their Male-Children; and who came arm'd at a certain time every Year in a Body to the Frontiers of their Neighbours, there to choose themselves Paramours, to prevent the Extinction of so extraordinary a Nation: And this was the reason why this River he had first call'd after his own Name, was since call'd the River of *Amazons*. However *Oreillane* pursued his Course with a great deal of Success, and the more he advanc'd, the more all things seem'd to concur to prosper his Infidelity. As he  
went

went farther down, he found other People, not so warlike and savage as the others: They receiv'd him with a great deal of Civility, and admir'd all that he and his Company did, and all that they had, their Persons, their Clothes, their Arms, their Vessel, and every thing else: They look'd upon 'em as a sort of extraordinary Men, were willing to enter into an amicable Treaty with 'em, and gave 'em as much Provision as they could desire.

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CHAP. VIII.

*Orellane passes out of this River by an Arm that goes into the Sea near the North-Cape. His Voyage into Spain to beg of the King the Conquest and Government of this Country. His unfortunate Return, and his End worthy of his Treachery.*

**O**rellane finding himself in a Post so favourable to his Designs, stop'd here for some time, and caus'd another Brigantine to be made larger than the former, because they were too much crowded in it. He continued there as long as was necessary to inform himself

well of the Country; and having taken his Farewel of the courteous Indians, he set sail. After several days Voyage, he happily came to the place where this River goes out into the Sea, and sail'd out with it; and taking good notice of the Places necessary to be observ'd for his Return, he coasted along a Cape, now call'd *the North Cape*, 200 Leagues from the Island *La Trinidad*, and sail'd directly thither, where he bought a Vessel, in which he pass'd into *Spain*, and presented himself to the Emperor *Charles V.* at *Vailladolid*; he so charm'd the Emperor with the agreeable recital of his Adventures, and with the fair Promises he made, that he obtain'd three Ships of him in which to return from whence he came, with Orders to build Forts and Houses in those places which he should find most commodious, and to take possession of the Country in the Name of this Prince. His Dispatches were soon given, but the execution of 'em was very tedious; for he was above seven Years at the Court of *Spain* before he could put himself in a condition to sail. About the end of the Year 1549, he imbark'd with all his Men; but was no sooner got to the Latitude of the *Canaries*, but a contagious Distem-

Distemper passing from one of his Vessels into the others, took off part of his Soldiers, a considerable number of 'em was carried off soon after by the same Infection, tho' he was got no further than *Cape-Verd*, when he was advis'd to return back to *Spain*: He was so rash notwithstanding as to continue his Voyage, and to promise himself the sight of the *River of Amazons* for all this: And indeed he did see it, and came to the Mouth of it with his Vessels; but finding he wanted Men, he order'd 'em all to come aboard his own Ship, and quitted the two others. But the number of his Men daily diminishing, having built two Barks in an Island where he had made some stay, he only reserv'd himself one of them, of a pretty large size, and several times attempted to get up higher into the River. He was, in fine, necessitated to yield to his Fortune, which had forsaken him, and suffer'd him to go to the place of his Ruin. He was cast on the Coasts of *Caracas*; and from thence upon a certain Island call'd *St. Marguerite*, where he lost the last of his Men; and dying as well with Despair as Sicknes, he made *Charles V.* lose the great Hopes he had conceiv'd of so daring an Enterprize.



## C H A P. IX.

*This Discovery thus begun in 1540, remain'd imperfect till the Year 1560, when a Spanish Gentleman nam'd Orsua, ask'd leave of the Vice-Roy of Peru to make this Discovery. His Equipage, and the beginning of his Voyage, and his parting from Quito.*

**T**HE ill Success of *Oreillane's* Voyage cool'd the ardent Desire the Spaniards had for the Discovery of the River of *Amazons*; and it seem'd quite extinguish'd by the Civil Wars of *Peru*, till the *Marques de Caguete* being Vice-Roy of that Kingdom, a Gentleman of *Navarre*, nam'd *Peter de Orsua*, who had always entertain'd Thoughts worthy of his great Courage, turn'd his Designs on this great River, and believ'd he should be more fortunate than *Oreillane*: He presented himself to the Vice-Roy, and propos'd his Design to him; who being well acquainted with his Merit, commended his Resolution, and was perswaded, that if so difficult a matter should succeed, it must be by the Conduct of so brave and wise a Commander. He immediately dispatch'd all necessary Orders for him, and caus'd a  
Publi-

Publication of his Attempt to be made throughout the Kingdom. Most of the Gentry came to offer their Service to *Orsua*; who was so much in every one's Esteem, that there was no Souldier so old, but would leave his Retirement with Pleasure to serve under so excellent a General. His chief trouble was to return his Thanks to so many of 'em as he could not take along with him: he made choice of such amongst 'em as were most fit for his purpose; and to carry on the famous Conquest he design'd, he made all necessary Provisions both of Ammunition and Victuals, to which all the Lords and the Inhabitants of the Towns contributed with a great deal of Freedom and Liberality, being well perswaded that *Orsua* had Qualities that well deserv'd to be oblig'd. He parted from *Cusco* in 1560, with the Acclamations and good Wishes of all the Inhabitants of that Place; he was attended with above seven hundred choice Souldiers, and with a considerable number of very good Horses. Being well vers'd in the Map of *Persu*, and having for some time been laying the Scheme of his Journey, he march'd directly to the Province of *Mosilones*, first to meet the River *Moyabamba*, by which he was sure of entering into the River of *Amazons*.

## C H A P. X.

*The Tragical End of Orsua by the Revolt of two of his Officers, who were fallen in love with their General's Lady, The yet more Tragical End of those two Rebels one after t'other. And the Cruelty of one of them against his own Daughter.*

ONE would have hop'd an Attempt so wisely laid, and so universally approv'd, should have had a happy Issue: Yet never was any Project more unsuccessful; for Orsua had taken with him one Don Fernand de Gusman, a young Man who was lately come from Spain, and another more advanc'd in Years, named Lopez Daguirre of Biscay, a little ill-favour'd Man, whom he had made his Ensign. These two Wretches fell in Love with their General's Lady, whose Name was Agnes, and who had accompanied her Husband in all his Travels; and thinking they had a favourable occasion to satisfy their Lust and Ambition together, engag'd Orsua's Troops to revolt, and assassinated him. After this Tragical Fact the Traitors who committed it, who to the number of seven or eight were in a strict Confederacy, elected

Don

Don Fernand de Gusman for their King; whose Mind was vain enough to receive that Title which became him so little: But he did not enjoy it long; for those very Persons that had given him the Quality of King, gave him his Death's Wound too, and *Daguirre* succeeded him, who made himself King, notwithstanding the Remonstrances of others: And naming himself the Rebel and Traitor, he gave all those he had gain'd to his Party to understand, that he intended to make himself Master of *Guiana*, of *Peru*, and of the new Kingdom of *Grenada*, and promis'd 'em all the Riches of those great Kingdoms. His Reign was so bloody and barbarous, that the like Tyranny was scarce ever heard of in the World: Therefore the Spaniards to this day call him the Tyrant. However he commanded *Orsua's* Vessels, and went down the River *Coca* into the *Amazon*, hoping to obtain one of those Kingdoms, and to make a considerable Progress into it. But having enter'd the *Amazon*, he was not able to master the Current of it, and so was constrained to suffer himself to be carried down to the Mouth of a River above a thousand Leagues from the place where he embark'd, and was driven into the great Channel which goes to the North-

North-Cape, being the same way *Oreillane* had taken before him. Going out of the *Amazone*, he came to the Island of *St. Marguerite*, which is to this day call'd the Tyrant's Port; there he kill'd *Don Ircan de Villa Andrada*, Governour of the Island, and *Don John Sermiento* his Father. After their Death, with the Assistance of one *John Burq*, he made himself Master of the Island, plunder'd it intirely, and there committed unheard-of Barbarities. He kill'd all that oppos'd him, and past from thence to *Cumana*, where he exercis'd the same Cruelties: He after that desolated all those Coasts that bear the Name of *Caracas*, and all the Provinces along the Rivers *Venezuela* and *Baccho*. He then came to *St. Martha*, where he put all to the Sword, and enter'd the new Kingdom of *Grenada*, designing to march from thence through *Quito* into *Peru*. In this Kingdom he was forc'd to a Battel, in which he was utterly defeated, and put to flight, but all Ways being stop'd, he found he must perish; and therefore begins his Tragedy with a sort of Barbarity without Example.

He had a Daughter by his Wife *Mendoza*, that had follow'd him in his Expeditions, and whom he lov'd intirely. Daughter (says he to her) I must kill thee: I de-

design'd to have plac'd thee on a Throne, but since Fortune opposes it, I am not willing thou shouldst live to suffer the Shame of becoming a Slave to my Enemies, and of being call'd the Daughter of a Tyrant and a Traitor. Die, my Child, die by the Hand of thy Father, if thou hast not Courage enough to die by thy own. She surpriz'd at this Discourse, desir'd him at least to give her some time to prepare for Death, and to beg of God the Pardon of her Sins: This he granted; but thinking her too tedious in her Devotion, as she was praying upon her Knees he shot her through the Body with a Carbine; but having not kill'd her out-right, he stuck his Dagger into her Heart. She falling down at the Stroke, cry'd, Ah, Father, 'tis enough!

Soon after her Death he was taken and carried Prisoner to the Island *La Trinitada*, where he had a considerable Estate. His Process was made, and he condemn'd to be quarter'd; he was publicly executed, his Houses raz'd to the Ground, and the places where they stood sow'd with Salt, as may be seen to this day.

## CHAP. XI.

*This Discovery by these sad Accidents continued thus without any farther Advancement, from the Year 1560 to 1606, when two Jesuits ventur'd to go and preach the Gospel along this River, and were there martyr'd. Many other Attempts form'd since by great Persons without Success,*

**T**HE unhappy Issue of these two Enterprizes abated the Desires of others after this Discovery to that degree, that the last Age past without any farther knowledg of this great River: But our Age has been more happy, and we have seen this great Design perfectly executed in our days. In 1606, and 1607, two Fathers of the Jesuits Society mov'd with the desire of the Conversion of those barbarous People, went from *Quito*, and pierc'd as far as the Province of the *Cofanes*, who inhabit those Parts where the Springs of the River *Coca* rise. Those good Fathers were willing to begin the Publication of the Gospel among these People: But the Hour of their being call'd to the Knowledg of God was not yet come;

come ; for they found these Men so cruel, and so incapable of hearing the Word, that they kill'd one of these Fathers nam'd *Raphael Ferrier*, and made the other fly for his Life.

In the Year 1621. under the Reign of *Philip IV.* King of Spain, *Vincent Delos Reyes de Villalobos*, Serjeant-Major, Governor and Captain-General of the Country of the *Quixos*, resolv'd to attempt the Navigation of the River *Amazone*; but receiving an Order to quit his Government, he was oblig'd to lay aside the thoughts of this Adventure. *Alonze Miranda* form'd the same Design, prepar'd his Equipage, and took all necessary Precautions to overcome all the Difficulties of the Attempt, but had no better success than the others, for he dy'd without having so much as seen this famous River. Before either of these two the General *Joseph de Villamayor Maldonado* Governor of the *Quixos*, incited by the same Motives of the Glory of God, the Grandure of the King his Master, and the Salvation of so many Infidels, had consum'd all he had in the World in endeavouring to settle himself among those People that dwell on the Borders of that wonderful River.



## C H A P. XII.

*The Commission the King of Spain sent to the Governour of Brazil to make this Discovery.*

**T**HE Spaniards were not the only Conquerors of the new World, that expressed so earnest a desire to render themselves Masters of those unknown Nations. The *Portuguez* were no less eager in the same Design, and knowing they were not far distant from the Mouth of the River, they were willing to believe this Discovery was reserv'd for them. In the Year 1626, *Bonito Macul* then Governour of *Para* receiv'd a Commission from *Philip III.* King of *Spain*, to put to Sea with some good Ships for this purpose, and try if he could overcome the Difficulties of this Discovery; but he could not put in execution these Orders of his Catholick Majesty, being call'd away by others more pressing, which oblig'd him to go into the King's Service at *Pherambuc*.

In 1633, and 1634. the King of *Spain* being extremely impatient to see that Enterprize at last succeed, which had so many

ny times been in vain attempted, sent very pressing Orders to *Francesco Coello* Governor and Captain-General of the Island of *Maraguan*, and of the Town and Fortrefs of *Para*, to arm a considerable Force to attempt an effectual Discovery of this River: And directed him in his Orders, in case he had no Officer near him upon whose Conduct he could depend for the execution of this Design, to go in Person himself, because he was resolv'd absolutely to know whether it were impossible to go up this River, and to find the Source of it, and consequently its length. *Carvalho* could not obey the King his Master, because he did not think himself in a Condition to absent himself from his Government, and to divide his Forces at a time when he expected to be attacked by the Dutch, who were unwilling to lose any opportunity of making their Descents into *Brazil*: But what he did not think feasible, without the help of a good number of Men and Vessels, was happily accomplished by the good Fortune of two Lay-Friers of the Order of *St. Francis*, after the following manner.

## C H A P. XIII.

*That which so many brave Men were not able to perform, was accomplish'd by two Lay-Friers of the Order of St. Francis, who escaped the hands of the Indians.*

**T**HE Town of *St. Francis* in the Province of *Quito* is one of the finest in *America*; it is built upon one of those stupendous Mountains, which the Spaniards call *Cordeliers*, and *Tierras*, half a degree South of the Equinoctial Line; yet is it of the most agreeable Temperature, and the most plentiful and healthful Place in all *Peru*, and is never incommoded by excessive Heat. In 1635, 1636, and 1637, Captain *John de Palacios*, having undertaken to attempt the Discovery of this River, to that end made a small Provision of Arms, desiring rather to acquaint himself with the Country, and to people it, than to subdue the Inhabitants of those Provinces by force of Arms. Several Monks of the Order of *St. Francis* were desirous to accompany him to essay the Conversion of these Barbarians, and promis'd themselves more Success in this Work than the

Jesuits

Jesuits had, who 30 Years before had made the like Attempt, till they saw one of their number Father *Raphael Ferrier* martyr'd by these Infidels, as above related.

These march'd with more Precaution, and after a long Fatigue arriv'd at the Province of the long-hair'd Indians: This Country they found well peopled, but not being able to make any Establishment here by reason of the rough Treatment they met with from the Inhabitants, some of them gave over the Attempt, and return'd to *Quito*, but others were more resolute, and continued with Captain *de Palacios*, together with some few Souldiers that were always faithful to him: But these being almost all destroy'd in several Battels, in one of which at last the Captain himself was kill'd, the Monks made their Escape as well as they could, and the two Lay-Friers we have spoken of, one of whom was *Dominic de Britto*, and the other *Andrew de Toledo*, dexterously sav'd themselves from the hands of the Indians; and having got to their Bark, with six Souldiers that remain'd, abandon'd themselves to Providence, and suffer'd their Bark to be driven at the Pleasure of the Winds and Streams.

It pleas'd God so to favour their Voyage, that after they had been carried from

Province to Province upon this great River, they happily landed at *Para*, a City in *Brazil*, forty Leagues distant from the Mouth of the *Amazone* Southward. The *Portuguez* possess it, and have made it a good Garison, belonging to the Government of *Maragnon*. The two Lay-Friese and the Souldiers were inquir'd of about their long and strange Voyage, but they were all eight of 'em so stupid, that they had made no particular Remark on any thing; only they said they had pass'd through divers Provinces of different Barbarians, who eat the Men which they take in War. The two *Cordeliers* offer'd to return to the place from whence they came, provided they might have a Vessel and Men granted 'em to conduct 'em, hoping they should again find the same Passages of the Rivers by which they came down, and so get back again as far as *Quito*. They were brought from *Para* to the City of *St. Lewis* in *Maragnon*, *James Raimond de Norogna* being then Governour of that Place, who having a Zeal for the Service of God, as well as that of the King, was willing to examine these *Cordelier* Friers more particularly than had been done at *Para*. He discours'd 'em with so much Patience and Sweetness, that he

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made

made 'em talk reasonably: They told him they went from *Peru*, that their Monastery was in the City of *Quito*; that they came out with many of their Brethren to labour to convert the wild People, but that the Indians had a greater mind to eat 'em, than to hear 'em preach; that their Captain being dead, and their Brethren put to flight, they with six Souldiers had put themselves into a Bark which miraculously came ashore at *Para*; and that they were ready to return to *Peru*, if they could meet with a convenient Passage. The Governor having deliberated on this Report, believ'd God had offer'd him a fair occasion to serve his Religion and his Country, and that he ought to attempt that Design in which so many others had fail'd.

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CHAP. XIV.

*The Governor of Brazil on the Report of these two Cordelier Friars, attempts the Discovery of this River. The Preparation he made for it, and the Commission given to Don Pedro de Texeira, who parted from Para in the Year 1637.*

**D**on Pedro de Norogna resolv'd to make Preparation for this Enterprize,

prize, and caus'd it to be publish'd: at this News many offer'd themselves to serve on this occasion. The Governor retain'd such as he thought most proper for his Design; and that he might have a Man capable of giving him an exact account of all he should see during so long a Voyage, he chose Capt. *Peter de Texeira*, a Man of Courage, Conduct, and Probity, to command the Fleet. This Gentleman with a great deal of Joy receiv'd a Command so suitable to his Inclinations, for he had been all his Life seeking occasions of serving his King to the prejudice of his own private Interest, and in the peril of his Life: and according to his desire he had the Glory of accomplishing the most difficult, and most illustrious Enterprize of his time. He parted from *Para* the 28th of October 1637. with forty seven Canoos of an indifferent bigness, wherein besides Ammunition and Victuals he embark'd seventy *Portuguez* Souldiers, and twelve hundred Indians to row and to bear Arms, who together with their Wives and Servants made two thousand Persons: They enter'd into the mouth of the River on that side that is nearest to *Para*, and happily avoided those Rocks that come just to the surface of the Water, and stop the Passage of Vessels in many places.

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However they were almost a Year without seeing the end of their Voyage: indeed having no Guides upon whose Fidelity and Experience they could depend in steering their Course; and besides, being sometimes carried to the South, and sometimes to the North by the Violence of the Streams, they did not make the Advance they would have done if they had been us'd to navigate the River. Besides, *Texeira* being obliged to provide for the Subsistence of all those People he carried with him, and perceiving his Provisions diminished considerably every day, was forc'd from time to time to send Parties in some of the Canoos to make Descents sometimes on Islands, and sometimes on the Continent, to procure a Supply.

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C H A P. XV.

*The Difficulties Texeira found in his Voyage, both from the People he carried with him, and from the length of the way; and the happy Descent of his advanc'd Squadron into the Country of the Quixos, belonging to the Government of Quito.*

OUR Travellers were not advanc'd half way their Voyage, before the



Indians were weary of their Labour, and quitting their Oars, began to murmur, and make loud Complaints that they had been engag'd in so tedious a Voyage. 'Twas in vain to tell 'em they would soon be at the end of it: they desir'd *Texeira* to dismiss 'em, and finding he put 'em off from day to day, many tack'd about and return'd to *Para*. The General perceiv'd, that on this occasion he must use Prudence rather than Force, therefore he did not cause them that were fled back to be pursu'd, but endeavour'd with all imaginable Mildness to hinder others from following their Example: To this end he treated the Indians that remain'd with very kind Words, and so extremely pleas'd 'em with his Discourse, that those that heard him convey'd it from one Canoo to another with those external Demonstrations of Joy and Satisfaction, which they use to express in their Assemblies, so that they unanimously cry'd from all the Canoos, that they were willing *Texeira* should continue his Voyage, and that they would never leave him. The General having given 'em his Thanks for their goodwill, caus'd some Brandy to be distributed through all the Canoos, assuring 'em they would in a little time arrive at the Place design'd. And not content in  
having

having spread this Report among 'em, to fix the Indians the more firmly in their Resolution, he thought it necessary to do somewhat that might still make a greater appearance for their Encouragement. To this purpose he visited all the Canoos, and chose out eight of the best of 'em, which he loaded with Provision, Souldiers and Rowers. He made Colonel *Benedito Rodriguez d'Olivera*, a Native of *Brazil*, Commander of this Squadron; and having communicated his Design to him, sent him away with a Charge to send him often such News as might be most agreeable to the Indians. *Olivera* was no ordinary Man, he had naturally a quick and piercing Wit; and having been all his Life brought up with the Indians, he had so well studied their Actions and Countenances, that they could hardly dissemble so well, but he could with one cast of his Eye discover what was in their Minds; so that they look'd upon him as a Man that could divine what others thought; and from this Conceit they had not only a great Veneration for him, but stood so much in awe of him, that they yielded him a blind Obedience in what he commanded 'em. It is not to be question'd after this, whether those in the eight Canoos which he was to command were

very willing to go with him. His Men were so industrious one while at their Oars, and another while at their Sails, that they overcame all the Obstacles that presented, and safely arriv'd on the 24<sup>th</sup> of June 1638, at the place where the River of *Pagamino* enters into the *Amazon*. There is a Port near that place call'd after the Name of the *River*, where the Spaniards had fortified themselves, and had built a Town to keep the *Quixos* in subjection, who had not yet been well accusom'd to the Yoke.

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### CHAP. XVI.

*The Descent of General Texeira, and the Orders he gave for the Preservation of his Army in his Absence.*

**I**F the Impatience they were in to make their Descent had not stop'd 'em at this place, they would in sailing some time longer have met with the Entrance of the River *Napo*, of which some account shall be given hereafter; where they would have met with better Entertainment, and would have been less expos'd to the Losses and Inconveniences which they suffer'd in this Country. The very day they landed Colonel *Benedicta* dispatch'd a Canoo to his General,

General, to give him advice of the Success of his Voyage, and in how little time he might also arrive at the same place. This News being spread through the Fleet, inspir'd them with new Vigor, when their Courage was almost exhausted with the tedious length of their Toil and Hunger together. *Texeira* made an Improvement of this good Success like a prudent Man, and confirm'd the Assurance that had been given 'em of their near approach to the place where they were to land, and follow'd *Benedito* with great Expedition: The *Portuguez* and the *Indians* perform'd their Duty with great Emulation, and every day that came about they concluded the next would be the last of their Voyage. In fine, the Day so much long'd for appear'd; and the General, to acquit himself of his Promise, landed all his Men at the mouth of a River that descends into that of the *Amazones* through the Province of those Indians that wear their Hair as long as that of Women. These People formerly kept a good Correspondence with the Spaniards, and consented to their Establishment in their Country: but having been forced to take up Arms against Captain *Palacios* for the ill Treatment they had receiv'd from his Souldiers; and having kill'd  
the

the Captain himself in a Battel, they remain'd implacable Enemies to the Spaniards. The Portuguez General who had never been inform'd of this Rupture, was desirous to refresh his Troops in this Country, finding it to be a very fine, fruitful and commodious place; he therefore pitch'd his Camp in the Angle of Land which was form'd by the two Rivers, and having well intrench'd it towards the Plain, he there plac'd his Portuguez and Indians, and made Captain *Peter Dacosta Favotta*, and Captain *Peter Bajou* the chief Commanders over 'em. These two wise and valiant Officers gave their General the greatest Proofs imaginable both of their Conduct and Fidelity. They continued encamp'd in this place for eleven Months, in which time they endur'd extraordinary Inconveniences, for they were often oblig'd to fight with these long-hair'd Men to obtain a little Food to live upon; and many of the Souldiers fell sick, partly by the bad Disposition of the Air, which could not be wholesome between two Rivers, and partly from so tedious a Confinement to their Camp.

## C H A P. XVII.

*The Arrival of the Portuguez at Quito.  
The general Joy, and the Emulation of the  
Portuguez and Spaniards on the account  
of this Discovery.*

**T**Exeira for his own part made the best of his way with a few Men in some of his Canoos, to join Col. *Benedito*; and having receiv'd an account of him, he left his Bark where the River ended, and went on foot to find him in the City of *Quito*, whither he had arriv'd some days before. The coming of General *Texeira* compleated the Joy which all the People of *Quito*, as well the Clergy as others, had receiv'd from a Discovery so much desir'd by 'em all. All the Portuguez were entertain'd and caref'd by the Spaniards with the Endearments of Brethren, not only because they were all Subjects of the same King, but because by their means they were assur'd of a Way which they had never hitherto been able to pass, on the side of *Peru*, and which they saw was now discover'd from the Sea quite to the Sources of this famous River. The Spaniards boasted that they were the first that  
had

had navigated it from its Source to the Sea ; and the others bragg'd that they had not only sail'd upon it, but had pass'd quite up it, made a thorow Discovery of it, and knew it from its Mouth on the side of *Brazil* to its very Source near *Quito*. All the Religious Orders of that City were fill'd with extraordinary Joy, thanking God for the Favour he had shewn 'em in calling 'em to dress a Vineyard that had not been yet cultivated ; and all offer'd themselves with great Readiness to go and preach the Gospel in those Regions.

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#### C H A P. XVIII.

*The Return of General Texeira to Brazil by the River Amazone, and the Commission given to the Reverend Father Christopher d'Acugna a Jesuit, to observe all the Particulars of this Discovery, and to give a Relation of them.*

**Q***uito* is a Royal Seat, where there is a President and Assistants: These Officers considering the Importance of this Discovery the Portuguez had made, and how much both the Interest of Religion, and that of his Catholick Majesty might suffer, if an Affair of this Consequence should

should be neglected, were unwilling to take any measures of their own, but only to write about it to the Count of *Chinchon*, who was then *Viceroy of Peru*; who having deliberated on the matter with the principal Men of the Council of *Lima*, which is the Sovereign Court of that great Kingdom, return'd an Answer to the President of *Quito*, who was then the Licentiate *Don Alonze de Salazar*, and requir'd him by an Order dated the 10th of *November 1638*, to send General *Texeira* to *Para* with all his Men by the same way he came, and to furnish him with all things necessary for his Voyage; he likewise order'd him to choose two Spanish Gentlemen of good account, and to agree with the Portuguez General that they might imbarck with him, to make a faithful Report of the whole Course they should steer in this long Voyage, that his Catholick Majesty might receive from Eye-witnesses, and those of an unreprouchable Reputation, a good account of what they had discover'd, or might farther observe in their Return.

Many Persons, zealous for the Service of the King their Master, presented themselves to have a share in so great an Enterprize; amongst others *Don Vasques d'Acugna*, Knight of the Order of *Calatrava*, and  
Lieu-



Lieutenant to the Captain General of the Vice-roy of *Peru*, and *Corregidor* of *Quito*, offer'd himself to go on this Expedition. The Respect he bare to his Prince made him seek this new occasion of serving him with the same Affection he had done for above fifty Years himself, and his Ancestors all their days on the like occasions. He desir'd of the Vice-roy that he would permit him to furnish the Ammunition and Equipage for this Adventure at his own proper Charge, without pretending to any other Interest in the matter, than that of seeing his Master well serv'd. But the Vice-roy not knowing how to spare him from the Post he was already in, after having commended his Zeal for his King, and the Greatness of his Offers, engag'd him to continue in his present Station; and to gratify him, nominated his Brother Father *Christopher d'Acugna* in his place, who was animated with no less degree of Generosity than the other, and counted it no small Happiness to be able by these means to serve his Prince on so important an Occasion.

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## C H A P. XIX.

*The Departure of Father D'Acugna. The way the Spaniards and Portuguez took together to get to the River Amazone.*

THE Portuguez General being prepar'd for his return to *Para* by the River *Amazone*; and the Royal Audience of *Quito* having well consider'd that it might very much turn to account for some Jesuits to make this Voyage with him, that they might take exact notice of every thing worthy of Observation on this great River, and carry the Relation of it into *Spain* to his Catholick Majesty, signified their Mind to the Provincial of the Jesuits, which at that time was Father *Francis de Fuentes*, who taking it for a great Honour, that so much Confidence should be put in the Members of his Community as the discharge of so important an Affair, confirm'd the Nomination that had been made of Father *Christopher D'Acugna*, who he was Rector of the Jesuits College at *Cuenca* under the Jurisdiction of *Quito*, and gave him Father *Andrew Darsieda*, Professor of Divinity in the same College, for his Companion. These two Jesuits receiv'd their Orders

Orders by Patents issued from the Chancery of *Quito*; the Purport of which was, that they should go without delay with the Captain Major *Peter de Texeira*, and that after they were arriv'd at *Para* they should go into *Spain*, to give the King an Account of all they should observe in their Voyage. These Fathers readily obey'd the Orders they had receiv'd, and accordingly set forward on the 16th of *January* 1639, to begin a Voyage that lasted ten Months before they arriv'd at *Para*, where they enter'd into Port the twelfth day of *December* in the same Year. As they left *Quito*, they took the way of those high Mountains on foot, from which that great River of the *Amazones* derives its Sources, a River which has nothing in its rise wherein it excels other Rivers, but is so very much augmented in its Course, that the Mouth of it is eighty four Leagues in breadth. These Jesuits took all the care they could, and labour'd with all possible Accuracy to observe every thing that was worth a Remark; they took the Latitudes in every place of the River where they could do it; they took an account of the Names of all the Rivers that run into it, and of all the Nations that inhabit the Borders of it: They took notice of the  
Quality

Quality of the Lands, of the Goodness of the Fruits, of the Temperature of the Climates, and of every thing that is serviceable to the Life of Man; they enter'd into Commerce with the People of the Country: In a word, they forgot nothing that they thought might conduce to furnish them with a perfect Knowledg of those Provinces, which had never been entirely discover'd till then. Therefore they that read this Relation, are desir'd by one of those Fathers, who undertook to expose it to the World, not to disbelieve what he has written, because he can prove that what he affirms for a Truth, is really so, by above thirty Spaniards and Portuguez that accompanied him in this Voyage; and he hopes the Reader will not imagine he makes no Conscience of affirming things that are untrue in a matter of this Weight and Importance.

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C H A P. XX.

*The general Idea which Father D'Acugna gives of this River, and the Elogiums he gives it after he had view'd it throughout.*

**O**N the famous River of *Amazons* is the richest, most fertile, and best  
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peopled Country of *Peru*; and without an *Hyperbole* 'tis the largest and most eminent River in the World; it passes through divers Kingdoms of a vast Extent, and enriches more Provinces than the *Ganges*, that vast River that waters part of the *East Indies*; than the *Euphrates*, which after it has run through *Persia*, comes across *Syria* to throw it self into the Sea; or than the *Nile*, which comes out of the Mountains of *Cuama*, and passing through *Africa*, and the most barren Countries in the World, turns them into fruitful and delicious Provinces by the overflowing of its Waters. In a word, the River *Amazone* nourishes an infinitely greater number of People, and carries its fresh Water a great way further into the Sea, than any of those mighty Rivers, altho these have given their Names to entire Gulphs, or troubled the Sea with their Waters to a considerable length. A great many more Rivers fall into the *Amazone* than into the *Ganges*; and if the Banks of the latter are cover'd with gilded Sand, those of the former are fill'd with a Sand of pure Gold, and the Waters that always wash them are continually discovering Mines of Gold and Silver in the Bowels of the Earth. In short, the Places it waters

waters are an Earthly Paradise; and if Men did but lend their Assistance to Nature in that Country as they do in others, all the Borders of that great River would be full of large Gardens perpetually fill'd with Fruits and Flowers: It sometimes overflows its Banks, and thereby renders all the Ground fruitful through which its Waters pass, and that not only for one, but for several Years. After all these extraordinary Improvements, the change of Seasons is not necessary to the Provinces situate near this great River. They find every thing near 'em, abundance of Fish in their Waters more than they can wish; a thousand different kinds of Animals in the neighbouring Mountains, all sorts of Birds in such plenty as can hardly be imagined: The Trees always loaded with Fruit, the Fields with a plentiful Crop, and the Bowels of the Earth consisting of precious Mines of all sorts of Metals. In fine, among the vast number of People that dwell along the Banks of this River, there are scarce any to be seen but what are handsome, well made, and very ingenious in all things they are concern'd about.

## CHAP. XXI.

*The Source of this River, and the Emulation of all the Provinces of Peru about it.*

TO enter into a particular History of this River, I shall begin with its Original: and as there have heretofore been great Contests between eminent Cities about the Birth of divers Hero's of former Ages; so there is no less Emulation among the Provinces of *Peru*, which of them should be the Mother of this great River, because the true Source of it is unknown to this day. The City of *Lima*, as magnificent and as potent as it is, boasts that she has the Mountains of *Ganneo* and the *Cavaliers* within her Jurisdiction, and the Fountain-head of the *Amazone* seventy Leagues above her: But this is not the Source of it, but of another River that runs into the *Amazone*. Others maintain that the Source of this great River proceeds from the Mountains of *Moida* in the new Kingdom of *Granada*, and is call'd the River *Caquetta*: but they are mistaken too, and confound the matter; for the *Caquetta* and the *Amazone* run separately above seven hundred Leagues,  
and

and when they come near together, the *Caquetta* seems to turn its Course, and running on the side of the *Amazone* at a considerable distance, thus continues it, till having at length pierced through the Province of *Agnos*, it comes to add its Waters to that vast River. But in a word, *Peru* in general claims the Original of this great Work of Nature.

But the truth of this matter is, that the City of *St. Francis*, commonly call'd *Quito*, has the sole Glory of producing this great Wonder of the World. Eight Leagues from this City is found the true Source of this River beyond those vast Mountains that divide the Jurisdiction of this City from that of the *Quixos*, at the foot of two great Rocks, one of which is call'd *Guanama*, and the other *Pulca*, which stand at near two Leagues distance one from another. Between those two Mountains is a great Lake, and in the midst of this Lake is another Mountain, which has been torn up by the very Roots by an Earthquake, and so overturn'd in the Lake, which is very deep and large: 'Tis from this Lake that the great River of *Amazons* proceeds, within twenty Minutes of the Equinoctial Line, Southern Latitude.



## C H A P. XXII.

*The Course of this River, its Length, its different Breadth and Depth.*

**T**HIS River runs from West to East, it continually coasts along the South side of the Equinoctial Line, and is not distant from it above two, three, four or at most five Degrees in the greatest of its Windings: From its Rise to the Place where it empties it self into the Sea, it runs not above 1276 good Spanish Leagues, tho *Orellane* makes it 1800. It always proceeds in a winding Course, and by its great Turnings, which are like so many Arms, draws into its Channel a great number of Rivers as well from the South as the North side of it. Its breadth is different; in some places 'tis a League wide, in others two, three, and more; in other Places it does not widen it self any more for a long space, as if it were to amass all its Waters, and its whole impetuous Force together, to discharge it self by a Mouth of eighty four Leagues broad into the Sea.

The narrowest Place of this River is a quarter of a League, or a little less, in  
two

two Degrees two thirds of Southern Latitude.

This Strait by the Providence of God, is fitly situated for the building of a Citadel to stop the Course of the strongest Enemy that should enter by Sea through the Mouth of this River; and if an Enemy should come down by a River that runs into the *Amazon* call'd *Rionegro*, by building a Fort just where this River enters into the *Amazon*, this Passage may be so secured, that any that should attempt to get through it may be easily hindred. This Strait is three hundred and seventy Leagues from the Mouth of the River, from whence with Canoos and other light Vessels with Sails and Oars, timely Advice might be given in eight days of the Arrival of any Vessels, that the Fort at this Strait might put it self in a posture of Defence, and stop the Enemy's Passage. The Depth of this River is in some Places so great, that no Bottom is to be found: from the Mouth of it, to the River *Rionegro*, which is near 600 Leagues, there's always at least thirty or forty Fathom of Water in its greatest Channel. From thence upwards the Depth of it is uncertain, sometimes twenty, sometimes twelve, and sometimes eight Fathom:

But at its Beginning it has Water enough to carry the largest Vessels : For tho the Current be very swift ; yet every day without fail there rise certain Eastern Breezes, that continue three or four Hours together, and sometimes a whole day ; which hold back the Waters, so as to retain the Stream in a degree of Motion that is not violent.

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C H A P. XXIII.

*The great number of Islands in this River, and the means the Inhabitants use for the Preservation of their Roots at the time of its Inundations.*

**T**HIS River is all full of Islands of all Sizes, and in so great number, that they are not to be counted, many of them being very near one to another. There are some four or five, others ten, and others 20 Leagues in compass. That which is inhabited by the *Toupinambi*, of whom we shall speak hereafter, is above 100 Leagues about : There are a great many very small Islands, which the Inhabitants of the Country use only to sow their Seed in ; but all of these, and the greatest part of the large ones, are overflowed by the River every

every Year; and these regular Inundations do so enrich them with the Slime and Mud it carries along with it, that they would never become barren, tho they should be every year sown with *Yuca* or *Magnioca*, which are a sort of Roots, which serve the Natives instead of Bread, and with which the Earth furnishes them in great abundance.

Tho these frequent Inundations seem to be attended with great Inconveniences; yet the Author of Nature has taught these Barbarians to make a good Improvement of them. Before these Floods come, they gather in all their *Yuca*, of which Root they make a sort of Bread called *Cassave*, which is ordinarily used in all the Coasts of *Brazil*, and in many other Places both of the Continent and Islands of *America*. They make great Caves in the Ground, wherein they put these Roots; and having well stopp'd them up with Earth, leave 'em there as long as the Flood lasts: this is an infallible way of preserving those Roots which otherwise would be subject to rot with the excessive moisture of the Ground. When the Waters are run off, they open these Caves, and take out their Roots, and eat them, without finding them at all the worse for lying in the Earth. Thus as  
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Nature has taught the Ant to store up Food enough to nourish her all the Year, no wonder she has taught the Indians, as barbarous as they are, how to preserve their Provisions, seeing the Divine Providence takes a more particular Care of Men than of Beasts.

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CHAP. XXIV.

*The Bread and Drink made by the Inhabitants of these Islands, and other Places that border on this River; and the various sorts of Fruits, Roots and Grain they live upon.*

**T**He Roots of Yuca we have been speaking of, serve these People for Bread, which they eat with their other Food; besides this they make a Drink of it, which they all generally esteem as the most delicious and excellent Liquor in the World. To make the Bread, they squeeze out all the Juice of the Root, and then beat and pound it, till 'tis become a kind of Meal, of which they make great Cakes, and bake them in an Oven; this they call *Cassave*, which has a very pleasant Taste when 'tis new, but after one day becomes very dry, so that it may be kept several Months; they ordinarily put it on the tops  
of

of their Huts, that it may keep the more dry. And when they have a mind to make their Drink, they take these dry Cakes, and temper them in Water, which they boil as long as they think sufficient, over a gentle Fire: This Paste boil'd thus in Water, makes a Drink so strong by its great Fermentation, that it fuddles 'em like our Wine. They use this Drink at all their Assemblies and Entertainments, as when they inter their Dead, when they receive any Guests, when they celebrate their Feasts, at their Seed-time, and Harvest; in a word, at all times when they meet, this Liquor is the Spirit that animates 'em, and the Charm that holds 'em together. They make besides this, another sort of Drink, with a great deal of wild Fruit, of which they have extraordinary plenty; this they peel, and put in Water, with which when it is well mix'd, it soon by Fermentation acquires such a Savour and Strength, that it often has a more agreeable Relish than Beer, which is so much in use in many Nations. They keep these Liquors in great Earthen Vessels, as they do in *Spain*, or in lesser ones, which they make of the Trunk of a hollow Tree; or else in Baskets made of Rushes, which they cover within and without with a sort of  
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of Pitch, so that they don't leak in the least. This Bread and Drink are not the only Provisions they live upon; they have many other sorts of Food in use amongst 'em, besides Fruit of various kinds, as Bonanes, Ananas, Gouyaves, Amos, and a sort of very pleasant Chesnuts, which at *Peru* they call *Almandras de la Sierra*, that is Mountain-Almonds; but the Truth is, they are rather of the Figure of a Chesnut than of an Almond, because they grow in Hulls that are bristly, like those of our Chesnuts: They have Palms of various kinds, Coco-Nuts, and Dates that are very well tasted, tho they are wild, and many other sorts of Fruit, that are produced only in hot Countries. They have likewise divers kinds of Roots, that are good Food, as Batates, Yuca, Mensa, which the Portuguez call *Machachora*, and *Cajas*, which are like our Saligots, and others, which are good both to rost and boil, have a pleasant Relish, and are very nourishing.

CHAP.

CHAP. XXV.

*The great Plenty of Fish in this River, and which is the best sort of them.*

**F**ish is so common with 'em, that when any one offers it to 'em, they proverbially say, E'ne put it in your own Dish. There is so great a number of 'em in the River, that without any other Nets than their Hands, they can take as many as they please. But the *Pege Buey* is as it were the King of all the Fish that swim in the River *Amazone*, from its Source till it discharges it self into the Sea. 'Tis not to be imagin'd what a delicious Taste this Fish has, any one that eats it would think it to be most excellent Flesh well season'd: This Fish is as big as a Heifer of a Year and a half old, it has a Head and Ears just like those of a Heifer, and the Body of it is all cover'd with Hair, like the Bristles of a white Hog; it swims with two little Arms, and under its Belly it has Teats with which it suckles its young Ones: The Skin of it is very thick, and when 'tis dress'd into Leather it serves to make Targets that are Proof against a Musquet Bullet. This Fish feeds upon Grass on the Bank of the River, like an Ox, from which it receives so good Nourishment, and is  
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of so pleasant a Taste, that a Man is more strengthen'd and better satisfied in eating a small quantity of it, than in eating twice as much Mutton: This Fish has not free Respiration in the Water, and therefore often thrusts out its Snout to take Breath, and is by this means discover'd to them that seek after it. When the Indians get the sight of it, they follow it with their Oars in little Canoes; and when it appears above Water to get Breath, they throw at it their sort of Harping-Irons made of Shells, with which they stop its course, and take it: when they have kill'd it, they cut it into good pieces, and broil it upon Wooden Grates, which they call *Boucan*; and being thus dress'd, 'twill keep good above a Month: They have not the way of salting and drying it to keep a great while, because they have no great quantity of Salt, and that which they use to season their Meat is very rare with 'em, and is made only of the Ashes of a sort of Palm-Tree, so that 'tis more like Salt-Peter than common Salt.

*Note.* This *Pege Buéy* is very common in all the Rivers along the Coast of the Continent, and is call'd by the English *Manati*. There is a great Vend for 'em in the *Antilles* or *Antego-Islands*, whither the Captains of Merchant-Ships carry 'em, who buy 'em of the Indians that fish for 'em in the Rivers, for Knives and Bills, and make the Sea-men bone 'em and salt 'em, that they may keep till they have opportunity to sell 'em.

C H A P.

CHAP. XXVI.

*The Means the Indians use to preserve their Fish in those Seasons wherein they can neither fish nor hunt.*

**T**HOUGH the Indians don't know how to keep their broil'd Fish very long, yet they sustain no great damage by it, because Nature has given them Industry enough to get fresh Meat all their Winter, which is the time of the Rains, during which they can neither hunt nor fish. For this purpose they make choice of some fit places where the Floods can never come, and there they dig a kind of a Pond of a moderate depth, to hold a good quantity of Water, which they inclose round with a Palisado of Stakes; they bring Water into these Ponds, and keep 'em always full, that they may use 'em as Reservoirs for their Winter Provisions. At the season when the Tortoises come ashore to lay their Eggs, the Indians go to lie in Ambush in the places where they know they ordinarily come; and when they see a sufficient number upon the shore, they go and turn 'em upon their Backs, to hinder 'em from retreating; and when they have thus secur'd 'em, they begin at their leisure

leisure to carry 'em to their Reservers: for this end, when they are at any considerable distance from their Huts, they string all their Tortoises together with great Cords through holes that they make on the top of their Shells, and turning 'em upon their Feet lead 'em to the Water, where they tie 'em to their Canoos, and so make 'em follow them home: when they are got home, they put 'em in their Reservers, and unloose 'em, feeding 'em with the Leaves and Branches of Trees which they throw into them, and take 'em out to spend as they want 'em. One of these Tortoises is enough to feed a numerous Family some time; so that 'tis not to be wonder'd at, that these Indians are never reduc'd to Scarcity, seeing they make Provision of so great a number of Tortoises, having commonly above a hundred in each Reserver; so that the proportion they provide for each Person in their Families is enough to maintain several People. These Tortoises are as large as those Targets Souldiers formerly us'd to defend themselves withal, and their Flesh is as good as that of a Heifer. At the time of their laying, some Females are found with two or three hundred Eggs in their Belly bigger than those of Pullets, and as good, tho  
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not of so easy Digestion. At one Season of the Year they are so fat, that a good Barrel of Fat may be taken out of 'em, which is as good as Butter, and being salted a little, tastes extraordinary well, and keeps very well too; this will not only serve to fry Fish, but is likewise as good for Sauces as the best Butter in the World: so that these Barbarians have no absolute need of our Commodities, but make as good Provision for their Necessities, as the most civiliz'd Nations in the World can do. 'Tis not amiss further to remark two things in respect of these Tortoises; one is, that after they have made a Hole in the Sand above the Bounds of the highest Tides, they lay all their Eggs at a time, one after another, after which they carefully cover them up with the same Sand they have digged up to make their Nest, so that 'tis impossible for any to discover the place of it. Then they return backwards into the Water, to prevent the notice of their true Track, and never come ashore again till the next Year, leaving their Eggs to be hatch'd by the Heat of the Sun, which is always accomplish'd in forty days; after which the young ones are seen to creep out of the Sand, being about the bigness of a Crown, and thus in a train, like Ants, they make to the Water. The other Re-

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mark is, that the Sea-men bone 'em, and salt them, and so carry 'em into all the Colonies of the *Antego* Islands, a Trade in which many Captains and Merchants have found their Account.

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### CHAP. XXVII.

*The Prudence these People have been taught by Necessity, and the Confidence they have in the abundance of all things which they enjoy.*

THE Indians of this happy River make this prudent Provision I have been speaking of, for a Season wherein they seem to want every thing; but their Winter being past, their Fears are carried away with it, and they have plenty of all things; so that they never take care for the Morrow: and because they don't think of wanting any thing the ensuing day, they make no other Provision for it, than in feeding themselves well to day, that they may be the stronger and more ready in seeking their Food to morrow. They have all imaginable Dexterity in catching all sorts of Fish that are in this River, and have as many ways for it as there is diversity of Seasons. When the Inundations diminish, and leave Lakes in the lower

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parts

parts of the Lands that have been overflow'd, they have a very pleasant Trick to take the Fish that are left in those places: They strike the Water with two or three flat Sticks, with the noise of which the Fish are no sooner stunn'd, but they come up to the top of the Water, as if they were dead, and suffer themselves to be taken up with the hand: Not that it is the Noise that produces this Effect, but the Quality of the Wood, which makes the Fish drunk. The *Galibis* who are the Natives of *Cayen*, and of one part of *Guiana*, make use of it, and call it *Inecou*.

But the most common way of fishing which they use at all times, and on all occasions, is with an Arrow which they dart with one hand from a smooth little Board which they hold in t'other. This Arrow having pierc'd the Fish, serves instead of a Cork to shew which way it moves when it is wounded; they pursue it in their Canoos, and getting hold of the end of the Arrow they draw up the Fish with it: they catch all sorts of Fish after this manner, neither small nor great can escape their Weapons. And there are so many sorts of 'em in this River, and all of 'em so excellent, that it would be too tedious a business to give an ample Description of 'em. There is one amongst

the rest which the Indians call *Paraque*, which resembles a great Eel, or rather a small Conger, which has a very strange Property; for if a Man takes it in his Hand while 'tis alive, immediately a Coldness and Shivering seizes him, as if he were taken with a fit of an Ague; but the shaking presently ceases upon letting it go out of his Hand again.

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### CHAP. XXVIII.

*The abundance of Game that is found near this River; and the divers sorts of Animals the People of these Countries live upon.*

**T**O prevent the Disgust these wild People might have of Fish, tho it were never so good, if they should always be forc'd to feed upon it, and to satisfy the Desire they might have of sometimes eating Flesh, Nature has render'd the Land as favourable to 'em as the Water; for it produces Animals of all kinds, as well for the Necessity as for the Delight of its Inhabitants. But among others there is a Creature call'd *Dautas*, of the bigness of a Mule, and very like one both in Colour and Shape, the Flesh of which is as good as that of a young Bullock, only it has a

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more faint and waterish Taste: They have likewise a sort of Hogs in the Mountains, that are neither of our domestick, nor of our wild kind of Swine, but of a particular Species, which have a sort of Vent upon their Backs, like a Navel. All the *West Indies* are stor'd with this kind of Animals: Their Flesh is very good and wholesome, and at least may compare with that of the wild Swine that are taken in some Forests in *Europe*. Besides these, there is another sort resembling our Domestick Hogs: they have also *Renados, Pacas, Cotias, Ignanats, Agotis*, and other Animals which are peculiar to the *West Indies*, and are as good as the most delicious sorts we have in *Europe*. They have also Partridges, and tame Poultry like ours, which have been brought to 'em from *Peru*, and which from one to another have been spread throughout the Coasts of the River of *Amazons*. The many Lakes they have up and down breed a multitude of Geese, and other Water-Fowl. 'Tis very remarkable how little Pains their Game costs 'em: We often had experience of it in our Camp. Every Evening when our Men went ashore, after they had caus'd the Indians that were of our Party to make us as many Huts as were necessary to lodg us (which took up some time); our



Company separated, some went a hunting in the Mountains with their Dogs, others went upon the River with their Bows and Arrows, and in a few hours time we should see 'em return loaded with more Fish and Venison than all our Men could eat; and this was not once or twice only, but throughout our whole Voyage, not without our great Admiration; which gave us occasion to attribute this great Abundance to the mighty and liberal Providence of that God, who once fed five thousand Persons with five Loaves and a few Fishes.

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#### CHAP. XXIX.

*The agreeable Temperature of the Air in all this Country; what it is that makes Winter there, and whether the Heat be great, it being under the Line. That there is but one Inconveniency there.*

**A**LL along this River, and in all the neighbouring Provinces, the Air is so temperate, and the Seasons of the Year so regular, that there's no Excess either of Heat or Cold, nor any troublesome variety of Weather: For tho there is every Year a kind of Winter, yet it does not proceed from the different Course of the Planets, or Distance of the Sun, for that always

always rises and sets at the same hour. That which most incommodes 'em is the frequency of the Inundations, which leave a great Dampness in the Ground, and by their overflowing the Plains, hinder 'em several Months from sowing and gathering in the Fruits of the Earth. By these Floods they distinguish the Winter from the Spring throughout all *Peru*: they call all that time wherein the Earth produces no Crop, the Winter; and they call that Season the Spring, which they employ in sowing, and gathering in not only their *Maze*, which is the principal part of their Harvest, but all the other Product of the Ground, whether that which grows spontaneously, or by Cultivation. These Inundations happen twice a Year all along the whole Extent of this River.

We have observ'd, that those who dwell near the Mountains of *Quito*, suffer more Heat than those that inhabit along this River towards the Sea; the reason is, because there come Breezes from the Coast of the Northern Sea, that continue two, three or four hours in a day, and sometimes more; these Winds extremely refresh the Air, and are a great Comfort to those People that are less remote from the Sea.

However, it must be said that the highest degree of Heat, even in the Moun-

ains themselves, is no greater than is at *Panama*, and at *Cartagena*: for however violent it be in it self, it is every where moderated by the gentle Winds, which blow every day, and not only render the Air tolerable and agreeable to the Inhabitants, but have besides the Property of preserving all their Victuals and Stores from corrupting. I have had the Experience of it my self in the Wafers we carried with us, which at the end of five Months and a half since we parted from *Quito*, were as good as if they had been newly made. This made me and my Companion wonder the more, because in our Travels in almost all other Parts of *America*, we observ'd, that Bread and other things of the least Substance corrupted in a little time.

And tho all this long stretch of Land is so near the Equinoctial Line, yet the Heat of the Sun is not at all hurtful, nor the Evening Air neither, tho it be very cool and moist. I have good reason to testify this, for during our whole Voyage I have commonly pass'd whole Nights in the open Air, without getting the least Pain in my Head, or the least Defluxion of Rhume; and yet in all other Places, the least walking abroad in a Moon-shiny Night, has very much incommoded me. 'Tis true, at the beginning of our Voyage, almost all  
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of our Men that came from cold Countries had Agues, but were all cur'd by bleeding three or four times. We neither felt, nor heard of any such bad Air along this River, as there is in almost all other places of *Peru* that have been discover'd, where People are sometimes in a moment taken with violent Rhumatisms throughout all their Limbs, which could not proceed but from a sudden Corruption of the Humours, and which in some degenerated to an incurable Palsy, and cost others their Lives. In a word, were it not for the Heats which are in most of the inhabited Parts of *Peru* intolerable, the Country of the River of *Amazons* might without Exaggeration be term'd an Earthly Paradise.

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CHAP. XXX.

*The Beauty of this Country, and the abundance of Medicinal Simples, Plants and Trees it yields.*

**T**His sweet Temperature of the Air causes all the Borders of this River to be cover'd with a thousand kinds of lovely Trees, the pleasant Verdure of which is perpetually preserv'd by the moderate Disposition of the Air: a thousand Landskips were presented to our Eyes still more and more

more fine, and more diversified, as if they emulated one another, and made us confess that Art had yet a great deal to learn of Nature, when she discovers her self after so excellent and surprizing a manner. The Ground is very low in most places near the Banks of the River, but rises gradually at a distance, with little Hills that adjoin to curious Plains all cover'd with Flowers, without so much as a Tree; beyond these are lovely Vales all cloth'd with Grass and Herbs, preserv'd continually green by the refreshing Rivulets that run through 'em.

Beyond all this Extent of Ground are Hills rising one above another, till they make those high Mountains which extend from one end of *Peru* to the other, call'd *Cordeliers*, because they are rang'd in order, as if they were plac'd by a Line or Cord.

There are a great many Thickets that produce all sorts of Simples, which the Indians know how to use for the Cure of their Diseases. There grow *Cassia-Trees*, which bear the best *Cassia* in all the *Indies*. There is excellent *Sarsaparilla*, *Gums* and *Resins*, that are very good for Wounds and Bruises; and a prodigious quantity of Honey, which the Bees on all sides make in such abundance, that the store of it is not to be exhausted. This is as good to eat,

eat, as it is for the Composition of various Medicines: The Bees also make a sort of black Wax, which is however very good, and burns as well as that which is white or yellow. There are a kind of Trees, call'd by the People of the Country *Audironas*, from which there runs an Oil of extraordinary Virtue for curing Wounds: There is another Tree call'd *Copayba*, which yields a Balm surpassing the best that is to be had in the East. In a word, there grows a multitude of different kinds of Herbs and Plants of very great Virtue, besides those that are not yet known, which would suffice to make a new *Dioscorides*, and a second *Pliny*: And it would be a matter of no small Difficulty to give an account of all the Properties of so many different Simples.

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CHAP. XXXI.

*The Multitude of Trees that grow in this Country, Cedars, and other kinds fit for the building of Vessels; and the Providence of Nature in furnishing this Part of the World with all Necessaries for that purpose, except Iron.*

**T**HE Trees that grow along this River are innumerable, and of a surprizing

prizing Tallness and Bulk. I measured a Cedar that was thirty Hands breadth in Compass; the Poplars are almost all of that size, and excellent Timber for building either for Sea or Land. Those Trees which are known in the Country, are for the most part Cedars, *Coibos*, *Palohierro*, and *Palocolorado*, and other such like, which are no sooner cut down, but they may be safely used; and the Vessels that are made of 'em may be launched as soon as they are finished. There is no need of any of the Materials of *Europe* for the building of 'em in those Parts; but only of *Iron* for the forging of Nails, and other pieces of Smiths Work necessary to the building of great and small Vessels. All other things are found in this Country in great Plenty: The Inhabitants make Cables of the Bark of Trees; they have Pitch and Tar as good as are to be had in *Europe*; and they have Oil either to render it firm and solid, or to temper its Hardness; one sort of which they draw from Fish, and another sort they get from Trees. They make a sort of Tow, which they call *Ambira*, so good, that no better can be used for the caulking of Vessels, and to make Musket-Match. Their Cotton abundantly furnishes 'em with Stuff to make Sails, and this grows the best of all  
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the small Seeds they sow in their Fields. And after all, there are so great numbers of People, that one might have as many Work-men and Sea-men as one pleas'd for the building and manning of as many Gallions as one should think meet to put upon the Stocks.

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CHAP. XXXII.

*Four things which abound on the Banks of this River, which are capable of enriching great Kingdoms.*

**T**Here are four things along this River, which being well manag'd, would be capable of enriching many Kingdoms; the first is *Wood* for building, of which there is some found of a rare and particular Colour, like fine Ebony; and there is so prodigious a quantity of common Wood, that is worth transporting, that how much soever should be carried away, the Country can never be exhausted.

The second thing is the *Coco-tree*, which serves for the Composition of Chocolate; with these the Banks of the River are covered, and throughout our whole Voyage, our Men cut scarce any thing else to make Huts of for our Camp. This Tree is very much esteem'd for its Fruit through-



throughout all *New Spain*, and in all other Places where it is known what *Chocolat* is. Every Foot of this Tree will produce eight Silver Rials, all Charges paid. And it may easily be suppos'd there's no need of great labour to cultivate these Trees along this River, seeing Nature, without the Assistance of Husbandry and Art, makes 'em bring forth Fruit in so great abundance.

The third is *Tobacco*, of which there is a prodigious quantity along this River, which is very much esteem'd by all the Natives; so that if it were raised with that Care this Plant requires, it would be the best *Tobacco* in the World; because in the Judgment of those that understand it, there can't be desired a better Soil and Climate for this sort of Plant, than what is to be found on this River.

But that which is the most considerable of all, and for the sake of which in my opinion it would be very well worth the while to make firm and substantial Establishments along this River, is *Sugar*: This is the fourth thing; and the Traffick of it is more honourable, as well as the Profit more sure and greater for a Nation than that of the rest. And now since we are engag'd in a War with the Dutch, it ought to excite an Emulation in us, and make us endeavour to furnish our selves with

with those Commodities our Enemies bring from *Brazil*\*; and we ought to establish our selves with all Expedition in this Countrey, and set up Mills and other Sugar-Works; which would neither require very much Time, nor Labour, nor Charge, which last is that which is most fear'd now a days. The Ground is as good for the planting of Sugar-Canes, as any is in the whole Continent of *Brazil*; and of this we can give Assurance, as having seen and known all those Provinces. The Soil on the Banks of this River is white and fat, of as good a kind as can be desired by those that know what belongs to the Cultivation of these Plants; and it becomes so fruitful and rich by the Inundations of the River, which by continuing a few days improve the Ground, that there is more reason to fear too great than too little a Crop. 'Twill be no new thing to make Sugar-Canes grow in this Country, because we found throughout the whole Length of this great River, such as gave us sufficient Proof of the great abundance to which they might be multiplied when.

\* *Note.* At the time when this Voyage was made, the Dutch, who were at War with the Spaniards, had conquer'd and possess'd themselves of almost all *Brazil*, the Dutch West-India Company then having Prince *Maurice de Nassau* for the General of all their Troops both by Sea and Land.

whenever any People should apply themselves to cultivate 'em, and to make Sugar-Mills, which might be done with a little Charge at any time; not only because there's all sorts of Wood in great plenty, as I have already said, but also because there is the Conveniency of Water for 'em in as great quantity as one can desire. There is nothing wanting but *Copper*, which we may supply in sending it thither from our own Country, and which we may be sure will turn to a considerable Account.

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CHAP. XXXIII.

*Many other Commodities profitable for Traffick, which are found in this Country.*

**B**Esidesthese four sorts of Commodities that may be brought from these Lands that are discover'd, capable of enriching the whole World, there are also many others, which altho less rare, would not fail to bring a considerable Profit to a Nation; such as *Cotton*, that grows there abundantly, *Rocou*, that our Dyers use to make fine Scarlet, which is so esteem'd by all Nations that have Commerce with us; *Cassia*, and *Sarsaparilla*: there are made also several Oils for the healing of  
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Wounds, which equal the best Balsams; there are found Gums and Rosins of an admirable Scent, and a certain Plant call'd *Pita*, which yields the best Thred in the World, and which the Ground produces in vast plenty; and a thousand other things, the Usefulness and Advantages of which are discover'd every day.

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CHAP. XXXIV.

*Convincing Reasons to shew that many of the Mountains of this Countrey must needs contain Mines of Gold and Silver.*

I Do not speak of the many Mines of Gold and Silver, which are discover'd in the conquer'd Countries, nor those which Time may further discover there; but I am mightily mistaken in my Judgment, if many others may not be found in this Countrey more rich than all those of *Peru*, tho the famous Mountain of *Potosi* be comprehended in it: I speak not this without ground, nor only with a design to advance the Value of this great River, but found what I say upon Reason and Experience; because I have seen a great deal of Gold among the Indians whom we met as we went down the River, who gave us very certain Assurances, that there

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were a great number of Gold and Silver Mines in their Country. This great River receives all the Waters of the richest Countries of *America*. On the South-side, those rich Rivers, some of which have their Sources round about *Potosi*, others at the Foot of *Guanico*, which is a Mountain near the City of *Lima*, flow into it; others come down from *Cusco*, others from *Cuenca*, and from *Gibaros*, which is the richest Country for Gold of any that has been yet discovered; so that on this side all the Rivers, Sources, little Springs and Rivulets, which run into the Sea for the space of 600 Leagues, that is from *Potosi* as far as *Quito*, render Homage to the River of *Amazons*, and pay it Tributes of Gold; as all the others likewise do that descend from the new Kingdom of *Granada*, which is no less rich in Gold than all the other Provinces of *Peru*. And seeing this River is the great Channel and principal Passage to all the richest Places of *Peru*, one may reasonably be assured, that it is the Sovereign Mistress of them all: besides, if that golden Lake hath all the Gold which the common Report ascribes to it; if the *Amazons* inhabit the richest Mountains in the World, as many that say they have seen 'em assure us; if the *Tocantins* abound so much in precious

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Stones and Gold, as some of the French, who have travell'd in their Country, do affirm; if the *Omagnas* with the Reputation of their vast Wealth, were once capable of casting all *Peræ* into confusion, and of forcing the Viceroy to send a great Army under the Conduct of *Pedro de Orsua* to conquer their Country; all these Places adjoin to the River of *Amazons*: The Golden Lake, the *Amazons*, the *Tocantins*, and the *Omagnas* are upon the Banks of it, as shall be shewn hereafter; and in fine, this is the River that seems to be ordain'd by the Hand of God to be the Depository of those immense Treasures, which the Divine Providence has reserved to enrich the Greatest, most Valiant, and happiest Prince upon Earth.

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CHAP. XXXV.

*The prodigious Extent of the Countries along this River.*

THE vast Extent of Land along the Banks of this great River, is as much as an Empire of 4000 Leagues in Circuit: I think I am not much out of the way in my Computation; for if it contains in length 1276 Leagues exactly measur'd (tho *Oreillane*, who first discover'd

and pass through it, accounts it 1800 Leagues) if each River which enters into it either on the North or South-side, runs above 200 Leagues in length, and in many places above 400, without approaching any Country that is peopled by the Spaniard on any side, there being only various Nations of Indians that are yet unknown, to be found from this River to those Places so far distant, it must be granted that the breadth of this Empire would contain above 400 Leagues at least in the narrowest part of it, which with the 1126 Leagues in length of our Account (or 1800 Leagues by Oreillane's Computation) makes very little less than 4000 Leagues in Compass by the Rules of Cosmography and Arithmetick.

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#### C H A P. XXXVI.

*The many different Nations which live in those Provinces, to the number of above one hundred and fifty.*

**A**LL the new World (it may well be so call'd) is peopled with Barbarians dispers'd in different Provinces, who make so many Nations, of which there are more than 150, of whom I can speak with good assurance. I shall give an account

count of their Names, and describe the Situation of their Countries, having seen part of 'em my self, and receiv'd Information of the rest by those Indians that have convers'd with 'em; the diversity of their Language makes the Distinction of those Nations, which are as large and as well peopl'd with Inhabitants as any of those we have seen in our whole Voyage: the Country is so well peopl'd that their Huts are near one another, and this not only in the extent of one and the same Nation, but throughout; so that the utmost Plantations of one Nation border so near to those of another, that they can hear one another cutting Wood from the last Village of one Nation into divers Plantations of the other. This near Neighbourhood does not at all serve to keep 'em in Amity one with another, but on the contrary, they are in continual War, and are daily killing and making Slaves of one another; this is the ordinary Misfortune of great multitudes, and if it were not for this, there would not be Ground enough to contain 'em. They appear valiant and resolute among themselves, but yet we never saw any in our whole Voyage who would stand their ground against our Souldiers; and none of these Barbarians had so much Boldness as to put themselves in a posture



of Defence, but only made use of that shift which those that are cowardly and faint-hearted have always imbraced, which is to betake themselves to flight, a thing very easy to them, because they go upon the Water in certain little Vessels so extremely light, that they make to the shore as swift as Lightning; and taking these Boats at their Backs, retire towards some Lake, of which there are a great many made by the River, where putting their Vessels again into the Water, when they are got in 'em, they defy all their Enemies let 'em be who they will, because they can't do the same with any Vessels they can have.

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C H A P. XXXVII.

*The Arms which these People use both Offensive and Defensive.*

**A**LL their Arms consist in Javelins of a moderate length, and in Darts made of very hard Wood, which they work to so sharp a Point, that they can easily pierce a Man through with 'em, they throw 'em with so much dexterity. They have besides these another sort of Weapon call'd *Estolicas*, in the using of which the Souldiers of the great *Irica* King of *Peru*

*Peru* were very well skill'd ; this is a Staff of about six Foot long, and three Fingers broad, made as flat as a Board ; at the end of it on one side they fix a Bone made like a Tooth, to which they fasten an Arrow of six Foot long, the Point whereof is likewise headed with a Bone, or with a very hard piece of Wood, which they cut in the form of a barb'd Arrow-head ; so that where it hits, it remains fast, and hangs at its whole length : they take it in their Right-hand, with which they hold this Weapon by the lower end, and fixing the Arrow in the Bone that is in the upper end of it, they cast it with so much Force and Exactness, that they never miss doing Execution within 50 Paces. These Weapons serve 'em for War, for Hunting, and especially for Fishing ; so that whatever kind of Fish they can perceive in the River, they shoot it, let it be never so much cover'd under Water : and that which is yet more to be admir'd is, that with these Weapons they pierce Tortoises, when, after they are run into the River to hide themselves, they thrust their Heads out of the Water to take breath, as they commonly do from time to time after small Intervals ; they strike 'em with this Arrow through the Neck, which is the only place in which they can be wounded, because

it is not cover'd with the Shell. For Defensive Weapons they make use of Targets, which they make of Canes split in two, and which they so fitly and closely join one with another, that tho they are much lighter, yet they are no less strong than those others which they make of the Skin of the Fish *Pegebuey*, of which I have spoken before. Some of these Nations make use only of Bows and Arrows, which are esteem'd among all the others for the force and swiftness of 'em. There are abundance of venomous Herbs, with which some of these Nations make so subtile a Poison, that their Arrows being rub'd with it, never draw the least Blood without taking away the Life at the same time.

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#### CHAP. XXXVIII.

*Their manner of living together. Of their Commerce, and of their making Boats for their Traffick.*

**A**LL the Nations that live on the Banks of this great River dwell together in great Colonies, and all their Commerce and Traffick is carried on by Water as it is at *Venice*, or at *Mexico*, in little Barks which they call *Canoos*; these they make with Cedar-wood, and the Providence of God

God provides these for 'em in such abundance, that without their being at the trouble of cutting 'em down, and of drawing 'em from the Mountains, they are sent to 'em with the Current of the River, which to supply the Necessities of these People, tears up Cedars for 'em from the highest Mountains of *Peru*, and brings 'em down to the foot of their Cottages, where they may every one chuse which they think most fit for their purpose : but the wonder is, that among so great number of Indians, every one of whom has need of one or two of these Trunks of Trees for the Service of his Family to make a Canoo or two ( for indeed they all have of 'em ) there's none of 'em has any more trouble to procure 'em, than that of going to the River side, and tying a Cord to the first Tree that floats along, and bringing it over against his Hut, where he stops it till the River retires ; and as soon as it is dry, they with the same Industry apply themselves to hollow them, and make such Canoos of them as they want.

## C H A P. XXXIX.

*The Tools which they use to cut and cleave Wood, to plain it, and to make their Household Stuff.*

**A**LL the Tools which they have either to make their Canoos, to build their Huts, or to do other necessary Jobs, are Axes and Hatchets, not such as have been forg'd by ingenious Smiths, but such as have been form'd in their Fancies by Necessity, which is the Mother of Invention, and has taught 'em to cut the hardest part of the Tortoise-shell (which is that under the Belly of it) into Leaves of about a hand's-breadth, and not quite so thick as ones Hand. After having dry'd it in the Smoak, they whet it upon a Stone, then fasten it to a wooden Helve, and make use of this Tool to cut every thing they fancy, as well as if it were the best Ax that can be, but with a little more pains. They make their Hatchets of the same matter, and the Handle they put to 'em is a *Pege-beuy's* Jaw-bone, which Nature seems to have purposely fitted to this use. With these Instruments they finish all their Works, not only their Canoos, but their Tables, their Cupboards, their Seats, and their other Household Goods, and that as  
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completely as if they had the best Joiners Tools that are in use among us. There are some among these Nations who make their Axes of Stones, which they grind to an Edg with main Strength; these are much stronger than those of Tortoise-shell, so that they will cut down any great Tree which they have a mind to fell, with the less fear of breaking 'em, and with much more speed. Their Chizzels, Plains and Wimbles, which we use for the finest Works of Joinery (in which they work excellently well) are made of wild Hogs Teeth, and of the Horns of other Animals, which they graft in to Wooden Handles, and make use of 'em as well as we can do of the best that are made of Steel.

Almost all these Provinces produce Cotton more or less, but the greater part of 'em make no use of it for Clothing, but on the contrary, the most of 'em go stark naked, as well Men as Women, and are no more asham'd of appearing so than if they were in the primitive State of Innocency.

## CHAP. XL.

*The Religion of these People, and what they believe concerning their Idols. The Discourse of a Caciquẽ on this Subject.*

**T**HE Religion of these barbarous People is much alike, they all worship Idols, which they make with their own Hands; to one of them they ascribe the Authority of governing the Waters, and put a Fish in his Hand in token of his Power; they chuse others to preside over their Seed-time, and others to inspire 'em with Courage in their Battels; they say these Gods came down from Heaven on purpose to dwell with them, and to shew them Kindness. They don't signify their Adoration of these Idols by any outward Ceremonies, but on the contray, seem to have forgotten 'em as soon as they have made 'em, and putting them in a Case let 'em lie, without taking any notice of 'em so long as they imagine they have no occasion for their Help; but when they are ready to march out to War, they set up the Idol in which they have plac'd the hopes of their Victories, at the Prow of their Canoos: so when they go a fishing, they take that Idol with 'em to which they attribute the Government of the Waters;

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yet they have not so much Faith in any of 'em, but that they freely acknowledg that there may possibly be a God who is greater and more powerful than these. I made this Judgment upon what pass'd between us and one of these Savage People, who yet shew'd nothing in his Conversation that favour'd of a barbarous Education: This Indian had heard some of our Men speak of the Almighty Power of God; and considering what he had seen with his own Eyes, that our Army had navigated this great River throughout its whole Course, and after having pass'd through so many different Warlike Nations, was return'd without having receiv'd the least Damage or Prejudice from any of 'em, he thought this could not be, unless the Assistance and Power of God had conducted us: upon this Imagination he came to meet us, and with a great deal of Concern and disquiet of Mind signified to us, that for all the kind Entertainment he had given us, he desir'd no other Recompence but that we would leave him one of our Gods, seeing they were so good and powerful, that so he might take him and his Vassals into his Protection, that he might make 'em live in Peace and Health, and continually give 'em whatever they stood in need of for their Preservation. Our Men did



did not fail to promise him whatever he desir'd, and would fain have set up the Standard of the Cross in his Village for a certain Mark. This is a Custom the Portuguez have introduc'd throughout all places where Idols are worship'd; I know not whether they do it from a true Principle of Zeal, as the Action it self seems to signify, for there is a great deal of reason to doubt that they set up the sacred Sign of the Cross only for a specious Pretext to make Slaves of the poor Indians, whom they carry away from their very Houses, either for their own Service, or to sell 'em to others; which gave me an extreme Compassion for these People who don't seem unteachable, and might be more easily brought to the Knowledg of the true God by a courteous and gentle Carriage, than by all the Rigor that can be us'd upon 'em. What I have said is certainly true, that when the Portuguez have been kindly receiv'd and well treated by these honest and charitable Indians, they in return to all their Hospitality only leave 'em the Sign of the Cross, which they set up in the most eminent place of their Habitations, commanding 'em to keep this holy Sign with so great Care that it may never be defac'd; and after this when this Cross happens either to be thrown down by the  
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Injuries of the Weather, or to be worn out, or it may be to be maliciously broken in pieces by some of those Idolatrous Indians who bear no respect to it, the Portuguese never fail to condemn 'em all as guilty of the Profanation of the Cross, and as such, declare both them and all their Children and Childrens Children perpetual Slaves. This was the main reason that ingag'd me to forbid the Portuguese to leave the Cross among these People; besides, I was not willing that this *Cacique* that had ask'd us for a God, should have any occasion to believe that our God was a piece of Wood, and that this had the Power and Divinity of him that sav'd us on the Cross, for fear of confirming him in Idolatry. I therefore comforted him the best I could, and told him the God we worship'd would be always with him, and advis'd him to pray to him for whatever he wanted, and to put his Trust intirely in him, telling him I believ'd he would one day favour him with the Knowledg of the true Religion. By this it appears that this Indian did not believe his Idols were powerful Gods, seeing he was so ready to forsake 'em to worship a greater Deity, if we would have given him one.

## C H A P. XLI.

*The Discourses of two other Caciques, which shew the Capacity of those Peoples Minds.*

**A**Nother of these Barbarians gave us to understand that his Sentiments were not different from those of the former which we have been relating. This Indian who had more Knowledg, but less Honesty than the other, knowing that there was no Divinity, nor any Power in his Idols, set up himself for the God of all his Country. We receiv'd Information of this some Leagues before we arriv'd at the place where he dwelt, and sent him word that we were coming to bring him Tidings of the true God, who was much more powerful than he could pretend to be, and entreated him not to retire from his House; but to wait for our Arrival. He did so, and we had scarce set our Feet to Land on the shore of this Country, but he came to us big with Curiosity to enquire what News we could tell him of that God; about whom we had sent such a Message to him. I held a long Discourse with him, to inform him what God was; but because he would needs see with his own Eyes the God that I preach'd to him, I was forc'd to leave him in his own Blindness: He told  
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me himself was God, and begotten by the Sun ; affirming that his Soul went every Night into Heaven to give Orders for the succeeding Day, and to regulate the Government of the Universe ; such was the Insolence and Pride of this Savage Creature.

Another of 'em shew'd himself much more reasonable ; for when I was enquiring of him how it came to pass, that seeing his Companions retir'd into the Mountains at the approach of our Fleet, he alone with a few of his Relations durst come near us, and expose themselves to lie at our Mercy without fear. He answer'd that he had consider'd that such Men as had once got up that River in spite of so many Enemies, and were return'd in like manner without receiving any harm, could be no less than the Lords of this great River, and would be sure frequently to return to bring it into Subjection, and to people it with new Inhabitants ; and the case being thus, he was not willing to live always in fear and dread in his House, but chose rather to render himself to 'em in time, and willingly to acknowledg them for his Masters and Friends, whom the others would one day be constrain'd to receive and serve by Force.

## C H A P. XLII.

*The Veneration they have for their Wizards,  
and the Ceremonies of their Funerals.*

LET us now resume the Thred of our History, and return to the Customs of our Indians. 'Tis very remarkable how much Esteem and Respect all these Nations bear to those Wizards they have among 'em, which proceeds not so much from the Love they have for 'em, as from the continual Fear they live in of receiving some Mischief or other from their Hands. There is a certain House devoted to the use of these Sorcerers, in which they perform their superstitious Exercises, and converse with the Devil, (a very common thing with 'em in this Place) which serves for no other purpose. They also keep the dead Bones of these Sorcerers with as much Veneration as if they were the Reliques of Saints: when they have put their Bones altogether, they hang 'em in the Air in the same Cotton Beds those Wizards us'd to lie in while alive. These are their Masters, their Preachers, their Counsellors, and their Guides: They have recourse to them in their Doubts to obtain the Resolution of 'em; and when they

they are in the greatest Rage against their Enemies, they apply themselves to these Conjurers for poisonous Herbs, by which they execute their Revenge upon 'em.

For the Burial of their Dead there are different Ceremonies among 'em; for some keep 'em in their own Houses, that by having 'em always before their Eyes, they may (as they pretend) on all Occasions be put in mind of Death: But certainly if they did it for this intention, one would think they should keep the Remains of their Dead in better order than they do. Others burn their Carcases in great Pits, and with them all the deceased Party possess'd when alive: But in short, they all, one as well as another, celebrate their Funerals for many Days together, with continual Mourning and Weeping, which they only interrupt with Drinking, and that they do even to the Excess of Drunkenness.

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C H A P. XLIII.

*The Constitution of their Bodies, and the Disposition of their Minds; their Dexterity, Manners, and Inclinations.*

**I**T may be said in general, that all these People are well made; they have an

agreeable Air, and a Complexion much less stony than that of the *Brazilians*; they have a ready Wit, and a great deal of Dexterity in the Exercise of their Weapons; their Conversation is sweet and peaceable, and their Inclinations very agreeable. We had sufficient Opportunity of knowing this by the Commerce we had with many of them: For they presently had such a good Opinion of us, that they did not make the least difficulty of trusting their Lives and all they had besides in our Hands. Some of them continued with us a considerable time, eating and drinking with our Men without shewing the least Suspicion or Apprehension of Danger: Nay they had the Civility to give us their Huts to lodge in, while several of their Families crowded themselves in one or two, that we might have the Accommodation of the rest. The Indians we had with us offer'd 'em a thousand insolent Affronts, and we could not possibly hinder 'em from insulting over 'em; but they patiently bore all, and without the least Resentment. All this, together with the slender Veneration they seem to have for their Idols, give us great ground to hope, that if ever the Knowledge of the true God of Heaven and Earth, and the Doctrine of the Gospel should be preach'd  
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to 'em, there will be a great prospect of their becoming good Christians.

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C H A P. XLIV.

*The principal Mouths by which the River of Amazons empties it self into the Sea, and the chief Rivers of Peru that run into the Amazone.*

**W**E have hitherto treated in general of this Noble and Famous River of *Amazons*; now 'tis but reasonable we should enter upon the Detail of our Account, and speak particularly of its Sources and Passages: I shall therefore give a Relation of its Ports, and distinctly observe all the Rivers that feed it, and maintain its prodigious Greatness. I shall even advance into all the Countries it waters: I shall make observation of its Depths in several Parts of it, and of the particular Inclinations of the many sorts of People it maintains. I design to omit nothing that's worthy of notice, because I have been an Eye-witness of it; and having been sent by one of the greatest Monarchs in Christendom, on purpose to make accurate Observations on every thing upon this great River, it may be I am more capable than another to give an account of what



what was given me in charge. I shall say nothing of the principal Mouth of this River into the Ocean on the side of *Para*; for it has long since been known by all that sail into *America*; it is well known that it lies under the Line at the utmost Confines of *Brazil*: Nor shall I say any thing of that Mouth of our River by which the Tyrant *Lopez Daguyrre* invaded the Island of *La Trinidad*; because I never saw it, and those that have been there have told me there is no direct Entrance into the River of *Amazons* by the Mouth, it being the Mouth of another River that has Communication with the *Amazone* by several Arms, which from one space to another extend themselves far from it, and enter into the Sea with this other River. My Intention is only to give the Inhabitants of the conquer'd Countries of *Peru* an account of the Passages they have to the River of *Amazons*, or rather of the Rivers of each Province that empty themselves into it. I have already said, that as we came down it we saw its Banks open'd by many Rivers and Rivulets both on the South and North sides: Therefore if any embark on these Rivers, they must necessarily fall into the *Amazone*. But because 'tis not certainly known from what Provinces they draw their Original, and upon what

what Towns their Sources border; and because 'tis yet less known in those places whence they spring, whether they fall into this great River or no, I shall endeavour to remove these Doubts, and shall treat of eight of 'em, which I have taken particular notice of, and all that know these Provinces will confirm the Report I give. Three of 'em pass from the side of the *Amazone*, and go down toward the new Kingdom of *Granada*: Four others we saw on the South-side; and there's another, which runs under the Equinoctial Line, and at length empties it self into this great River.

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CHAP. XLV.

*Of the Rivers of Caqueta, Putomayo, and Agüarcio, which come from the new Kingdom of Granada, and enter into the River Amazone on the North-side.*

**T**He first Entrance that we discover'd to fall into this River (which may be termed a Sea of fresh Water) on that side that looks towards the new Kingdom of *Granada*, is through the Province of *Micoa* in the Government of *Popayan*, following the Current of the great River *Caqueta*, into which all those others that descend on the side of *St. Foy*,

*Bogota, Jimanas, and Cagnan*, come to render Homage as to their Lady and Mistresses. This River is very famous in the Countrey for the Numbers of Indians that inhabit the Banks of it. It has a great many Arms that extend themselves into very remote Provinces, and return to join themselves to that Body from which they separated from a great multitude of Islands, that are all inhabited by an infinite number of wild People. This River continually takes its Course parallel with the *Amazone*, always running along by it, tho at a considerable distance, and from one Place to another sending Arms of Water towards it, big enough to be taken each of 'em for whole Rivers; at last gathering it self together at the Latitude of four degrees, it discharges it self into our River: and 'tis by that Arm of it, which is nearest to the Province of the *Aguas*, that one must directly take ones Course to go down unto the *Amazone*, because there are some Arms that tend towards the North; and they that shall be so imprudent as to embark on this Arm, will certainly be expos'd to the same Danger that befel Capt. *Fernand Perez de Quesada*, who having embarked on the *Caquetta* with 300 Men, and suffered himself to be carried along the side of *St. Foy*,

*Foy*, arrived in the Province of *Algodonal*, from whence he was forced to retire with much more haste than he came, tho he was so well attended with a good number of Men.

The second most remarkable Entrance we find on the North side is by the Town of *Pasto*, which also depends on the Government of *Popayan*. From this Town you must cross the neighbouring Mountains called the *Cordeliers*, which is a difficult incommodious Journey, because of the badness of the Ways, which you must travel partly on Foot, and the rest on Horse-back. You'll at length arrive at the River *Putumayo*, on which you must embark; and sailing down it, it will bring into the famous River of *Amazons*, at the Latitude of two Degrees and a half, and 330 Leagues below the Port of *Napo*. The same Way that leads to the River *Putumayo*, leads in like manner to the River *Aguarico*; because when you leave the Mountains, 'tis but turning near *Succombios*, and near that Town you meet the River *Aguarico*, otherwise call'd the golden River: you need only follow the Stream of it to enter into the *Amazone*, and the Entrance of it is almost under the Line, where the Province of the long-hair'd Indians begins ninety Leagues below the Port  
of

106      *A Discovery of*  
*of Napo.* This is the third Passage,  
which is discover'd into the River of *Amazons* on the North side.

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C H A P. XLVI.

*Of the River Coca, and the River Pagamino, which enter into the Amazone on the South side.*

**U**nder the Line there is another River, by which one may descend into the *Amazone*; it passes across the Province of *Quixos*, and is nearest to the City of *Quito*, beginning at the City of the *Cofanes*, where it takes the Name of *Coca*, and from all along hence it amasses together such great Quantities of Water, that it may well be said to make the principal of all those Channels that compose this great Fresh-water Sea. The Navigation of this River is very troublesome and difficult, by reason of the great Streams of Water that trouble it all along, till it meets the River *Napo*; but this last, and the others that enter into the *Amazone* on the other side of the Line toward the South, are navigated with much more ease. The first of these is the River *Pagamino*, which is none of the most commodious and pleasant: it is three days Journey by Land from the  
City

City of *Avila*, which likewise belongs to the Government of the *Quixos*. 'Twas by this River the Portuguez Fleet enter'd, and landed within the Jurisdiction of *Quito*. This River enters into the *Amazone* below the River *Quito*, and the *Napo*, at a place call'd *La Junta de los Rios*, twenty five Leagues below the Port of *Napo*. When the Portuguez returned, we found a better way to join their Fleet than that which they lighted on in coming into this Country: For we went strait from *Quito* to *Archidona*, which likewise belongs to the Government of the *Quixos*, and is under the Jurisdiction of *Quito*; from whence by one day's Journey only (which we travelled on foot, it being in the Winter, that is in the time of the Rains, but might be performed on Horse-back at any other Season) we arrived at the Port of the River *Napo*. This River is great and rich, and all the Inhabitants of the neighbouring Ports under the Government of *Quito* account it the Depository of their Treasures; for they every Year gather from its Shores all the Gold they need to defray the Expence of their Families. Besides, this River abounds with Fish, and the Fields near it are full of Game; the Soil is very good, and requires but little Charge to cultivate it: It returns the Husbandman

bandman prodigious quantities of all sorts of Grain: This is the principal and best Way that can be taken to go from the Province of *Quito* to the River of *Amazons*; 'tis much more commodious and easy than all the rest. Yet I have heard on that side, that near the Town of *Ambatte*, which is 10 Leagues from *Quito* on the River *Bamba*, there is another River that comes to discharge it self into the *Amazone*, and that there is in it but one fall of Water caus'd by the Currents, that at all obstructs the Navigation of it: This way is very commodious to bring one into this great River about 60 or 70 Leagues lower than the Port of *Napo*, by which means we may cross through the whole Province of the *Quixos*.

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#### CHAP. XLVII.

*Of the Rivers of Curaray and Maragnon.*

THE seventh way of coming at the River *Amazone* is on the side of the Province of the *Macas*, which also appertains to the Government and Jurisdiction of *Quito*; from the Mountains of this Province there descends a great River call'd *Curaray*, by following the Course of which you'll fall into this great River at 2 degrees  
Lati-

Latitude, and 150 Leagues below the Port of *Napo*: all the space of Land is well peopled with several different Nations.

The eighth and last Passage into our great River is on the side of *St. Jago*, from the Mountains of the Province of the *Maguas*, the most powerful of all the Rivers that render Tribute to the *Amazone*: It waters all that great Country so distant from it, and is there call'd *Maragnon*; but at its Mouth, and some Leagues higher, it bears the Name of *Tumburagna*. This River enters into the *Amazone* at four degrees Latitude, and more than 300 Leagues above the Mouth of it; it is so deep, and has such impetuous Currents, that the Navigation of it is troublesome, and somewhat dangerous: but the Assurances we have that there are great numbers of Idolatrous and Barbarous Indians inhabiting these large Countries it waters, will make those that are animated with Zeal for the Glory of God, and the Salvation of Souls, easily surmount some Difficulties. It was to make an Essay of so noble an Enterprize, that in the beginning of the Year 1638, two of our Society pass'd through the Province of the *Maguas* in quest of these large Countries, from whom I receiv'd a great many Letters, in which they give an account of the endless Extent of this River,  
and



and of the innumerable Provinces they receiv'd certain Intelligence of from time to time. This River *Maragnon* joins with *Amazon* 230 Leagues below the Port of *Napo*.

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CHAP. XLVIII. *Of the River Napo.*

**T**His River *Napo*, of which I have had occasion to speak so often, has its Source at the foot of a great Desert call'd *Aulizana*, which is 18 Leagues from *Quito*; and, which is very wonderful, tho this Place is so near the Equinoctial Line, yet this as well as many other Plains that are upon those Mountains call'd the *Cordeliers*, is always cover'd with Snow, that serves to temper the Heat under the Torrid Zone, which is so excessive, that one would think it should render all those Countries not habitable (as *St. Augustin* says of them) which yet by means of this perpetual Refreshment, are the most temperate and serene Regions that have been discover'd since the Age wherein that great Saint flourish'd. This River of *Napo* from its Source takes its Course between great Rocks, which render it unnavigable till it comes to touch that place which is call'd the Port of *Napo*, where the *Vezinos*, or Inhabitants  
of

of *Archidona*, have their Plantations and Gardens; there it becomes more smooth, and less rapid, and bears upon its Waters those little Canoos the Indians use for their Traffick: however, it retains something of its Roughness and Impetuosity for five or six Leagues below this Port; and then all on a sudden becomes calm and smooth, and so remains till it enters into the River *Coca*, which makes the space of about 25 Leagues; during which space it has a good Bottom, and a smooth Course, and affords the largest Vessels a very safe Passage. The Conjunction it makes with the River *Coca* is call'd *La Junta de los Rios*, the joining of the Rivers; and this is reported to have been the place where *Francis d' Oreillane* and his Men arriv'd, and made that Brigantine in which he sailed and discover'd all the River of *Amazons*.

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CHAP. XLIX.

*Of the Town of Anose where Capt. John de Palacios dwelt, with whom there were the two Lay-Friers who made their Escape down to Para (spoken of before.)*

**F**Orty seven Leagues below the place where these Rivers join, on the South-side, is situated the Town of *Anose*, which  
is

is a Plantation made by Capt. *John de Palacios*, who (as I said before) was kill'd by the Inhabitants of the Country: 18 Leagues below this Town on the North-side lies the River *Agarico*, which enters into the *Amazone*; this River is sufficiently famous not only for its Air, which is none of the best, but also for the quantity of Gold that is found in its Sands, from whence it has had the Name of the Golden River these hundred Years. At the Mouth of it on one side as well as t'other of the River of *Amazons* begins the great Province of the long-hair'd Indians, which extends on the North-side for above 180 Leagues, and continually receives great quantities of Water from the *Amazone*, which makes divers Lakes of a great Compass and Depth. The first Notices that the Inhabitants of *Quito* receiv'd of this Country gave 'em a very great desire to make a Conquest of it, because of the great number of Indians with which this Province is peopled. And indeed there have been at several times some Essays of this kind made, but always in vain, witness the last of 'em that had such bad Success, when Capt. *John de Palacios* was kill'd, as has been already said.

CHAP. L.

*The Place where General Texeira left his Fleet of Portuguez.*

Was in this Province of the long-hair'd Indians at the Mouth of the River which bears their Name, and enters into the *Amazone* 20 Leagues below the River again, that by the Order of General *Texeira* forty Portuguez of his Fleet, with 200 of the Indians they brought with 'em, continued constantly for the space of eleven Months: At first they found nothing but good Entertainment of all sorts from the Inhabitants of the Country, to whom in return they gave all Necessaries they had occasion for; but this did not continue long. This was too great a Familiarity for Men that knew themselves guilty of the death of the Spanish Captain; for they being the Authors of this Fact, knew well enough that the Blood they had shed cry'd for Vengeance against 'em, and therefore being under Apprehensions of being chastis'd for their Boldness on the least occasion that should offer, they mutinied, and after they had kill'd three of our Indians, took up Arms to defend their Lives and Lands. The Portuguez on this occasion acted like themselves, and presently fought to be reveng'd; for it being contrary to their Humour to put up Injuries,

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or

or to suffer Indians to take the liberty of acting with so much Insolence as this, they betook themselves to Arms, and with their wonted Courage, for which they are so famous, flew upon their Enemies, and repuls'd them with so much Vigor, that with the loss of a very few Men they killed a considerable number of Indians, and took above 70 of 'em Prisoners; some of whom died in the places of their Confinement, and the rest made their Escape, so that in a little time there was not one of them left. These Portuguez did not get much by their Victory, for they now found themselves reduc'd to such Extremity, that they saw they must either perish for want of Food, or else be oblig'd to go with their Swords in their hands to fetch Provision out of the very Mouths of their Enemies. Accordingly they resolv'd to make Incurfions into the Country, and either by fair means or foul to get a Supply for their pinching Necessities. Some of 'em went out to fight, and others kept the Camp; but both the one and the other in spite of all their Bravery did not fail to meet with frequent and violent Insults from their Enemies, who omitted no fit occasion to give 'em all sorts of Alarms, and to do 'em all the Mischief they could, especially upon the River, where they surpriz'd a great many of their Vessels, some of which they pillaged, and brake others of 'em in pieces:  
† and

and yet this was not the greatest Damage they did our Men ; for they laid Ambuscades for our Indians, and cut the Throats of all that fell into their hands : 'Tis true, for every Man they kill'd, the Portuguez kill'd six of them ; but this Chastisement was nothing comparable to what the Portuguez used to make the Indians suffer for such kind of Revolts. These People were call'd by the Spaniards who saw them first, the Hairy Indians, because throughout this Province the Men, as well as the Women wear their Hair quite down to their Knees. Their Weapons are Darts, their Houses are Huts made very neatly and curiously with the Branches of Palm-Trees : Their Food is like that of all the other Indians upon the *Amazone*. They are always in War with their Neighbours at the Head of this Province of the long-hair'd Savages on the South-side ; on the other side of the River of *Amazons*, they have for their Neighbours the *Avisiras*, the *Turusnies*, the *Zaparas*, and the *TQUITOS*, who are on one side enclosed by the River *Curaray*, and on the other by the *Amazone*, into which the former empties it self 4 Leagues below the Province of the long-hair'd Indians, at near two degrees Latitude. Eighty Leagues below *Curaray* on the same South-side, the famous River *Tumburagua*, which, as I said before, descends from the Province of the *Maynas*, by the

Name of *Maragnon*, enters into the *Amazone*; and is so impetuous and violent, that it preserves its Waters entirely together, while it runs with its ordinary Swiftnes several Leagues forward into the *Amazone* without mixing with it, which makes it extend above a League in Breadth at its Mouth: at length it acknowledges the Superiority of the *Amazone*, and pays it not only the ordinary Tribute, which the other Rivers render it, but another more considerable Advantage besides of many sorts of Fish, that are not found in the River of *Amazons*, till you come to the Mouth of this River.

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CHAP. LI.

*The Province of the Aguas, their Manners and Customs.*

Sixty Leagues below the River *Tumburagua* begins the Province of the *Aguas*, which is the most fertile and spacious of all the Provinces we found along this great River of *Amazons*; the Spaniards vulgarly call it *Omaguas*, by a corruption of its proper Name, and to make it answer to the Situation of their Dwellings; because the Word *Aguas* in their Language signifies *without*, or *abroad*. This Province is above 200 Leagues in length, and is so well peopled, that the Villages are  
situate

situate very close one to another; so that almost as soon as you are past one, you discover another. The Breadth of this Country in all appearance is but of small extent, it being no greater than that of our River; for the Habitations of these People are in all the Islands throughout the whole Length of it, which are in great number, and some of which are very spacious: and considering they are all either peopled, or at least cultivated for the Sustenance of the Inhabitants, one may easily imagine there must needs be vast numbers of Indians in a Country that extends 200 Leagues in Length. This Nation is the most reasonable and best civilized of all those that dwell along this River. This Advantage they received from those that not long since went down amongst 'em from the Countrey of the *Quixos*; where after having had Peace with the Spaniards for a long time, they were at last wearied with the ill Treatment they received from 'em, and embarking in their Canoos, suffered themselves to be carried down with the Stream of the River, till they met with other Indians of their Nation, upon whose Strength and Power they could rely, and accordingly took up their Residence with 'em. These last Comers introduc'd among the others several things they had seen practised by the Spaniards, and taught 'em how to live after



a more civil and regular manner. They were all clothed, both Men and Women, with all the Decency imaginable; their Garments are made of Cotton, of which they gather a prodigious quantity; and they do not only make Stuffs enough for their own use, but make a great many to sell to their Neighbours, who are mightily taken (and that not without reason) with the Beauty of those pretty Works with which they deck their Stuffs: they make some very thin Clothes, which are not only woven with Threds of different Colours, but the Paint of 'em is disposed with so much Art in the weaving, that the different Threds can't be distinguished one from another. They are so submissive and obedient to their principal Caciques, that these whom they look upon as their Princes, need speak but a Word to have whatever they command put in execution.

This whole Nation has been so long accustomed to make their Heads flat, that as soon as their Children are born they put them in a kind of Press; forcing Nature after this manner with one little Board, which they hold upon the Forehead, and another much larger, which they put behind the Head, and which serves them for a Cradle; and all the rest of the Body of the new-born Infant is as it were inclos'd with this piece of Wood: they lay the Child upon his Back,  
and

and this Board, being bound fast to that which is upon the Forehead, they make the Head of the Child almost as flat as ones Hand; thus there being no room for the Head to grow, but by spreading it self wide from one Ear to the other, they are extremely disfigured by this violent Artifice.

The *Aguas* have perpetual War with several other Nations both on the one and the other side of the River. - On the South side among other Enemies they have the *Curinas*, who are so numerous, that they not only very well defend themselves on the side of the River from innumerable Multitudes of the *Aguas*; but at the same time likewise sustain the Efforts and Shocks of other Nations, that come a great way down the Countrey to make War with them. On the North side the *Zaunas* are Enemies to the *Aguas*, and are, by the Accounts I have had of them, no less numerous, nor less stout than the *Curinas*; which appears in that they maintain a War against a great number of Enemies, that come down from Places a great way up in the Country.

## C H A P. LII.

*The Love these People have for the Captives they take in War, and the Calumny they lie under in being reported to eat 'em.*

**T**Hese *Aguas* make Slaves of all the Prisoners they take in War, and use 'em for all kinds of Service; however they treat 'em with so much Love and Kindness, that they make 'em eat with themselves; and there's nothing in the World displeases 'em more, than to desire 'em to sell 'em, as we found by experience on several occasions: I remember once at our Arrival at an Indian Town, they received us not only with all the Marks of Peace and Amity, but even with all the Tokens of extraordinary Joy: They offer'd us all they had for our Sustenance, without requiring any thing in return: We on our parts shewed that Civility to them that became us; we bought their painted Cotton-Cloth, which they very willingly parted with; we desired 'em to sell us some Canoos, which are better to them than the best and swiftest Horses, and they presently offer'd 'em to us; but when we began to talk with 'em about their Slaves, and to importune 'em to sell us some of 'em, this was to them the most uncivil and inhumane Discourse that could be: one of them presently gave  
us

us to understand that he would no longer keep company with us; another shew'd himself mightily troubled at the matter: On the one hand they were very diligent to hide 'em from us, on the other to get some of 'em that were with us out of our Hands; in a word, they gave us Signs enough to convince us, that they had a greater esteem for their Slaves than for all the rest of their Goods, and that they had rather part with all they possess'd besides than part with them. And this being the truth of the matter, 'tis a malicious thing of the Portuguez to report that the reason why the *Aguas* are unwilling to sell their Slaves, is because they fatten 'em, and keep 'em to eat at their Feasts: This is a Calumny they have invented, to palliate the Cruelties they have exercised upon these poor Wretches. I may farther add, that at least as far as concerns the Nation of the *Aguas* I have found the contrary true by the Testimony of two Indians that were Natives of *Para*, who came up with the Portuguez as far as *Quito*, and ran away when they were arriv'd there; who falling into the hands of these People, were made Slaves, and remained with them eight Months: these assured me they had been out with them at their Wars, and that they never saw 'em eat any of their Enemies, when they had taken 'em, and made Slaves of 'em: 'twas true indeed (they said) when they

they had taken any of their Enemies that had the Reputation of being Valiant and Great, they kill'd 'em at their Feasts and Assemblies, only out of fear of sustaining some considerable Damage by 'em, if they should suffer 'em to live; but that they did not eat these neither when they had kill'd 'em, but when they had cut off their Heads, which they us'd to hang up in their Huts as Trophies, they roll'd their Bodies into the River.

I don't deny that there are some *Caribees* in those Parts that eat their Enemies without any Sentiments of Horror; but this is a Custom peculiar to them, and is not practised among other Indians. And this I desire may be taken notice of and credited, that Human Flesh has never been sold in any of the Publick Shambles of this Nation, as the Portuguez have reported; who under the pretence of revenging such kind of Cruelties, commit those that are incomparably greater themselves, since they are so inhuman and barbarous, as to make Slaves of those that were born free and independent.

CHAP.

CHAP. LIII.

*The great Cold in those parts under the Line in June, July and August, and the reason of it.*

**A**fter we were got down about 100 Leagues more or less into the Country of the *Aguas*, and so had pass'd about half way through this vast Province, we arriv'd at a Town of this Nation, where we were oblig'd to continue three days; we there felt it so extreme cold, that those of us that were born and bred in the coldest Province of *Spain*, were constrain'd to put on more Clothes. This so sudden change of the Temper of the Air surpriz'd me, and gave me the Curiosity to enquire the Cause of it, of the People of the Country: they told me it was no unusual thing in their Quarters, that every Year for three Moons (for thus they count and mean for three Months) they felt the same Cold; these three Months are *June*, *July* and *August*: but this Answer did not satisfy me, who was willing to have a more solid and perfect knowledg of the reason of this so piercing Cold. Upon Consideration I found that the Winds passing through that vast and mountainous Desert, which is situate a great way up in the Country on the South-side, all those three Months, and so bringing along with them the cold Air occasion'd by the  
Snow

Snow with which those Desert Mountains are cover'd, cause these surprizing Effects in the Neighbouring Countries under the Torrid Zone. And for this reason I don't question but the Situation of this Country is capable of making the Ground produce good Wheat, and all other sorts of Grain and Fruits, that grow in the Soil of *Quito*, which is in like manner situated under the Line, or very near it, and yet is made very fertile and fit for all sorts of Grain and Fruits, and this by reason of that fresh Air brought thither by the Winds that come off from the Mountains which are cover'd with Snow.

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#### C H A P. LIV.

*Of the River Putomayo, which comes from the new Kingdom of Granada, and the River Yotau, which comes from the Neighbourhood of the City of Cusco.*

Sixteen Leagues below the place where we felt so much Cold, on the North-side we met with the great River *Putomayo*, which is so famous in the Government of *Po-payan* in the new Kingdom of *Granada*. This is a very great and wide River, because it receives 30 other very considerable Rivers before it falls into the *Amazone*. Those that inhabit the places about its Mouth call it *Iza*,  
it

it comes down from the Mountains of *Pasto* in the Kingdom of *Granada*: there's abundance of Gold found in the Sand and Gravel of it; and we were assur'd that the Banks of it were extremely well peopled, so that a Troop of Spanish Souldiers coming upon this River, found Enemies enow to constrain 'em to retire with some loss. The Names of the Natives that inhabit these Parts are the *Turinans*, the *Guaraicas*, the *Parianas*, the *Zyas*, the *Ahyves*, the *Curvos*; and those that are nearest the Source dwell on both sides of the River, as being the Lords and Masters of it, and are call'd the *Omaguas*; the *Aguas* of the Islands call 'em the true *Omaguas*.

Fifty Leagues below this Mouth of *Putumayo*, we found on the other side the Mouth of another fine large River, which takes its Rise near *Cusco*, and enters into the *Amazon* at the Latitude of three degrees and a half; the Natives call it *Yofau*, and 'tis esteem'd above all the rest for its Riches, and for the great number of People it maintains; the Names of whom are these, the *Tepanas*, the *Gavains*, the *Ozuanas*, the *Morvas*, the *Nau-nos*, the *Conomamas*, the *Mariavas*, and the *Omaguas*, which are the last Nation that dwell upon this River towards *Peru*, and by consequence are the nearest Neighbours the Spaniards have on that side. This Nation is accounted to be very rich in Gold, because they wear



wear great Plates of Gold hanging at their Ears and Nostrils: and if I don't mistake, these Indians are the same with those I have read of in the History of the Tyrant *Lopez Daguirre*, to whose Country *Pedro d'Orsua* was sent by the Vice-roy of *Peru* to make a Discovery of it, because of the great Reputation they had of being the most wealthy People in *America*; however, *Pedro d'Orsua* miss'd his way, and instead of taking the River *Yotau*, sail'd upon an Arm of another River which enters into the *Amazon* some Leagues below the other; so that when he was fallen down into the *Amazon*, he found himself so far below these People, whose Country he went to discover, that he perceiv'd it impossible to get up to 'em, not only because of the Impetuosity of the Currents, against which he was afraid to hazard himself, but likewise because of the Discontent all his Souldiers express'd at so difficult an Enterprize. This River *Yotau* abounds with Fish, and its Banks with all sorts of Venison and wild Fowl; and is besides very Navigable, because it has a good Bottom, and a very gentle Current, by what I have been able to learn from those that dwell upon its Banks.

## CHAP. LV.

*The utmost Borders of the People call'd the Aguas, who possess the space of 54 Leagues along this River, and the River Yurva which comes from the side of Cusco.*

**I**N following the Course of the River of *Amazons* we came down about fourteen Leagues lower, and arriv'd at the utmost Bounds of the long Province of the *Aguas*, which is a Town well peopled, wherein they keep a strong Garison; this being the principal Fort they have on that side to resist the Irruptions of their Enemies for the space of above 54 Leagues along this River. They are the sole Masters of its Banks, so that their Enemies don't possess an Inch of Land there: but the Bounds of their Country are so narrow, that from the Banks of the River you may see the remotest Villages they have on the Continent. They have a thousand small Rivers that fall into the *Amazone*, and that serve to convey 'em into the Country for what they want; on the North-side the *Curis* and the *Quirabas* are their Enemies, and the *Cachiguaras* and the *Jacuris* on the South-side. We could not come at the sight of these Nations, because our Orders would not permit us to go so high into the Country; but we discover'd the Mouth of a River which we may  
with

with good reason call the River of *Cusco*, because, according to the Relation which I have seen of the Voyage of *Francis Oreillane*, this River goes North and South from the City of *Cusco*; it enters into the *Amazon* at the Latitude of 5 degrees, and at 24 Leagues distance from the last great Village of the *Aguas*. The Natives call it *Yurna*; the Country is well peopled, and on the Right-hand, as you enter into this River against the Stream, are the same People I have spoken of before, who inhabit the Banks of the River *Yotau*; for they extend themselves from the Banks of one of these Rivers to the other, and so dwell between 'em both, almost as in an Island; and, if I am not mistaken, it was by this last River that *Pedro d' Orsua* came down from *Peru* into the *Amazon*.

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#### CHAP. LVI.

*Of the Nation of the Curuzicaris who possess the space of 24 Leagues along this River: Of their Husbandry, and Ingenuity in making all sorts of Utensils, and Earthen Ware.*

**T**WENTY eight Leagues below the River *Yurva*, on the same South-side, begins the great and potent Nation of the *Curuzicaris*, in a Country all cover'd with Mountains and Precipices. This Nation inhabits  
only

only the Bank of the *Amazone* on the South-side; and possesses above 24 Leagues of it in length. This People is so numerous, that their Villages are very near one another, so that we could scarce make four hours sail, but we found new Plantations; and sometimes we found their Towns so long, that we could not get clear of 'em in half a day. We found abundance of those Villages without one Soul in 'em, all the Inhabitants being frightened away with the false News, that we put all to Fire and Sword, and that the least Evil they were to expect from us, was to be all made Slaves: The greatest part of 'em retir'd as far as the Mountains: But tho these People are so timorous, that they may well be term'd the greatest Cowards upon the River of *Amazons*, yet we saw in all their Houses the Marks of a great deal of good Husbandry and Neatness; for we found abundance of Provisions which they had laid up in store, and which is more, a great deal of Household-goods, amongst which, the Vessels they had made to eat and drink in, were the neatest and most commodious of any we had yet seen through the whole Course of this great River. They have in the Marshy Places where they dwell, a sort of Earth very good to make all kinds of Vessels; of this they make great Pots or Jars, in which they make their Drink and knead their Dough, and Pans and Pots to boil

K

in,

in, and a sort of Ovens in which they bake their Bread; they likewise make Drinking-Cups and Basons of it, and very neat Frying-pans: They make great quantities of all these Utensils to carry on the Trade they have with all the neighbouring Nations, who having occasion for all these pieces of Household-stuff come from all Quarters to procure 'em in this Country, and carry them away in great Burdens, giving in exchange for 'em all sorts of things this People want, which are not produc'd in their own Country. The first Village the Portuguez of our Fleet met with in coming up the River of *Amazons*, they call'd the Golden Town, because they found some pieces of Gold there, which these People had receiv'd in exchange from those Indians that wear Plates of Gold at their Ears and Noses. This Gold was carried to *Quito*, and upon trial the greatest part of it was found of the fineness of twenty three Carrats: But the Natives observing the Greediness of our Men, and how eagerly they hunted after more of these little Plates of Gold, took care to hide 'em all, so that in a little time they were none of 'em to be found. And they took such exact care of the business at our return, that altho we found a great many of these Indians, yet there was but one of 'em that had these Ear-pendants, and those very small ones, which I bought of him.

†

C H A P.

CHAP. LVII.

*Of the Golden Mine, and the River Yquyari which springs out of it, and yields all those Plates of Gold, of which those People make their Pendants.*

THE Portuguez Fleet, as they came from *Para* to discover this great River of *Amazons*, could not get any certain knowledg of many things that are to be met with there, because they came away without Interpreters, and could obtain none to inform 'em and give 'em a faithful account of things: So that if the Portuguez pretend to give a good account of any Matter, it must be only from what they have learn'd of the Indians by Signs, which are ordinarily very uncertain and equivocal, because every one is apt to apply them to what his Fancy leads him; these Difficulties ceas'd at their return, and it pleas'd God to favour us with such good Interpreters, that I can affirm that all that is contain'd in this Relation, is written upon the certain Knowledg and ample Discovery of all things by the means of the Interpreters we carried with us. 'Tis from them I have the Account I am now going to give of that Mine from whence the Natives have those Golden Pendants for their Ears and Noses which we saw. Over against this great Vil-

lage a little higher on the North-side, there enters into the *Amazone* a River call'd *Yurupaci*; going up this River you arrive at a place where you are to go ashore, to cross the Country for three days Journey, at the end of which you meet another River call'd *Tupara*, by sailing on which you meet with the River *Yquiari*, which is that the Portuguese call the Golden River; it springs from the foot of a Mountain hard by: Here the Natives amass Gold together in prodigious quantities; they find it all in Spangles, or Grains of a good alloy; they beat these small Grains of Gold together till they form those little Plates which they hang at their Ears and Noses, as we have said before. The People of this Country that find this Gold, trade with it among their Neighbours, who are call'd the *Mavagns*; as for the other they are call'd the *Yuma Guaris*, which is as much as to say, the Metal-gatherers; for *Yuma* signifies Metal, and *Guaris* those that gather it up: and under this general Name of *Yuma* they understand all sorts of Metals, therefore they call'd all the Iron Tools that we had, as Axes, Hatchets, Bills, and Knives, by the same Name of *Yuma*. The way of getting to this place seem'd to me to be very troublesome and difficult, because of changing the Rivers so many times, and of making so long a Journey across the Country; which giving

giving me no satisfaction, I could not be at rest till I had discover'd an Advantage more easily attainable, of which I shall discourse hereafter.

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C H A P. LVIII.

*The Affectation of this People to have great Holes made in their Ears and Nostrils, at which they hang their Plates of Gold.*

**T**Hese Savages go all naked both Men and Women, and their Riches only serve 'em for a small Ornament with which they deck their Ears and Noses; for they put the Gold they get out of the Mines to no other use than that of adorning themselves: they all generally have their Ears bored for this end, and they affect to have the Holes made so vastly wide, that one may almost thrust ones Fist through the Hole in the tips of some of their Ears; this is the place at which they hang their Jewels, and they commonly wear in them a handful of Leaves made up close together, to keep their Ears constantly in the same Figure. This passes among 'em for the greatest piece of Finery in the World. On the other side of the *Amazon*, over against this high Country which the *Curazicaris* possess, there is a flat Country all intersected with Rivers (and particu-



larly with several Arms of the River *Caqueta*) which run along through it: so that this Country is all made up of Islands inclos'd by great Lakes, that extend several Leagues in length, till at last all these Waters crowd together, and pour themselves into the *Rionegro*, and so fall into the *Amazon*. All these Islands are peopled with many different Nations, but those that possess the most Land are the *Zuavas*.

### CHAP. LIX.

*Of the River Yupara, and the short Cut it makes to the Golden Mountain.*

**F**ourteen Leagues below the Village which the Portuguez call the Golden Town, on the North-side, we saw the mouth of the River *Yupara*, which is that by which one may enter into the Golden River; and this is the most direct, the most sure, and shortest way to come at that Golden Mountain that is so vastly rich. This Mouth is at the Latitude of two degrees and a half, and so is that Village which is situate four Leagues lower on the South-side on the Edge of a great Precipice, at the foot of which is the Mouth of another great and fine River, which the Natives call *Tapi*, the Banks of which are inhabited by a great number of  
Indians

Indians call'd the *Paguavos*. I have already said that the Nation of the *Curazicaris* takes up above four and twenty Leagues of the Length of this Country ; and I add, that all their Lands are very high Ground, where you may see very pleasant Fields and fine Pastures for Cattel ; there are also Groves of Trees that extend a great length, and a great many Lakes that abound with Fish ; which would be a great advantage to any that should make Plantations in those parts.

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CHAP. LX.

*An Account of many other Nations, and of divers Rivers that descend into the Amazone; and of the Golden Lake that is so famous in Peru.*

**T**WENTY six Leagues below *Tapi* the River *Catua* falls into the *Amazone*, at the Mouth of it it forms a great Lake of Water, that looks green ; it has its Source far up in the Country on the South-side, and its Banks, as well as those of other Rivers, are peopled with Indians : Yet 'tis said, another River, that comes on the North-side, and falls into the *Amazone* six Leagues below *Tapi*, and is called *Agaranatuba*, far exceeds all the other Rivers for the multitude of different Nations that inhabit its Banks. One

may also have Communication with the River *Yupara*, of which we have spoken above, by the way of this River. The People it maintains are called the *Tacarets*, &c. All these Nations speak two different Languages, and 'tis in their Country (if what is talked in the new Kingdom of *Granada* be true) that this so much desired Golden Lake is to be found \*, which has so long made the Inhabitants of *Peru* very uneasy. I don't affirm this as a Certainty : It may be it will please God one day to put this Matter out of doubt. There is another River that enters into the *Amazon* sixteen Leagues lower than *Araganatuba*, and bears the same Name; but it

\* He means the Lake of *Parima*, which all Geographers place under the Equinoctial Line in *Guiana*, and upon the Banks of which is that pretended City of *Manoa del Dorado*, which the Peruvians built when they fled thither to save themselves from the Cruelty and Tyranny of the Spaniards, according to the opinion of many of their Authors; which has often engag'd that Nation in very expensive Attempts: but the Hopes of finding this rich Countrey have still fail'd of success. The Essay that Sir *Walter Raleigh* made to this purpose, and which he was so eagerly set upon, was no less unhappy; for it cost him his Son's Life, who was killed by the Spaniards in this Expedition, as well as his own Head, which was taken off at *London* by King *James* soon after his Return from *America*. And indeed this *Manoa del Dorado* may be called the Philosophers Stone, or rather the Spaniards Chimera, in search of which they have employ'd immense Sums to no purpose, at several Times, and under several Commanders, and must needs have lost a great number of Men in above sixty different Expeditions or Attempts which they have made.

it is to be observ'd that these two are indeed one and the same River divided into two different Arms, and therefore both bear the same Name, till they empty themselves into the *Amazon*. Two and twenty Leagues below this last Arm of *Araganatuba*, are the utmost Limits of this great and rich Nation of the *Curazicaris*, who inhabit one of the best Cantons of Land we have met with in all the Extent of this great River.

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CHAP. LXI.

*Of the warlike People called Yorimaus.*

TWO Leagues lower begins the Country of the most renown'd and warlike Nation of any all along the River of *Amazons*; these People made all the Portuguese Fleet tremble when they went to land in their Countrey, as they came up from *Para*. They are call'd the *Yorimaus*, they dwell on the South-side of the River, and not only possess all the Continent along its Banks for above sixty Leagues successively, but likewise the greatest part of all those Islands the *Amazon* makes in that long space: for tho' the Extent of Land this People possess is confin'd within the Space of a little above sixty Leagues on the River *Amazon*, yet having all the Islands besides within the  
same

same space, and all the Continent a good way up in the Countrey, they are as numerous as any Nation we saw wherever we set foot to land all along the River. The greatest part of the *Torimaus* are well made, and of a better Shape than the rest of the Indians; they go naked as well as others, but one may well see by the Air of their Countenances, that they have a greater dependance upon their Courage than the other Savages: they came amongst us, and went from us with the greatest Assurance that could be; and there pass'd no day, but above 200 Canoos full of Women and Children came aboard our Admiral, bringing with them all sorts of Fruits, Fishes, Meal' and other things, which we bought of 'em in exchange for Glass-Buttons, Needles and Knives. This was at the first Village of the *Torimaus*, which is built at the Mouth of a fine River, that seem'd to us to be very impetuous, by the great Force with which it repuls'd the Waters of the *Amazone*, as it ran into it. I don't doubt but the Banks of it are inhabited, as well as those of all the others, by many different Nations; but we could not learn the Names of 'em, because our Fleet only pass'd by the Mouth of it.

CHAP. LXII.

*The Length of the Country which these People possess, and the great Islands they inhabit in the River of Amazons.*

**T**WO and twenty Leagues below this first Plantation of the *Torimaus*, we met with the greatest Village we had yet seen on this great River: The Houses joined to one another, and continued so to do above a League in length: each of these Houses contains not only one Family, as is customary in most Cities in *Europe*, but in those that were least filld there dwelt 4 or 5 entire Families, and more in the greatest part of 'em. By this may be conjectur'd what an incredible multitude of people must needs live in that one Town. We went to their Houses, and found all there in profound Peace. They waited for our coming, without being at all alarm'd by it, and furnished us with all necessary Provisions, which our Fleet began now to want. We continued five days in this Place, and stor'd our selves here with a Provision of above five hundred Measures of Meal of \* *Magnioc*; so that we had more than enough

\* This Meal of *Magnioc* the Author speaks of, is bak'd and eaten instead of Bread or *Cassave*, as well in this Country he speaks of, as on almost all the Coasts of *Brazil*, where

nough of it to accomplish our Voyage, which as we continued from thence, we perpetually met with the Villages of this Nation one soon after another; at last we arriv'd at a place thirty Leagues below this great Town, which in all appearance is the chief Strength of this Nation. 'Tis a great Island made by one Arm of the *Amazone*, as it goes to join it self to another River that comes to fall into it; and both together run against the Banks of this last River, which are inhabited by so great a Multitude of people, that 'tis not without reason that their Neighbours fear and respect 'em, if it were only for their Numbers.

## CHAP.

where the Captains of Ships store themselves with it, when they are in want of Bisquet. This kind of Meal will not only keep good oftentimes as far as *Portugal*, but will sometimes serve again in other Voyages, when they are over-stock'd with it. It has this Property with it, that 'tis more fit for long Voyages than *Cassave*, because it keeps better. 'Tis true it becomes very insipid at last, and so would the best Bread we make, if kept as long. And 'tis further to be noted, that this bak'd Meal can't be made into Bread, and that the Indians bake it in great Earthen Basons over the Fire almost as Confectioners do their Sweet-meats; after which they dry it yet more in the Sun, when 'tis prepar'd for long Voyages. When you are past the River of *Amazons*, the Indians on the other side of the Line know neither how to make it, nor the use of it; they only make *Cassave*, which is Bread made of this same Meal of *Magnioc* before it is bak'd: There is also a particular way of preparing that to make it keep well for long Voyages, but not so well as this bak'd Meal.

## C H A P. LXIII.

*The Extent of the Province of the Yorimaus, and of the River of Cuchiguara. Of a People so ingenious in working of Wood, that they equal the best Masters in Europe.*

TEN Leagues below this Island the Province of the *Yorimaus* ends; and two Leagues farther we found on the South-side the Mouth of a famous River which the Indians call *Cuchiguara*; 'tis navigable, tho there are Rocks in it in some Places, and 'tis very full of Fish, and well stock'd with Tortoises; its Banks are loaded with *Maze* and *Magnioc*. In a word, it has every thing necessary to make the Navigation of it easy and agreeable. All the Banks of this River are peopled with different Nations, which I shall name one after another successively, beginning with those that dwell at the Mouth of it, going on with those that dwell along the River upward, which are the *Cachiguaras*, and bear the same Name with the River *Cuchiguara*, &c. and in fine, all the last are call'd the *Curiguiris*; who, according to the Report that Persons who have been with them, and offer'd to conduct us to them, gave us, are Giants of sixteen Spans height, and very stout; they go naked as well as the others, and wear great Plates of Gold at their  
Ears



Ears and Nostrils: We were informed that 'twould be a Journey of two Months to go into the Province of these Giants from the Mouth of this River. When we had passed some space farther, we found on the South-side the People call'd the *Campunas* and the *Zurinas*, which are the most ingenious and curious handy-craft Men that we saw in all the Country. Without any other Tools than such as I have spoken of before, they make Chairs in the Form of Beasts, with so much Curiosity, and so commodious for a Man to sit at his Ease, that I think the Invention of Man cannot contrive better. They make *Estolicas*, which are their ordinary Weapons, of a very slender Stick, with so much Art, that 'tis not to be wondred at that other Nations in the Country are very desirous of them; and which is very strange, they'll cut a rais'd Figure so much to the Life, and so exactly upon any coarse Piece of Wood, that many of our Carvers might take Pattern by them. 'Tis not only to gratify their own Fancies, and for their own Use, that they make these Pieces of Work, but also for the Profit it brings them; for they hereby maintain a Trade with their Neighbours, and truck their Work with them for any Necessaries to serve their Occasions.

C H A P. LXIV.

*Of the River Basurara, and the great Islands it forms: Of the People that inhabit those Parts: Of their Arms, and the Commerce they have with the Dutch that inhabit Cayenne.*

**T**Hirty two Leagues below the Mouth of *Cuchiguara* we met the Mouth of another River on the North-side, call'd *Basurara* by the Natives: This River extends it self a great way up in the Country, and forms several great Lakes, so that the Country is divided into divers large Islands, which are all peopled with an infinite Number of Inhabitants. These Lands lie very high, and are never overflow'd by the Inundations, let them be never so great. This Country abounds with all sorts of Provision, as *Maze*, *Magnioc*, all kinds of Fruit, Venison, Wild-Fowl, and Fish, and yields its Inhabitants a liberal Maintenance; which makes it abound as much in Men as in all other things. All the People that live in the large Extent of this Country are call'd by the general Name of *Carabuyaras*, and are divided into particular Provinces, some of which are call'd the *Ceraguaras*, &c. All the Indians use Bows and Arrows; and among some of them I saw Iron Tools and Weapons, as  
Hatchets,

Hatchets, Halbards, Bills and Knives. I asked them, by our Interpreters, from whence they had those Instruments of Iron; they answered, that they bought them of the People of that Country that dwelt nearest the Sea on that side, who had their Goods in exchange for 'em; that they were white Men like us, and made use of the same Arms, as Swords and Guns, and had Houses upon the Sea-Coast; that the only difference between them and us was, that they had all light-colour'd Hair. These Tokens were sufficient to assure us that these were the Dutch that were in possession of the Mouth of the Smooth River, or the River *Philippe*, some time before. It was in the Year 1638, that they made a Descent into *Guiana*, which depends on the Government of the New Kingdom of *Granada*, and not only made themselves Masters of the whole Island, \* but came upon it by such a Surprize, that

\* The *Guiana* is a considerable part of the Continent, and not one of the Islands of the Ocean, as our Author seems to signify in this place; yet it may well enough be said, that he spake more truly than he thought, and that the River *Orenoque*, or *Paria*, parting from the River of *Amazons*, to come afterwards to discharge it self into the Sea over against the Island of *La Trinidad*, betwixt the ninth and tenth Degrees of Northern Latitude; it may very well be, I say, that *Guiana* by these means becomes an Island, comprehending all that Extent of Land between the Mouth of *Orenoque* and that of the *Amazone*, quite to the place where these two great Rivers divide

the Spaniards had not time to carry away the Holy Sacrament of the Altar, but left it in Captivity in the Enemies hand: They promised themselves a great Ransom from us to get this holy Pledg out of their hands, knowing what Respect and Love the Catholics have for the precious Body of their Saviour; but our Men took another Course, which was, to betake themselves to their Arms, and compose good Companies of Souldiers who were resolved to go with the Courage of Christians to expose their Lives to deliver their Saviour from the hands of his Enemies. They were big with these just and pious Resolutions, which could only be inspired from Heaven, when we parted from thence to return into *Spain*, to render an Account of our Voyage.

to take their Course asunder, till they fall into the Sea at above 300 Leagues distance one from another. All this Interval is what Geographers commonly call in their Maps the Coast of *Guiana*. In this place the Island of *Cayenne* is situate, which is so famous either for the divers Adventures which the French Colonies have had at several times in establishing themselves there, or for the divers Barrels they have had as well with the Indians as the Europeans, to maintain their Ground there, in which they have succeeded so well, that 'tis now one of the most considerable and advantageous Colonies they have in all *America*.

## C H A P. LXV.

Of the great River called Rionegro, [or the Black River] because its Waters are so clear, that they look black again: and of a fit Place to fortify upon this River, which would be a means to obtain the Sovereignty of the Amazone by the way to it from the North-Cape through the River call'd Rio grande.

ON the same North-side, thirty Leagues or something less from *Basurana*, we met with the largest Mouth, and the finest River of any that come to throw themselves into the *Amazone*. It runs a Course of 1300 Leagues in length; the Mouth of it is a League and a half wide, which is at the Latitude of four degrees; and to speak a little pleasantly, one may say, this mighty River is so haughty, that 'tis offended to meet with a greater than it self; and as the incomparable *Amazone* stretches out its Arms to receive it, this proud River disdains to be so embrac'd as to lose it self in the other's Waters, and therefore keeps separated from it, and fills up half the Bed of the *Amazone* it self for above the length of twelve Leagues, so that the Waters of the one may be easily distinguished from the other by those that sail in this Channel. The Portuguez had some

some Reason to call this the *Black River*, because at its Mouth, and many Leagues above, its Depth, together with the Clearness of those Waters which are pour'd into its Channel from several great Lakes, make it appear black, as if it were dyed, tho when it is put in a Glass it looks as clear as Crystal. It takes its Course from West to East at its beginning, but has such great Windings, that in a very little space it changes its Course to different Points; but the Course it runs for several Leagues before it empties it self into the *Amazone*, is again from West to East. The Indians that live upon the Banks of it call it *Curiguarura*; but the *Toupinambous*, of whom we shall speak presently, give it the name of *Urama*, which signifies [*Black Water*] in their Language. They also give another name to the *Amazone*, which it retains in those Parts, namely, *Pajanaquis*, which is as much as to say [*the Great River*], to distinguish it from another, which tho it be a great River, however is much less than this, and named *Pajanamira*, which enters into the *Amazone* on the South-side, a League below the *Black River*. We were assur'd that this River was inhabited by a great number of People of different Nations, the last of which wear Clothes and Hats like ours, which sufficiently convinc'd us that these People were not remote from our Ci-

ties in *Peru*. Those that dwell on the Banks of the Black River, possess a great deal of Ground; they are call'd *Canicuaris* and *Curupatabas*; and the last Nation is that of the *Quaravaquazanas*, that dwell upon one Arm of the Black River: and 'tis by this Arm, as we were sufficiently inform'd, that one may pass into the *Riogrande*, the Mouth of which goes into the Sea at the North-Cape, near which River the Dutch have established themselves.

All these Nations make use of Bows and Arrows, the most of which they poison with the Juice of Herbs. All the Lands upon this Black River are situate very high, the Soil is very good, and if manur'd, would yield plenty of all sorts of Fruit (even such as we have in *Europe*) in some places that lie well to produce 'em. There are a great many fine and pleasant Fields all cover'd with excellent Pasturage sufficient to nourish an innumerable stock of all sorts of Cattle. There are likewise abundance of good Trees, the Timber of which is very good for all sorts of Carpenters Work, whether for Land or Water: And besides this great plenty of Wood, the Country yields very good Stones, and that in vast Quantities, fit for the noblest Buildings. The Borders of it are stor'd with all sorts of Game. Indeed it has but a few Fish in comparison with the River of *Amazons*;

zons; the reason of which is from the exceeding Clearness of the Water: But to make amends for this Defect, the Lakes which are in the Country, and pour their Waters into this River, yield the Inhabitants more Fish than they need. This River has at the Mouth of it the best Situation in the World for the making of a Fort, and plenty of Stones to build it, which would be very proper to hinder our Enemies from coming by this River to enter into the great Channel of the *Amazone*; not that I think this to be the best place of all for a Fortification for such a purpose, but rather several Leagues above this Mouth, in an Arm that goes to cast it self into the River call'd *Riogrande*, whose Mouth (as I have already said) is in the North Sea: there we might place all our Forces with the greatest Certainty of entirely stopping the Passage of our Enemies into this new World, which they so passionately desire to discover; and which they will some time or other attempt, if they are not prevented by securing this Passage. I dare not affirm that this River call'd the *Riogrande*, into which the Arm of the Black River enters, is the Smooth River, or the *Philippe*, for both enter into the Sea toward the North Cape; but by all the Observations I have made, I am very inclinable to believe that it is the River *Philippe*,



because 'tis the first considerable River that enters into the Sea beyond the Cape. But this I know for certain, that the *Riogrande* is not the River *Orenoque*, because the principal Mouth of it into the Sea is over against the Island of *La Trinidad*, which is above a hundred Leagues below the Place where the *Philippe* empties it self into the Sea. It was by this River that the Tyrant *Lopez Daguirre* pass'd into the North Sea; and seeing he made this Voyage very well, some body else may as well succeed in the same Attempt, and follow the Course which another has steer'd before him.

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#### CHAP. LXVI.

*A Mutiny happens in the Portuguez Fleet, when they see themselves so near home without having got any Treasure: they take up a Resolution to go and pillage the People upon the Black River, and to get Slaves, but are prevented by Father D' Acugna.*

**O**UR Fleet lay still at Anchor in the Mouth of the Black River on the 12th day of *October*, in the Year 1639, when the Portuguez Souldiers calling to mind that they were now almost as good as at home, and had got nothing these two Years since they went out, began to look upon the end of

of their Voyage as the greatest Misfortune that could befall them, and to tell one another, that since they had reap'd no other Advantage by all the Labour and Hardship they had pass'd through but the loss of two long Years, and the Increase of their Miseries, they ought to consider what they had to do while opportunity offer'd it self; and that it would be a ridiculous thing to expect of his Catholick Majesty the Reward of those Services they had render'd him in the Discovery of so many Countries, seeing a great many others before them, who had been prodigal of their Blood, and hazarded their Lives for the Advancement of the Grandeur of *Spain*, had for all that died upon a Dunghil, not knowing to whom to apply themselves for the Relief of their Necessities. These seditious Words being received with Applause by the greatest part of the Portuguese, they immediately resolv'd to speak their Minds to their General, and to engage him one way or other to fall in with their Designs.

No sooner had they taken up this Resolution, but they address'd themselves to him, telling him, it was needless for them to represent to him the miserable Condition they were in, since he knew it as well as themselves; that they had now been for two Years roving up and down upon these Ri-

vers, where they were every day in danger of perishing, either by Hunger or excessive Labour, or by the Arrows of the Savages; and therefore begg'd him to compassionate their Necessity, and not to take it amiss that they sought some Relief; that they were sure that only along the Black River they could get as many of those Slaves which the Indians had taken in War, as would turn to a considerable account to them; and tho they should bring nothing home from their Voyage but these Slaves, they hop'd they should not be ill receiv'd by their Friends at *Para*, but that if they should return home empty-handed, and should bring no Slaves with them after they had pass'd through so many populous Provinces, the Inhabitants of which durst come to their very Doors to make Slaves of them, they should be reckon'd the most cowardly and infamous Wretches in the World.

The General considering he was but one against a great many, and perceiving a Mutiny was already form'd in the Minds of the Souldiers, thought it not his best way to irritate them any more, but gave 'em permission to put this Enterprize in execution, seeing the Wind favour'd their Entrance into the Black River, and seem'd to invite 'em to this Project. The Portuguez were transported with Joy that they had obtain'd this Leave,  
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and there was not one amongst 'em but promis'd himself at least 300 Slaves for his share. This Resolution gave me no small Uneasiness, for I did not well know what were the General's true Sentiments of this Attempt; but I soon found both that he had Courage and a great deal of Generosity, and that he was a mortal Enemy of such Violences as the Souldiers were going to commit; for my part, by the Grace of God, I thought myself strong enough not to need fear any thing, and therefore made a firm Resolution with my self, rather to die a thousand times if it were possible, than consent to any thing that would be against the Glory of God, or against the Service of his Catholick Majesty. At the same time I went to celebrate the holy Mass, and after I had done, I retir'd with my Comrade, that we might consult together by what means to hinder so barbarous and diabolical Resolution; and we agreed to make an open Protestation against their Rashness and Disobedience.

## C H A P. LXVII.

*The Order given to the Fleet to set sail, which was done without noise. And of the River of Wood or Cayary, and the divers Nations that inhabit its Banks, from whence there is a short cut to the Mountain Potosi.*

**I** Communicated our Resolution to the General, who was very glad to find me of his Mind, but confess'd nothing could be more bold than my Protestation. However, he gave signal Proof of the greatness of his Courage on this occasion; for he caus'd the Paper containing my Protestation to be publish'd through the Fleet, at the same time commanding the Sea-men to furl the Sails, and to put all things in readiness to pass out of the Black River the next day, and to return into the *Amazon* to finish our Voyage. This Order was put in execution, for we went back the day following; and continuing our Course 40 Leagues lower on the South-side, we found the great River of *Wood*, which is a Name the Portuguez gave it when they came from *Para*, because of the vast quantity of pieces of Timber this River carried down with it: But the proper Name of it among the Indians that dwell near it is *Cayari*; it comes (as I have said) from the South-side, and, as we were told, is form'd of two great Rivers, which

which meet together some Leagues above the Mouth of it. And in all probability, seeing it was by this River that the *Toupinambous* came down into this Country, one may venture to affirm, that there is no shorter and surer way to come at the Province of *Potosi*, than by the way of this River. There are many Nations inhabiting the shores of it; the first on the side of the Mouth of it are the *Zurinas*, and the *Cyanas*, and above them are the *Urarchaus*, the *Anamavis*, the *Guarinmas*, the *Curanavis*, the *Pepunacas*, and the *Abucaris*. From the Mouth of this River as you go down the *Amazone* you meet with the *Zapusayas*, and the *Wharingas*, who are excellent Workmen in Wood: below them are the *Guaranaguacos*, the *Maraguas*, the *Guimajis*, the *Barais*, the *Punovis*, the *Orequaras*, the *Aperas*, and other Nations, of whose Names I can give no certain account.

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CHAP. LXVIII.

*Of the Island of the Toupinambous, who came out of Brazil when it was conquer'd by the Portuguez, and made themselves Masters of this Island.*

**T**Wenty eight Leagues below the River *Cayari*, as we continued our Course on the *Amazone* on the South-side, we arriv'd at

a great Island 60 Leagues in breadth, and consequently above 200 Leagues in compass. This whole Island is peopled with the valiant *Toupinambous*, who when *Brazil* was conquer'd, voluntarily exil'd themselves from their Country, choosing rather to quit all the Province of *Fernambuco* than to lose their Liberty, and to submit themselves to the severe Government of the Portuguez: They left above 84 great Villages where they had planted themselves, and came away so universally, that there was not one living Soul left in all their Houses. They took their way on the left-hand of those great Mountains call'd *Cordeliers*, which begin at the Strait of *Magellan*, and cross through all Southern *America*, from North to South. They pass'd all the Rivulets and Rivers that descend from those Mountains to discharge themselves into the Ocean. Some of 'em came as far as *Peru*, and dwelt with the Spaniards towards the Source of the River *Cayari*: they continued with 'em some time; but a Spaniard having caus'd one of 'em to be whipp'd for killing a Cow, they could not put up this Injury, but resolv'd all to be gone; and making use of the Advantage of the River, they all embark'd in their Canoos and went down it as far as this great Island, where they now dwell. They speak the general Language of *Brazil*, which extends through

through all the Country that the Portuguez have conquer'd as far as *Maragnon* and *Para*: They told us, that when their Fathers left *Brazil*, not knowing how to get Sustainance all together in the Desarts through which they were to pass, they were constrain'd during a March of above 900 Leagues to separate by reason of their multitude, so that some went one way, and some another; and by this means all the Mountains of *Peru* call'd the *Cordeliers* are peopled with the *Toupinambous*. This is a very brave and valiant Nation of Indians, as they made themselves appear to be to the People whom they found in this Island, where they are at present establish'd. For in all appearance these *Toupinambous* were very few in comparison of the Inhabitants of this Island when they arriv'd there, yet 'tis certain they so often beat, and so entirely subdued all those they fought with, that after they had destroy'd whole Nations, they forc'd the rest to leave their Native Country in fear, and to go and plant themselves in very distant Regions. These Warlike Savages use Bows and Arrows with great dexterity, and have so noble a Courage, and Greatness of Mind, that in these Qualities they seem not to come behind the most accomplish'd Nations in *Europe*. But tho almost all of 'em are but the Children or Grandchildren of those that came from *Brazil* into  
this



this Island, yet it is to be observ'd that they begin to degenerate from their Ancestors, by the Alliances they contract with those of this Country, and by their accustoming themselves to the manner of living us'd by the original Inhabitants. They all receiv'd us with Demonstrations of extraordinary Joy; and let us know, that they thought to resolve in a little time to enter into a Treaty with us, and to put themselves in the number of the Allies and Friends of the People of *Para*. This Declaration of theirs pleas'd me very much, and made me hope that no small Advantages would accrue to our Nation by it: For if these valiant People once become of our Party, it must needs be an easy matter for us to bring all the other Nations of the River of *Amazons* to reasonable Terms, since there is none of 'em but tremble at the very Name of the *Toupinambous*.

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#### CHAP. LXIX.

*Of the Ingenuity of the Toupinambous; of their Language; and the Account we received of the Salt-Pits in Peru.*

**T**Hese *Toupinambous* are a very ingenious and intelligent People; and having no need of Interpreters to treat with them, because

because (as I have said) they speak the general Language of *Brazil*, which many of our Portuguez, that have been born and bred there, speak as well as they, we had the Advantage of a very particular Account of divers things, which I am going to relate, and which may be believed on their Report, because they are a People that have rov'd abroad, and subjected all the neighbouring Countries to their Power. They told us, that on the South-side near their Island there are two Nations among others upon the Continent that are very remarkable; one of 'em are Dwarfs as small as little Children, and are called *Guayazis*, the other is a Race of People that come into the World with their Feet turn'd behind 'em, so that those that are unacquainted with their monstrous Shape, and should follow their Track, would run from 'em instead of overtaking 'em; they are called *Matayus*, and are tributary to the *Toupinambous*, whom they are obliged to furnish with Hatchets made of Stone to fell great Trees with, when they have a mind to clear a Piece of Ground; for they frame these Hatchets very neatly, and 'tis their whole business to make of 'em. They told us moreover, that on the other side of the River, that is Northward, there are seven Provinces adjoining one to another, which are very populous; but because they are a People

ple but of mean Courage and Strength, and only feed upon Fruits and some small wild Animals, without ever fighting one with another when they are angry, or ever taking up Arms to defend themselves from other Nations, they are of no account in the Country. They further told us, that themselves had been a long time at Peace with another Nation, whose Confines extend to those we have just spoken of, and had a regular Trade with 'em for all Commodities, wherewith either Countrey abounded; and that the principal thing they had from this People was Salt, for which they gave 'em other things in exchange; and that this Salt came from a Place not far distant from 'em. If this be true, these Salt-pits would be of great advantage to the Spaniards, and would serve 'em not only for those parts of the Countrey that are conquer'd, but also for the more commodious establishing of Colonies on the Banks of this great River. But if there should be nothing in this Story on this side, it is not to be doubted but Salt is to be found in great abundance along those Rivers that come down on the side of *Pera*; because in the Year 1631, when I was in the City of *Lima*, two Men went from thence at two different times to seek some, and came back with as much as they could carry: they told us they came to a certain Place, where they  
went

went on one of the Rivers (in all appearance one of those lesser Rivers that form that great one, which falls into the *Amazone*) and arrived at a Mountain all of Salt, of which the Inhabitants made great advantage, being become very rich by the Traffick they had in exchange for it from those Indians that came a great way to buy it; not that it is any strange thing in *Pera*, and in all the Mountains, to see Rocks of Salt-stones, the Salt of which is very good; for no other is made use of in all that Countrey: 'Tis got out of the Rock with Iron Instruments in great pieces, each of which weigh 5 or 6 \* *Arobas*. This Province of the *Toupinambous* is sixty six Leagues in length, and ends with a great Town situated at the Latitude of 3 Degrees, as is also the first Town of the Indian *Aguas*, of which we have spoken before.

\* The *Aroba* is a Weight of 25 Pounds, as the *Quintal* is of a 100 Pounds.

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CHAP. LXX.

*Of the Amazons, an Account of their Manners and Customs.*

THESE *Toupinambous* likewise confirm'd the Report which is spread throughout this great River of the Renown'd *Amazons*, from whence it borrows its true Name, by

by which it has been known from the very first Discovery of it to this day, not only by those who have navigated it, but also by all Cosmographers who have given any good account of it. It would be very strange if the Name of *Amazon* should have been impos'd on this River without any reasonable Ground; and that tho it well deserves a Name that might render it famous, it should only be known by a fabulous one: This does not seem at all probable that such a River as this, that possesses so many Advantages above all others, should have deriv'd its Glory from a Title that does not belong to it; like what we see in some Men, who when they have not Vertue enough to obtain the Glory they desire by their own Merit, are so mean spirited and disingenuous to deck themselves with the advantageous Qualities of others: But the Proofs that give assurance that there is a Province of *Amazons* on the Banks of this River, are so strong and convincing, that it would be a renouncing of moral Certainty to scruple the giving credit to it. I don't build upon the solemn Examinations made by the Authority of the Sovereign Court of *Quito*, in which many Witnesses have been heard that have been born in those Parts, and liv'd there a long time; and of all things contain'd in their Frontier Countries, one of the principal which is particularly affirm'd  
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by 'em is, that one of those Provinces near our River is peopled with a sort of warlike Women, who live together, and maintain their Government alone, without the Company of Men; that at a certain Season of the Year they seek the Society of Men in order to perpetuate their Race; but at all other times live together in their Towns, and employ themselves in manuring the Ground, from which with hard Labour they procure all Necessaries for the Support and Comfort of Life. Nor will I insist on other Informations that have been made in the new Kingdom of *Granada*, at the Royal Seat of the City of *Pasto*, where several Indians were examined, and particularly one Indian Woman, who affirm'd that she had been in the very Countrey which these valiant Women inhabit, and whose Account was in every respect conformable to what had been before asserted in the foregoing Relations: but I can't conceal what I have heard with my own Ears, and the Truth of which I have been enquiring after from my first embarking on the *Amazone*; and I must say I have been inform'd at all the Indian Towns where I have been, that there are such Women in the Countrey as I have above described; and every one that gave me an account of 'em did it by Characters so exactly agreeing with the rest, that if there be no-

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thing

thing in it, it must needs be said that the greatest Lie in the World passes throughout all *America* for one of the most certain Historical Truths. However we had the clearest Information of the Province where these Women dwell, of their singular Customs, of the Indians that correspond with them, of the Ways into their Country, and of those Indians with whom they converse to prevent the Extinction of their Race in the last Village, which makes the Frontier Town between them and the *Toupinambous*.

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CHAP. LXXI.

*The best Account of the Amazons of America.*

Thirty six Leagues below this utmost Village of the *Toupinambous*, as you go down our Great River, you meet with another on the North-side, which comes from the very Province of the *Amazons*, and is known among the People of the Country by the Name of *Cunuris*. This River bears the Name of those Indians that dwell nearest to the Mouth of it: Above these first People higher up the River *Cunuris* you meet with other Indians call'd *Apotos*, that speak the general Language of *Brazil*; higher still you find the *Tagaris*, and lastly the *Guacaras*, who are the People that have  
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the Privilege to converse with these valiant Women, and enjoy their Favours. They dwell upon huge Mountains, that are prodigiously high, among which there is one that lifts its Head a great Height above all the rest, which is so buffeted with Winds, that it is quite barren, and looks very bare; the Name of it is *Tacamiaba*. These Women (as has been said) are very couragious, and have always maintain'd themselves alone without the help and assistance of Men; and when their Neighbours come into their Countrey at a time concerted with them, they receive 'em with their Weapons in their Hands, which are Bows and Arrows, and which they exercise as if they were going against their Enemies; but knowing well that the others don't come to fight, but are their Friends, they lay down their Arms, and all run into the Canoos or other little Vessels of these Indians, and each *Amazone* takes the Hammock (a Cotton Bed they hang up to sleep in) which she finds next at hand; this she carries home, and hangs up in a Place, where the Owner of it may know it again when he comes; after which she receives him as her Guest, and treats him those few days they continue together. These Indians afterward return to their own Dwellings, and never fail to make this Voyage every Year at the appointed time. The



Girls which they bear are brought up by their Mothers, and instructed in the use of Arms, as well as inur'd to Labour, as if they were ambitious to advance the wonted Valour of their Predecessors still to a greater Height. As for the Male-Children, 'tis not certain what they do with 'em: I saw an Indian who told me, that when he was a Child he was with his Father at such an Interview, and assured me, that they gave the Male-Children to their Fathers the next time they came after their Birth. But the common Report is, that they kill all their Males as soon as they are born: and this is generally suppos'd to be the truest Account. Time will discover the Truth of this Matter. 'Tis certain they have Treasures in their Country, enough to enrich the whole World: The Mouth of this River, upon the Banks of which the *Amazons* dwell, is at the Latitude of two Degrees and a half.

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#### CHAP. LXXII.

*Of the River Vexamina, and the Strait of the Amazone, where it is but a quarter of a League in breadth.*

**A**fter having cross'd the Mouth of the true River of *Amazons*, we came down 24 Leagues more upon our great River

ver, and on the same North-side found another small River call'd *Vexamina*, which enters into the *Amazone* just at the place wher, this great and spacious River grows narrow and is so shut up by the Land, that it contracts it self into the space of a little more than a quarter of a League. The Situation is extremely favourable for the building of two Forts on the two Banks of our incomparable River, which would not only obstruct the Passage of an Enemy that should come up this River from the Sea, but would also serve for Custom-houses for the Entry of every thing that should be carried down from *Peru* this way, if this River should ever be inhabited and stock'd with the People of our Nation. Tho this Strait is at 360 Leagues distance from the Sea, yet the flowing and ebbing of Tides are perceiv'd here; for the River is seen to increase and diminish every day, altho not so sensibly as some Leagues below.

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## C H A P. LXXIII.

*The River of the Tapajotos; their Courage, their poison'd Arrows, and the manner of their treating the Portuguez Fleet.*

**F**OUR Leagues below this Strait, on the South-side, is the Mouth of the great and noble River of the *Tapajotos*, which borrows its Name from that of the Inhabitants of the Province which it waters. This Country is well stock'd with Indians; the Land of it is very good, and abounds with all sorts of Provision: These *Tapajotos* are a courageous People, and are dreaded by all the Nations that dwell near 'em, because they inveniome their Arrows with so subtile a Poison, that they kill those they wound, there being no Remedy found powerful enough to resist their Venom. This was the only Reason why the Portuguez themselves were so long their Neighbours without having any Commerce or Alliance with them, tho they were very desirous of obtaining their Friendship; but when they would have obliged 'em to quit their Country, and to come and inhabit the Places which the Portuguez had conquer'd, the *Tapajotos* would never give their Consent to it, because nothing in the World touches 'em more sensibly, than to talk to 'em

'em of leaving their native Country. Not but that they received our Men very kindly, and with a great deal of Joy, when they landed in their Country: We had large Experience of their Kindness when we lodged at one of their great Towns, which contain'd above 500 Families, where for a whole day they were continually coming to visit us, bringing us Hens, Ducks, Fish, Meal, Fruits, and all other things we wanted, with so much Freedom and Confidence in us, that the Women and Children did not care to go out of our sight: Nay they frankly told us, that if the Portuguez would let them alone to enjoy their own Houses, they should come if they pleas'd, with all their Hearts, to dwell amongst 'em; and that they would receive 'em, and serve 'em as their best Friends as long as they liv'd.

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C H A P. LXXIV.

*The ill Treatment these People receiv'd from the Portuguez at this time.*

**A**LL the Civilities of the *Tapajotos* were not sufficient to touch the Minds of People that mind nothing but Self-interest, and the Gratification of their covetous Humour, such as those that go to conquer these Countries, proposing nothing to themselves  
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in so long and difficult an Enterprize, but to get a great number of Slaves to sell, or truck for other Goods; who therefore had scarce Patience to hear the Proposals of these poor People, much less so much Justice as to treat 'em with Civility and Reason; but having got a Notion that these People had abundance of Slaves to wait on 'em, began to treat 'em as Rebels, to commit great Outrages upon 'em, and to menace 'em with a cruel War. All things were in this posture when we arrived at the Fort of the Portuguez call'd *Destierro*, that is [*the Fort of Banishment*] where their Troops were coming together to put in execution this barbarous Design. I not being able wholly to hinder it, however endeavour'd by the best Methods I could take, at least to suspend the execution of it for a little time, till I could give the Governour of *Para* advice of it. He that was to command in this Expedition was *Benoise Muziel*, the Governour of *Para*'s Son, who was constituted in the Office of Serjeant Major of the State. He gave me his Word that he would not advance to put his Enterprize in execution till he had received fresh Orders from his Father. But I had scarce left him before he embark'd as many Souldiers as he could in a Brigantine arm'd with Pieces of Canon, and in other less Vessels, with which he came suddenly upon 'em to surprize 'em.

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These poor People immediately accepted Peace, with a thousand Testimonies of their good Affection to the Portuguez; and when they had submitted their Persons to their pleasure, *Maziel* commanded 'em to bring him all the poison'd Arrows they had, which was what they most fear'd: These poor Wretches presently obey'd, and they were no sooner disarm'd but the Portuguez made 'em all come together, and inclos'd 'em like Sheep in a Fold, securing 'em with a strong Guard; and immediately let loose a great many Indians of their own Company, whom they brought with 'em, who for doing of Mischief are like so many unchain'd Devils; and these in a very little time sack'd this whole Town, so that they spoil'd and broke every thing in it; they seiz'd all the Daughters and Wives of these miserable Creatures, and committed such abominable Violences before their Eyes, that one of the Company that gave me an account of this Action, protested to me, that he had rather never have any Slaves, than to procure 'em at this rate; and that he would sooner leave all those he had in possession, than see such Cruelties committed again.

## C H A P. LXXV.

*That such kind of Treatment makes these People hate the Europeans, and that they have as much Subtlety as Courage to defend themselves.*

**T**HE Inhumanity of the Portuguez did not stop here; for they having no other design than that of procuring Slaves, were not satisfied in having the Masters in possession: therefore they endeavour'd to affright these poor Indians, whom they kept under Guard, with terrible Menaces, and made 'em tremble at the thoughts of the new Cruelties they said they would exercise on 'em, if they would not give 'em Slaves; and on the other hand promis'd them, that if they would, they should not only have their full Liberty, but they would consider 'em as their best Friends; and besides, would give 'em as many Iron Tools and Cotton Clothes in exchange for 'em, as should fully satisfy 'em. What could these poor Creatures do more than abandon themselves to the Discretion of their Enemies? They saw they were in their hands, depriv'd of their Arms, their Houses plunder'd, their Wives and Daughters ravish'd. They therefore offer'd to procure 'em a thousand Slaves, and sent some of  
their

their Company to get 'em together ; but these poor Wretches were fled away to secure themselves while the Town was pillaging ; therefore they could not possibly get above two hundred : These they deliver'd to the Portuguez, and promising to procure all the rest for which they had engag'd, were set at liberty. In the Condition these poor Creatures were, they would have given their very Children for Slaves, to come to a Composition with their Enemies, as they have frequently done. The Portuguez put all these Slaves in a Vessel, and sent 'em to *Maragnon* and *Para*. This I assert as a thing I saw with my own Eyes : This Prey was very grateful to the *Portuguez* ; and their Success in this Expedition so encouraged 'em, and excited their Avarice, that they soon made preparation to go and seek a greater Booty of this kind in another Province more remote upon this great River. 'Tis not to be doubted but they exercis'd still greater Cruelties, because in these Expeditions there go very few that have any Honour or Conscience, who might be capable of assisting him that commands, to restrain the Souldiers Barbarities. These things must needs enrage all the Inhabitants of this River against the Name of the Portuguez. And I doubt not that when an Attempt shall be made to pacify the Com-motions, and allay the Hatred these Violences have



have caus'd among those People, it will be found a matter of that great difficulty that 'twill scarce ever be accomplish'd; whereas in the State we left these People upon the River when we pass'd by their Countries, nothing could have been more easy than to have made a General Peace with them. These are the Conquests of *Brazil* so much talk'd of, and this is the Traffick the Souldiers live upon: and let me add, this is the true and just Cause for which God punishes these miserable Souldiers to that degree, that they are perpetually in War and Trouble, and have scarce Bread to eat. And I believe, if it were not that God in some sort makes use of 'em to accomplish his Designs upon the Indians, and that they are continually engag'd in War against the Dutch, and have already obtain'd several Victories over those \* Hereticks; if it were not, I say, for these things, I believe  
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\* Note, That this Discovery was made at a time when the Portuguez were continually driving the Dutch from one Garison or another in *Brazil*, of which they had possess'd themselves not long before; and the Conquest the Dutch made of this Country was the occasion of the Establishment of the *West-India* Company in *Holland*, as well for the carrying on of Trade in this part of *America* which the Portuguez possess'd, as for the compleating of the Conquest of it. But 'tis now above 30 Years since they have had any thing beyond the Line. On this side of the Line they yet possess *Surinam* on the Continent, and the Island of *Corassol*, or *Curacao*; and they have still a great many strong Places on the Western Coast of *Africa*; and several Factories in divers places on that Coast.

our Lord *Jesus Christ* would have long since extirpated such cruel and abominable Conquerors. But to return to the *Tapajotos*, and the famous River upon the Banks of which they dwell; I say, the bottom of this River is very good, so that a great English Vessel some Years ago went a considerable way up it, with a design to make Plantations in this Province, and to settle the Trade of Tobacco with the People of the Country, to which end they offer'd 'em very advantagious Terms: but the *Tapajotos* would accept of none, but surpriz'd the English unawares, and kill'd all they could come at after they had seiz'd their Arms, which they keep to this day. Thus they made the rest leave the Country in more haste than they come to it; for they escap'd in their Vessel, and by setting Sail with all speed avoided such another Rencounter, which would have destroy'd 'em all.

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## C H A P. LXXVI.

*Of the River Curupatuba, and the Account we receiv'd of Mountains of Gold, Silver, Azure, and precious Stones, among the Inhabitants of this River.*

**A**Bout forty Leagues below the Mouth of the River of the *Tapajotos* we met with the River *Curupatuba*, which comes down on the North-side of the *Amazone*, and gives its Name to the first Indian Town that is at Peace with the Portuguez, and under the Protection of their King. This River is not very big, but very wealthy, if the Natives are to be believ'd, who assure us, that at the end of six days Voyage up the Stream of it, there is a little Rivulet, in the Sand and Banks of which there is a great quantity of Gold found below the place where it washes the foot of an indifferently large Mountain called *Yuquaratinci*. The Indians moreover told us, that near this River there is another place call'd *Picari*, from whence they have often taken a sort of Metal harder than Gold, but very white (without doubt they mean Silver) with which they were wont formerly to make Hatchets  
and

and Knives; but finding the Tools made of this Metal were apt to have their Edg turn'd when any Strefs was put to 'em, they did not make any account of 'em. They further gave us an account, That near the Strait I have spoken of, there are two Hills, one of which by the Signs they gave of it, is in all probability a Hill of *Azure*; and it seems the other, which they call *Penagara*, when the Sun shines, or when the Nights are clear and bright, glitters and sparkles as if it were full of rich Diamonds. They assur'd us that horrible Noises were heard in it from time to time, which is a certain sign that this Mountain contains Stones of a great Value in its Entrails.

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CHAP. LXXVII.

*Of the River Ginipape, which has Treasures of Gold in its Banks, and is famous for a good Soil for Tobacco, and Sugar-Canes.*

**T**HE River *Ginipape* which comes down on the North-side, and enters into the *Amazone* 60 Leagues below the Villages of *Curupatuba*, promises as great Treasures and as rich Mountains as those of which we have

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just now spoken. The Indians assure us of so much Gold along the Banks of it, that if it be according to their Relation, this one River possesses more Riches than are in all *Peru*. The Lands this River waters are of the Government of *Maragnon*, which is in the hands of *Benedito Maziel*: And without counting the great Extent of this Country, which alone is larger than all *Spain* join'd together, and that it contains several Mines of which we have very certain knowledg; I shall only say that generally the Ground of it is of the best kind for the Production of all sorts of Grain and Fruit, and what may turn to the Account of those that inhabit it, that is to be found in all the vast Extent of the great River of *Amazons*. This Country is situate on the North-side, and comprehends several great Provinces of Savages. But that which is yet more considerable is, that in this Country are those Fields so famous for the Production of prodigious quantities of *Tucui*. Our Enemies the Dutch have given a Reputation to these Lands, and have often found by Experience, not only the Goodness and Fertility of the Soil, but also the vast Profits with which this alone is capable of enriching its Inhabitants: Therefore they could never forget this sweet place, but have made Plantations there several times, tho' to their Damage

Image and Sorrow, because they have been always forc'd out of 'em by the Portuguez. Therefore 'tis worth Consideration, that this Place is very good to make great Plantations of Tobacco, and that there's no part of all the Countries that have been discover'd that is better for the planting of Canes, and for making of Sugar. This Soil returns all the Cultivation that is bestow'd upon it with Usury, and produces all sorts of Provision in extraordinary plenty: There are very fine pieces of Pasture-ground, which in their vast Extent would feed an infinite number of all sorts of Cattle. Six Leagues above the place where this River empties it self into the *Amazone*, the Portuguez had a Fort which they call'd *Del Dostierro*, that is [*The Fort of Banishment*] kept only by thirty Souldiers, and some pieces of Artillery, which was of more use to keep the Indians that are reduc'd under the Power of the Portuguez, in Fear and Subjection, and to maintain the Authority of the Governor, than to secure the River and obstruct the Passage of an Enemy. This Fort has been since demolish'd by *Benediro Maziel* with the Consent of the Governor of *Curupa*, which is thirty Leagues lower down the River: But it is to be remark'd, that it was situate in a place of some Consideration, seeing

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their Enemies Vessels were oblig'd to pay  
Custom for their Passage that way.

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C H A P. LXXVIII.

*Of the River Paranaiba.*

TEN Leagues below the River *Gini-*  
*pape* on the South-side is a fine, large  
and noble River that comes to render Ho-  
mage to the *Amazone*, into which it dis-  
charges it self by a Mouth two Leagues  
wide. The People of the Country call it  
*Paranaiba*; there are upon the Banks of it  
some Villages of Indians that are at Peace  
with the Portuguez, and that have settled  
themselves upon the Mouth of this River,  
in Obedience to the Orders of the Governor  
of this Province. There are many other  
Nations further up in the Country, but we  
could not have any satisfactory Account of  
'em any more than of divers other things  
upon this great River.

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C H A P.

C H A P. LXXIX.

*A farther Account of the River of Amazons:  
Of the multitude of Islands near the Mouth  
of it, inhabited by an infinite Number of  
People of different Nations.*

**T**WO Leagues below the River *Gini-*  
*pape*, of which I have given some ac-  
count in the 77th Chapter, our River of  
*Amazons* begins to divide it self into divers  
great Arms, which form that great Number  
of Islands that seem to float upon its Waters,  
till it enters into the Sea. These Islands are  
inhabited by Nations that differ one from  
another, both in their Languages and Cus-  
toms. Not but that most of 'em understand  
the Language of *Brazil* very well, which is  
the general Tongue in those Parts. The  
Number of these Islands is so great, and the  
People that dwell in 'em so different, that 'tis  
not possible for me to give a particular Ac-  
count of what is observable amongst 'em,  
without composing another Volume. How-  
ever I'll name some of the most considerable  
and best known amongst 'em, as the *Tapuyas*,  
and



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and the valiant *Pacaxas*, which last dwell on the side of a River (the Name of which they bear) that enters into the *Amazone* eighty Leagues above the River *Paranaiba*, and upon the Bank of this last River too. These Islands are so well peopled, that there's no end of the number of the Inhabitants of 'em, nor indeed of their Villages; insomuch that some of the Portuguez assur'd me, they had seen no Countries better stock'd with People through the whole Extent of the *Amazone*.

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C H A P. LXXX.

*Of the Town of Commuta.*

**F**Orty Leagues below the *Pacaxas* lies the Town of *Commuta*, which formerly was much noted not only for the multitude of its Inhabitants, but likewise because it us'd to be the place of rendezvous, where the Indians assembled their Armies when they were about to make any Incursions upon their Enemies: But since *Brazil* has been conquer'd, it is almost uninhabited, the People being retir'd into  
other

other Parts ; so that Provision is scarce there, only for lack of a little Care and Pains to manure the Ground, which still retains its former Fruitfulness; and that's all that remains there, unless it be a small number of the Natives: Tho 'tis the most lovely Situation to dwell in, and has the most agreeable Prospect in the World, so that it would continually furnish those that should settle in it with all the Conveniences and Pleasures of Life.

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CHAP. LXXXI.

*Of the River of the Tocantins, and of a French Man that sail'd into this Country to fetch the Sand of it.*

**B**Ehind the Town of *Commata* passes the River of the *Tocantins*, to throw it self into the *Amazone*, and has the Reputation in this Country of being very rich, and that not without good reason in all appearance: yet the Worth of it has not been yet known by any, but only by one French Man, who was wont to come ashore upon the Banks of it every Year, and return'd with his Vessels loaded only with the Earth, out of

of which, by refining, he got a quantity of Gold. 'Tis said he enrich'd himself with this Trade, without ever daring to let the Natives know the Value of the Earth he carried away, for fear they should become his Enemies, when they came to know what Riches were in their Sand: and so should take up Arms against him to hinder him from transporting this Commodity as he was wont to do. Some Portuguez Souldiers going from *Phernambuc* some Years ago, with a Priest in their Company, past over all the *Cordelier* Mountains, and arriv'd at the Source of the River of the *Tocantins*, with a design to make some new Discovery, and to seek for some Golden Mountains; and having a mind to know this River, and to go down quite to its Mouth, were so unhappy as to fall into the hands of the *Tocantins*, who kill'd 'em every one. And 'tis not long since the Chalice was found in the hands of these Indians, with which the good Priest celebrated Mass during his Travels.

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C H A P. LXXXII.

*Of the Fort of Para which is in the hands of the Portugeze, and of the Island du Soleil, or of the Sun, and the Commodiousness of it for Plantations.*

**T**HE Great Fort of *Para* is built Thirty Leagues below *Commata*, it belongs to the *Portugeze*, and is under the command of a Governor, who has the oversight of all other Officers of Garrisons belonging to this Government; he has for his Garrison ordinarily Three Companies of Foot, under the Command of as many Captains, who are oblig'd to be always ready at hand for the preservation and defence of this Fort; but the Officers as well as the Governor of the Place, are under the Jurisdiction of the Governor of *Maragnon*, and are absolutely to obey his Orders. The Government of *Maragnon* is at above 130 Leagues distance from *Para* down along the River, and then up towards *Brezil*, which occasions great inconveniencies in the Conduct of Affairs in relation to the Government of *Para*. And if we should ever be so happy

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py as to plant this River with our People, it will be necessary to make the Governor of *Para* Independant, and Absolute, as the Person who possesses the Keys of the whole Country. Not that the place where the Fort of *Para* is now Situated, is the best that can be chosen in the Opinion of many Persons of good Judgment; but if this Discovery be further Improv'd and Advanc'd; it will be an easie matter to change it; and I don't find any place more proper for it than the Island *du Soleil* which is Fourteen Leagues below the Mouth of the River: This is doubtless the place to be absolutely fix'd on, not only because it affords abundance of Advantages for the Accomodation of Life, the Ground being extraordinarily Fertile, and capable of maintaining as many People as one can desire to settle there; but also for the convenient harbouring of Vessels: 'Tis a great Harbour shelter'd from all sorts of bad Winds, in which Ships may ride with great Safety, and when they have a mind to Sail, they need only wait for the full of the Moon, at which time the Sea is higher than ordinary, and they may pass over all the Sands, which renders the entrance of  
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this River difficult ; which is none of the least Conveniencies. This Island is above Ten Leagues in Compass ; there is very good Water in it, and abundance of both Sea and River-Fish, there is an infinite number of Crabs, which are the ordinary Food of the *Indians*, and other poor People ; and is now the main support of *Para* ; for there is no Isle all there about, wherein they go more a Hunting for the Subsistence of the Garrison, and Inhabitants of it, than in this.

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C H A P. LXXXIII.

*Of the Mouth of the River of Amazons, Eighty Leagues in Breadth, joyning to the North-Cape on one side, and to the Coasts of Brezil on the other.*

**T**WENTY Six Leagues below the Island of the Sun directly under the Line, this great River of *Amazons* is 84 Leagues wide, bounded on the South-side by *Zaparara*, and on the other side by the *North-Cape*, and here at last discharges it self into the Ocean. It may be said to be a Sea of Fresh-Water, mixing it self with the Salt-Water-Sea. 'Tis the No-

blest and Largest River in the whole known World. This is the River otherwise call'd *Oreillane*, and by some *Maragnon*, so often desir'd, and so much sought after, and so often miss'd by the *Spaniards* of *Peru*; and here at Length it flows into the Sea, after it has water'd a Country of 1276 Leagues in Length, after it has furnished a multitude of Nations with its Fruitfulness and Plenty; and in a word after it has divided *America* into Two Parts, almost in the widest Place of it; and furnish'd the Natives with a great Channel into which the Best, the Richest and most Pleasant Rivers, that come down from all the Mountains and Coasts of the New World discharge their Waters. And 'tis farther remarkable, that against the Mouth of it, for above 30 Leagues at Sea, you may take up Fresh Water during the Ebb of the Tide, which is an extraordinary refreshment to those Ships especially that, in coming from *Europe*, have Sail'd 2000 Leagues before they Arrive here.

Thus in short I have given a Relation of an ample Discovery of this great River. Which tho' it possesses so great Treasures, yet excludes no Nation in the World from 'em, but on the contrary,  
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invites all sorts of People to reap the Profits of the Riches with which it so abounds. It offers to the Poor a plentiful Maintenance, to the Labourer the Liberal Recompence of his Toil; to the Merchant a Profitable Trade; to the Soldier an Occasion of Signalizing himself; to the Rich an Improvement of their Wealth; to Gentlemen Honorable Employments; to Noblemen Large Provinces; and to Kings themselves Empires, and a New World. But those who of all others are call'd upon to promote such new Conquests, and ought to be most heartily concern'd in 'em, are such as with the greatest Affection, seek the Advancement of the Glory of God, and are Zealously bent to design the Salvation of the Souls of an Innumerable Multitude of Idolatrous and Heathenish *Indians*, who want the Help and Light the Faithful Ministers of the Gospel should furnish them withal, to dispel the shadows of Sin and Death, with which those poor Wretches have been so long benighted. And let none Excuse themselves from an Attempt of this kind: Here's Work enough to employ every one of us, and how great a Number of Labourers should devote themselves



to it, there will still be more wanting for so great a Harvest. This New Vine-yard will still want more hands to Cultivate and Dress it, how able and how fervent soever they should prove, who shall be engag'd in this Service, But it is rather to be wish'd than expected, that we shall ever see this New World Subjected to the Keys of the Church of *Rome*. I hope all the Illustrious Catholick Princes of *Christendom*, (to whom may it please the Almighty to grant many and happy Years,) will each of 'em be inspir'd from Heaven with Zeal for so Holy an Enteprize as the Conquest of Souls; some by their wonted Liberalities, for the Maintenance and Subsistence of Priests and Ministers of the Gospel, and others by their care to provide and convey Clergymen into those Countries: And all of 'em have reason to esteem it a great happiness for them that in the Age wnerin they live, this difficult and troublesom way should be open'd, to bring more Nations, and those more populous at once into the Bosom of the Church, than all the rest that have been hitherto discover'd in the whole New World.

CHAP.

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C H A P. LXXXIV.

*A Computation of the Longitudes, Latitudes, and Distances of Places upon this Great River.*

FROM the Mouth of *Napo*, which is on the South of the *Amazone*, to *Anete*, are Forty seven Leagues. *Anete* is under the Line, on the South-side of this great River.

From *Anete* to the *Aguarico*, Eighteen Leagues. The Mouth of this River, is on the North-side of the *Amazone* and under the Line also.

From the *Aguarico* to the *Chevelus* Twenty Leagues. The Mouth of this River is, also on the North of the *Amazone*, and declines a little from the Line towards the South.

From the *Chevelus* to the *Curaray*, Forty Leagues. The Mouth of this River is on the South of the *Amazone*, in the Second Degree of Southern Latitude.

From the *Curaray* to the *Maragnon*, Eighty Leagues. The Mouth of this River is on the South of the *Amazone*, having Four Degrees of Southern Latitude,

and Three Hundred and Seven Degrees and Fifty Minutes of Longitude.

From the *Maragnon* to the beginning of the Province of the *Omaquas*, Sixty Leagues. All this Province consists in great Islands.

From the beginning of this Province to a certain great Habitation of the same, One Hundred and Nineteen Leagues. This is an Isle, on the South-side of the Channel of the *Amazon*, having three Degrees of Southern Latitude, and Three hundred and twelve Degrees, and Fifty five Minutes of Longitude.

From this Habitation to the *Putomayo*, Seventeen Leagues. The Mouth of this River is on the North-side of the great *Amazon*.

From the *Putomayo* to the *Yetau*, Fifty Leagues. The Mouth of this River is on the South-side of the *Amazon*, and hath Three Degrees Thirty Minutes of Southern Latitude.

From the *Yetau* to the end of the Province of the *Omaquas*, Fourteen Leagues. In this place there is a great and puissant Habitation in an Isle.

From the end of this Province to the *Cuzco*, Twenty five Leagues. The Mouth of this River is on the South-side of the  
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the *Amazone* having Five Degrees of Southern Latitude, and Three Hundred Fifteen Degrees, and Fifty Minutes of Longitude.

From the *Cuzco* to the *Village of Gold*, Twenty eight leagues. This place is on the South-bank of the Channel of the great *Amazone*.

From the *Village of Gold* to the *Yupura*, Fourteen Leagues. The Mouth of this River is on the North-side of the *Amazone*, and hath Three Degrees of Southern Latitude.

From the *Yupura* to the *Tapi*, Four Leagues. The Mouth of this River is on the South-side of the *Amazone*.

From the *Tapi* to the *Catua*, Twenty five Leagues. The Mouth of this River is on the South-side of *Amazone*, and towards the *Green Lake*, which is formed by the great *Amazone*.

From the *Catua* and the *Green Lake* to the First Mouth of the *Araganatuba*, Six Leagues. This is on the North-side of the *Amazone*.

From the First Mouth to the Second of the *Araganatuba*, Sixteen Leagues, on the North-side of the *Amazone*.

From

From the Second Mouth of the *Araganatuba* to the end of the Province of *Curusiraris*, Twenty two Leagues. All this Province is on the South of the great River.

From the end of *Curusiraris* to the beginning of the Province of *Yoriman*, Two Leagues, on the South-side of the *Amazon*.

From the beginning of *Yoriman* to a great and very long Habitation, Twenty three Leagues, on the South of the River to Four Degrees of that Latitude, and Three hundred nineteen Degrees, and Thirty Minutes of Longitude.

From this long Habitation to the Isle *Yoriman*, Thirty two Leagues. On the South-bank side of the *Amazon*.

From this Isle to the end of the Province of *Yoriman*, Ten Leagues; on the South-side of the *Amazon*.

From the end of *Yoriman* to the *Cuchiguara* Two Leagues. The Mouth of this River is also on the South of the *Amazon*.

From the *Cuchiguara* to the *Basurura* Thirty two Leagues. The Mouth of this River is on the North-side of the *Amazon*, and hath Four Degrees, Thirty Minutes, of Southern Latitude.

From

From the *Basurura* to the *Rio Negro*, or *Black River*, Thirty Leagues. The Mouth of this River is also on the North-side of the *Amazone*, having Four Degrees of Southern Latitude, and Three Hundred Twenty Two Degrees, and Twenty Minutes of Longitude.

From *Rio-Negro* unto the *Moderá* are Four Leagues; the Mouth of this River being on the South of the *Amazone*.

From the *Moderá* to the beginning of the Isle *Topinambas* Twenty Eight Leagues. This great Isle is in the River of the *Amazons*, towards the South-side.

From the beginning to the end of this Isle, Sixty two Leagues. In this place is a Great and Puissant Habitation of the *Topinambi* having Three Degrees of Southern Latitude, and Three Hundred twenty seven Degrees, Thirty Minutes of Longitude.

From the end of *Topinambas* to the *Cunuris*, Thirty Leagues; the Mouth of which River is to the North of the *Amozone*.

From

From the *Cunuris* to the *Bosphore* of the *Amazone*, Twenty four Leagues. This Strait hath Two Degrees and Forty Minutes of Southern Latitude; and Three hundred and twenty eight Degrees, and Fifty Minutes in Longitude.

From the *Bosphore* to the *Tapajosos*, Forty Leagues; the Mouth of which River is on the South-side of the great *Amazone*.

From the *Tapajosos* to the *Curupatuba*, Forty Leagues; the Mouth of which River is on the North-side of the great *Amazone*.

From the *Curupatuba* to the Fort of *Destierro*, Fifty four Leagues; which Fort is also on the North-side of the great River.

From the foresaid Fort to the *Ginipape*, Six Leagues; the Mouth of which River is on the North-side also, having Two Degrees of Southern Latitude, and Three hundred thirty one Degrees and Fifty Minutes of Longitude. And about Two Leagues from this *Ginipape* towards the Sea, the great River of *Amazons* begins to open by little and little towards its great Mouth into the Sea.

From

## *the River of Amazons.* 189

From the *Ginipape* to the *Paranaiba*, Ten Leagues; the Mouth of which River is on the South-side of the *Amazon*.

From the *Paranaiba* to the *Pacaxas*, Forty Leagues; the Mouth of which is also on the South of the *Amazon*.

From the *Pacaxas* to *Commuta*, Forty Leagues. This place is also on the South-side of the *Amazon*.

From *Commuta* to *Para*, Thirty Leagues. This Town is also on the South-bank of the great Mouth of the *Amazon*, having one Degree and Thirty Minutes of South Latitude.

From *Para* to the *Ile du Soleil*, Fourteen Leagues. This Isle is also near to the same South-bank. And from *Para* to *Zaparara*, Forty Leagues; which is a Cape on the extremity of the South-bank of the great River, having Thirty five Minutes of South Latitude, and Three hundred thirty seven Degrees and ten Minutes of Longitude. So the whole length of this great River of *Amazons*, is One thousand two hundred seventy six Leagues.

From the *Ginipape* to *Corupa*, which is on the North-side of the Mouth of this River, Thirty Leagues.

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From *Corupa* to the North Cape, the distance is not well known: This Cape is on the extremity of the North-bank of the great River, having Forty five Minutes of North Latitude, and Three hundred thirty three Degrees, and Fifty Minutes of Longitude.

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*The End.*

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