

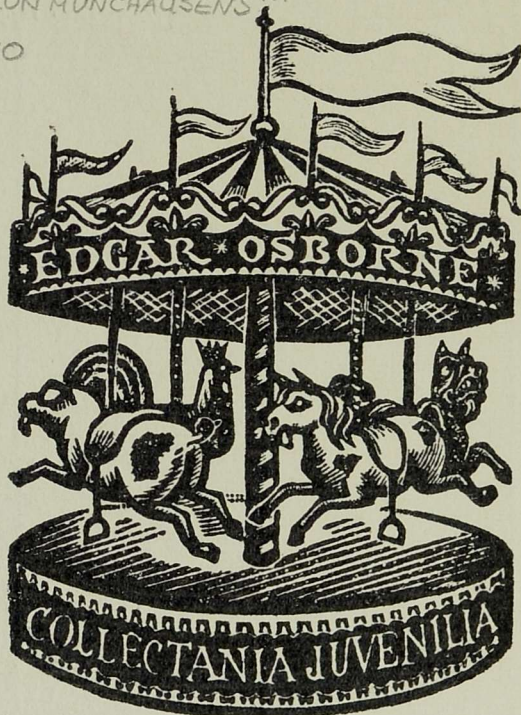


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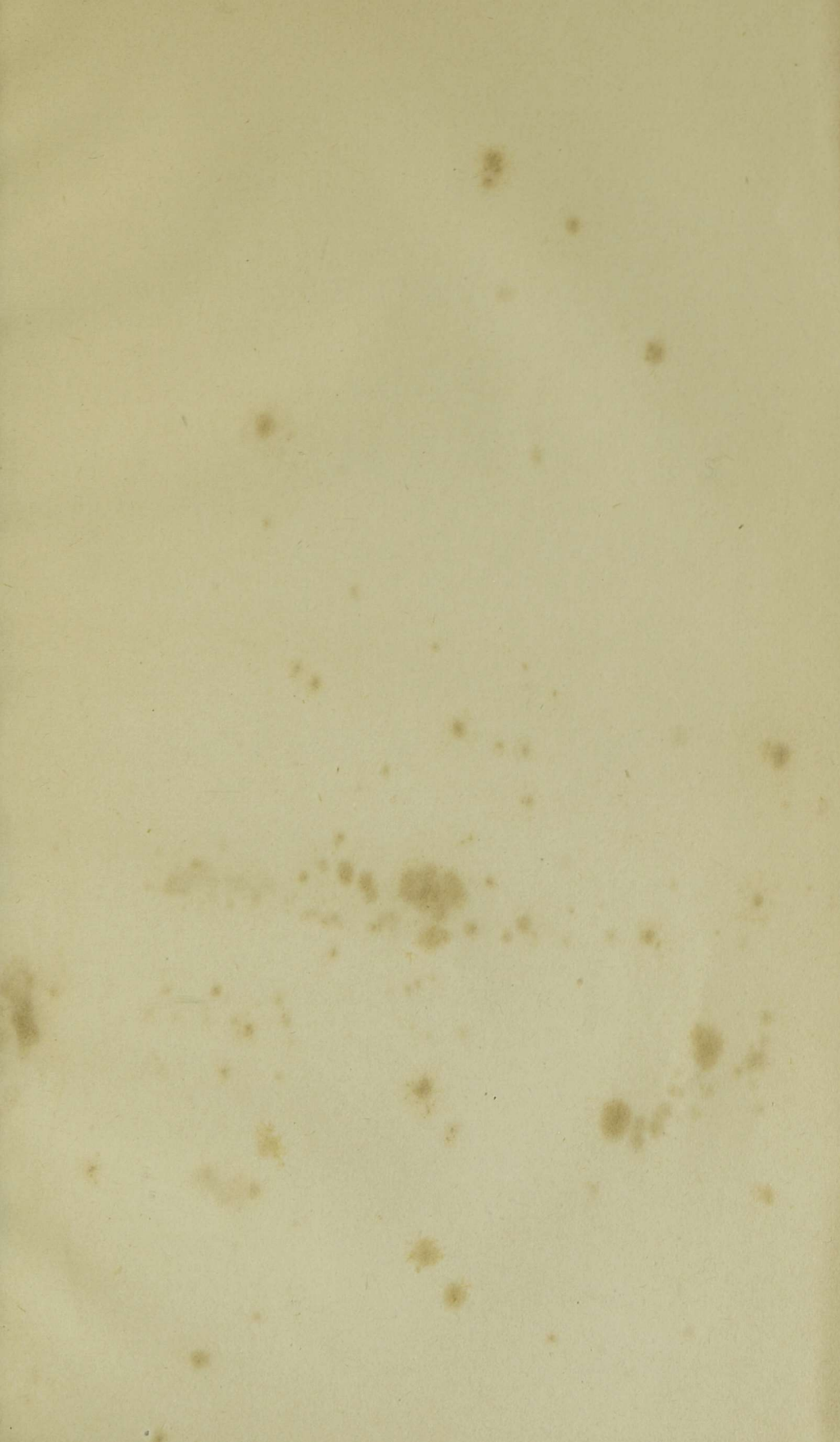
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BARON MUNCHAUSENS
1830



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ALLMAN'S EDITION.

THE
SURPRISING TRAVELS
AND
ADVENTURES
OF
BARON
MUNCHAUSEN,
(EXCEEDING ALL OTHER TRAVELLERS!!!)

IN RUSSIA, THE CASPIAN SEA, TURKEY, GIBRALTAR, AND
THROUGH THE CENTRE OF MOUNT ÆTNA,
INTO THE SOUTH SEA.

ALSO,
AN ACCOUNT OF A
VOYAGE INTO THE MOON
AND
DOG STAR;

With many Extraordinary Particulars relative to the Cooking
Animal in those Planets, which are there called
the Human Species.

London:

PRINTED BY W. LEWIS, FINCH-LANE,
FOR J. ALLMAN, 55, GREAT' QUEEN-STREET,
LINCOLN'S-INN-FIELDS,
AND MAY BE HAD OF ALL BOOKSELLERS.

PRICE SIXPENCE.

1830.

THE HISTORY OF THE
CITY OF BOSTON
FROM THE FIRST SETTLEMENT
TO THE PRESENT TIME
BY NATHANIEL BENTLEY
IN TWO VOLUMES
VOL. I.
BOSTON: PUBLISHED BY
J. B. ALLEN, 1856.

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FRONTISPIECE.



(MARK'S FEET)

Baron Munchauson kills a Bear by extraordinary dexterity.

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1830.

THE
SERVING TRAVELERS
AND
ADVANTAGES

BARON

JOHN AUSTIN

THE BARON AND OTHER TRAVELLERS
IN EUROPE THE EAST INDIES
AND THROUGH THE CENTRE OF GREAT BRITAIN
INTO THE SOUTH SEA

A HISTORY OF A

VOYAGE INTO THE SOUTH

AND

DOG STAR

WITH A HISTORY OF THE BARON'S VOYAGE TO
THE SOUTH SEA IN THE YEAR 1791
AND A HISTORY OF THE VOYAGE TO
THE SOUTH SEA IN THE YEAR 1792

London:

Printed by T. Cadell, in Strand,
for A. MILLAR, at the Crown and Star in Pall Mall.
1793.

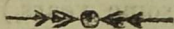
Printed and Sold by
T. Cadell, in Strand,

1793.

TRAVELS

OF

BARON MUNCHAUSEN.



SOME years before my beard announced approaching manhood, or, in other words, when I was neither man nor boy, but between both, I expressed in repeated conversation a strong desire of seeing the world, from which I was discouraged by my parents, though my father had been no inconsiderable traveller himself, as will appear before I have reached the end of my singular, and, I may add, interesting adventures. A cousin, by my mother's side, took a liking to me, often said I was a fine forward youth, and was much inclined to gratify my curiosity. His eloquence had more effect than mine, for my father consented to my accompanying him in a voyage to the island of Ceylon, where his uncle had resided as governor many years. We sailed from Amsterdam with dispatches from their High-Mightinesses the States of Holland. The only circumstance which happened on our voyage worth relating, was the wonderful effects of a storm, which had torn up by the roots a great number of trees of enormous bulk and height, in an island where we lay at anchor to take in wood and water: some of these trees weighed many tons, yet they were carried by the wind so amazingly high, that they appeared like the feathers of small birds floating in the air, for they went at least five miles above the earth: however, as soon as the storm subsided, they all fell perpendicularly into their respective places, and took root again, except the largest, which happened, when it was blown into the air, to have a man and his wife, a very honest couple, upon its branches, gathering cucumbers; (in this part of the globe that useful vegetable grows upon trees;) the weight of this couple, as the tree descended, over-balanced the trunk, and brought it down in an horizontal position: it fell upon the chief man of the island, and killed him on the spot; he had quitted his house in the storm, under an apprehension of its falling upon him, and was returning through his own garden when this fortunate accident happened.—The word fortunate, here, requires some explanation.—The chief was a man of a very avaricious and oppressive disposition, and though he had no family, the natives of the island were half-starved by his oppressive and infamous impositions. After we had repaired the damages we sustained in this remarkable storm, and taken leave of the new governor and his lady, we sailed with a fair wind for the object of our voyage. In about six weeks we

arrived at Ceylon, where we were received with great marks of friendship and true politeness. The following singular adventure may not prove uninteresting.

After we had resided at Ceylon about a fortnight, I accompanied one of the governor's brothers upon a shooting party. He was a strong, athletic man, and being used to that climate, (for he had resided there some years,) he bore the violent heat of the sun much better than I could; in our excursion, he had made a considerable progress through a thick wood when I was only at the entrance.

Near the bank of a large piece of water, which had engaged my attention, I thought I heard a rustling noise behind; on turning about, I was almost petrified (as who would not) at the sight of a lion, which was evidently approaching with an intention of satisfying his appetite with my poor carcass, and that without asking my consent. What was to be done in this horrible dilemma? I had not even a moment for reflection; my piece was only charged with swan-shot, and I had no other about me: however, though I could have no idea of killing such an animal with that weak kind of ammunition, yet I had some hopes of frightening him by the report, and perhaps of wounding him also. I immediately let fly, without waiting till he was within reach; but the report did but enrage him, for he now quickened his pace, and seemed to approach me full speed: I attempted to escape, but that only added (if an addition could be made) to my distress; for the moment I turned about, I found a large crocodile, with his mouth extended, almost ready to receive me; on my right hand was the piece of water before-mentioned, and on my left a deep precipice; in short, I gave myself up as lost, for the lion was now upon his hind-legs, just in the act of seizing me: I fell involuntarily to the ground with fear, and, as it afterwards appeared, he sprang over me. I lay some time in a situation which no language can describe, expecting to feel his teeth or talons in some part of me every moment; after waiting in this prostrate situation a few seconds, I heard a violent but unusual noise, different from any sound that had ever before assailed my ears; nor is it at all to be wondered at, when I inform you from whence it proceeded: after listening for some time, I ventured to raise my head and look round, when, to my unspeakable joy, I perceived the lion had, from the eagerness with which he sprung at me, jumped forward as I fell, into the crocodile's mouth! which, as before observed, was wide open; the head of the one stuck in the throat of the other, and they were struggling to extricate themselves! I fortunately recollected my couteau de chasse, which was by my side; with this instrument I severed the lion's head at one blow, and the body fell at my feet; I then, with the butt-end of my fowling-piece, rammed the head further into the throat of

the crocodile, and destroyed him by suffocation, for he could neither gorge nor eject it. As soon as we had related this extraordinary adventure to the governor, he sent a waggon and servants, who brought home the two carcasses. The lion's skin was properly preserved, with its hair on; after which, it was made into tobacco-pouches, and presented by me, upon our return to Holland, to the burgomasters, who in return requested my acceptance of a thousand ducats. The skin of the crocodile was stuffed in the usual manner, and makes a capital article in their public museum at Amsterdam, where the exhibitor relates the whole story to each spectator, with such additions as he thinks proper: some of his variations are rather extravagant; one of them is, that the lion jumped quite through the crocodile, and was making his escape at the back-door, when, as soon as his head appeared, Monsieur the Great Baron (as he is pleased to call me) cut it off, and three feet of the crocodile's tail along with it; nay, so little attention has this fellow to truth, that he sometimes adds, as soon as the crocodile missed his tail, he turned about, snatched the couteau de chasse out of Monsieur's hand, and swallowed it with such eagerness, that it pierced his heart, and killed him immediately! The little regard which this impudent knave has to veracity, makes me sometimes apprehensive that my *real facts* may fall under suspicion, by being found in company with his confounded inventions.

I next set off from Rome on a journey to Russia in the midst of winter; night and darkness overtook me. No village was to be seen. The country was covered with snow, and I was unacquainted with the road. Tired, I alighted, and fastened my horse to something like a pointed stump of a tree, which appeared above the snow; for the sake of safety, I placed my pistols under my arm, and laid down on the snow, where I slept so soundly that I did not open my eyes till full day-light. It is not easy to conceive my astonishment, to find myself in the midst of a village, lying in a church-yard; nor was my horse to be seen, but I heard him soon after neigh somewhere above me. On looking upwards, I beheld him hanging by his bridle to the weather-cock of the steeple. Matters were now very plain to me; the village had been covered with snow over night; a sudden change of weather had taken place; I had sunk down to the church-yard, whilst asleep, gently, and in the same proportion as the snow had melted away; and what in the dark I had taken to be a stump of a little tree appearing above the snow, to which I had tied my horse, proved to have been the cross or weather-cock of the steeple! Without long consideration, I took one of my pistols, shot the bridle in two, brought down the horse, and proceeded on my journey. He carried me well; advancing into the interior parts of Russia, I found travelling

on horseback rather unfashionable in winter, therefore I submitted, as I always do, to the custom of the country, took a single-horse sledge, and drove briskly towards St. Petersburg. I do not exactly recollect whether it was in Eastland or Judge-manland, but I remember that in the midst of a dreary forest I spied a terrible wolf making after me, with all the speed of ravenous winter hunger. He soon overtook me. There was no possibility of escape. Mechanically I laid myself down flat in the sledge, and let my horse run for our safety. What I wished, but hardly hoped or expected, happened immediately after. The wolf did not mind me in the least, but took a leap over me, and falling furiously on the horse, began instantly to tear and devour the hind part of the poor animal, which ran the faster for his pain and terror. Thus unnoticed, and safe myself, I lifted my head slyly up, and with horror I beheld that the wolf had eat his way into the horse's body; it was not long before he had fairly forced himself into it, when I took my advantage, and fell upon him with the butt-end of my whip. This unexpected attack in his rear frightened him so much, that he leaped forward with all his might; the horse's carcass dropt on the ground; but in his place the wolf was in harness, and I on my part whipping him continually, we both arrived in full career safe at St. Petersburg, contrary to our respective expectations, and very much to the astonishment of the spectators.

One morning I saw through the windows of my bed-room, that a large pond, not far off, was covered with wild ducks. In an instant I took my gun from the corner, ran down-stairs, and out of the house in such a hurry, that I imprudently struck my face against the door-post. Fire flew out of my eyes, but it did not prevent my intention; I soon came within shot, when, levelling my piece, I observed, to my sorrow, that even the flint had sprung from the cock, by the violence of the shock I had just received. There was no time to be lost. I presently remembered the effect it had upon my eyes, therefore opened the pan, levelled my piece against the wild fowls, and my fist against one of my eyes. A hearty blow drew sparks again; the shot went off, and I killed fifty brace of ducks, twenty widgeons, and three couple of teals.

Chance and good-luck often correct our mistakes: of this I had a singular instance soon after, when, in the depth of a forest, I saw a wild pig and sow running close behind each other. My ball had missed them, yet the foremost pig only ran away, and the sow stood motionless, as fixed to the ground. On examining into the matter, I found the latter one to be an old sow, blind with age, which had taken hold of her pig's tail, in order to be led along by filial duty. My ball having passed between the two, had cut his leading-string, which the old sow

continued to hold in her mouth; and, as her former guide did not draw her on any longer, she had stopped of course: I, therefore, laid hold of the remaining end of the pig's tail, and led the old beast home without any further trouble on my part, and without any reluctance or apprehension on the part of the helpless old animal.

You have heard, I dare say, of the hunter's and sportsman's saint and protector, St. Hubert; and of the noble stag, which appeared to him in the forest, with the holy cross between his antlers. I have paid my homage to that saint every year in good fellowship, and seen this stag a thousand times, either painted in churches, or embroidered in the stars of his knights; so that, upon the honour and conscience of a good sportsman, I hardly know whether there may not have been formerly, or whether there are not such crossed stags even at this present day. But let me rather tell what I have seen myself. Having one day spent all my shot, I found myself unexpectedly in the presence of a stately stag, looking at me as unconcerned as if he had known of my empty pouches. I charged immediately with powder, and upon it a good handful of cherry-stones, for I had sucked the fruit as far as the hurry would permit. Thus I let fly at him, and hit him just on the middle of the forehead, between the antlers; it stunned him—he staggered—yet he made off. A year or two after, being with a party in the same forest, I beheld a noble stag, with a fine full-grown cherry-tree above ten feet high between his antlers. I immediately recollected my former adventure, looked upon him as my property, and brought him to the ground by one shot, which at once gave me the haunch and cherry-sauce; for the tree was covered with the richest fruit, the like I had never tasted before.

Day-light and powder were spent one day in a Polish forest. When I was going home, a terrible bear made up to me in great speed, with open mouth, ready to fall upon me; all my pockets were searched in an instant for powder and ball, but in vain—I found nothing but two spare flints; one I flung with all my might into the monster's open jaws, down his throat. It gave him pain, and made him turn about, so that I could level the second at his back-door, which indeed I did with wonderful success; for it flew in, met the first flint in the stomach, struck fire, and blew up the bear with a terrible explosion. Though I came safe off that time, yet I should not wish to try it again, or venture against bears with no other ammunition. One day a frightful wolf rushed upon me so suddenly and so close, that I could do nothing but follow mechanical instinct, and thrust my fist into its open mouth. For safety's sake I pushed on and on, till my arm was fairly in up to the shoulder. In short, I laid hold of his entrails, turned him inside out like a glove, and flung him to the ground, where I left him.

I shall not enter here into any detail of my stables, kennel, or armoury; but a favourite bitch of mine I cannot help mentioning to you—she was a greyhound, and I never had or saw a better. She grew old in my service, and was not remarkable for her size, but rather for her uncommon swiftness. I always coursed with her. Had you seen her, you must have admired her, and would not have wondered at my predilection, and at my coursing her so much. She ran so fast, so much, and so long in my service, that at last she actually ran off her legs; so that, in the latter part of her life, I was under the necessity of working and using her only as a terrier, in which quality she still served me many years.

Coursing one day a hare, which appeared to me uncommonly big, I pitied my poor bitch, being big with pups, yet she would course as fast as ever. I could follow her on horseback only at a great distance. At once I heard a cry, as it were, of a pack of hounds—but so weak and faint that I hardly knew what to make of it. Coming up to them I was greatly surprised. The hare had littered in running; the same had happened to my bitch in coursing,—and there were just as many leverets as pups. By instinct the former ran, the latter coursed; and thus I found myself in possession of six hares, and as many dogs, at the end of a course which had only begun with one.

During the war between the Russians and the Turks, I had the misfortune to be made prisoner of war; and, what is worse, but always usual among the Turks, to be sold for a slave. In that state of humiliation, my daily task was not very hard and laborious, but rather singular and irksome. It was to drive the Sultan's bees every morning to their pasture-grounds, to attend them all the day long, and against night to drive them back to their hives. One evening I missed a bee, and soon observed that two bears had fallen upon her, to tear her to pieces for the honey she carried. I had nothing like an offensive weapon in my hands but the silver hatchet, which is the badge of the Sultan's gardeners and farmers. I threw it at the robbers, with an intention to frighten them away, and set the poor bee at liberty; but, by an unlucky turn of my arm, it flew upwards, and continued rising till it reached the moon. How should I recover it? how fetch it down again? I recollected that Turkey beans grow very quick, and run up to an astonishing height. I planted one immediately; it grew, and actually fastened itself to one of the moon's horns. I had no more to do now but to climb up by it into the moon, where I safely arrived, and had a troublesome piece of business before I could find my silver hatchet, in a place where every thing has the brightness of silver; at last, however, I found it in a heap of chaff and chopped straw. I was now for returning; but alas, the heat of the sun had dried up my bean; it was totally useless for my

descent: so I fell to work, and twisted me a rope of that chopped straw, as long and as well as I could make it. This I fastened to one of the moon's horns, and slid down to the other end of it. Here I held myself fast with my left hand, and, with the hatchet in my right, I cut the long, now useless end of the upper part, which, when tied to the lower end, brought me a good deal lower. This repeated splicing and tying of the rope did not improve its quality, or bring me down to the Sultan's farms. I was four or five miles from the earth, at least, when it broke; I fell to the ground with such amazing violence, that I found myself stunned, and in a hole nine fathoms deep at least, made by the weight of my body falling from so great a height: I recovered, but knew not how to get out again; however, I dug slopes or steps with my nails, (the Baron's nails were then of forty years' growth,) and easily accomplished it.

Peace was soon after concluded with the Turks, and, gaining my liberty, I left St. Petersburg at the time of that singular revolution, when the emperor in his cradle, his mother, the Duke of Brunswick, her father, Field-Marshal Munich, and many others, were sent to Siberia. The winter was then so uncommonly severe all over Europe, that, ever since, the sun seems to be frost-bitten. At my return to this place, I felt on the road greater inconveniences than those I had experienced on my setting out.

I travelled post, and finding myself in a narrow lane, bid the postilion give a signal with his horn, that other travellers might not meet us in the narrow passage. He blew with all his might; but his endeavours were in vain, he could not make the horn sound. After we arrived at the inn, my postillion and I refreshed ourselves; he hung his horn on a peg near the kitchen fire; I sat on the other side. Suddenly we heard a *tereng, tereng, teng, teng*. We looked round, and now found the reason why the postillion had not been able to sound his horn; his tunes were frozen up in the horn, and came out now by thawing, plain enough, and much to the credit of the driver.

Some travellers are apt to advance more than is perhaps strictly true; if any of the company entertain a doubt of my veracity, I shall only say to such, I pity their want of faith, and must request they will take leave before I begin the second part of my adventures, which are as strictly founded in fact as those I have already related.

During the late siege of Gibraltar, I went with a provision-fleet, under Lord Rodney's command, to see my old friend, General Elliott, who has, by his distinguished defence of that place, acquired laurels that can never fade. After the usual joy which generally attends the meeting of old friends had sub-

sided, I went to examine the state of the garrison, and view the operations of the enemy, for which purpose the General accompanied me. I had brought a most excellent refracting telescope with me from London, purchased of Richardson, by the help of which I found the enemy were going to discharge a thirty-six pounder at the spot where we stood. I told the General what they were about; he looked through the glass also, and found my conjectures right. I immediately, by his permission, ordered a forty-eight pounder to be brought from a neighbouring battery, which I placed with so much exactness (having long studied the art of gunnery) that I was sure of my mark. I continued watching the enemy till I saw the match placed at the touch-hole of their piece; at that very instant I gave the signal for our gun to be fired also. About midway between the two pieces of cannon, the balls struck each other with amazing force, and the effect was astonishing! The enemy's ball recoiled back with such violence as to kill the man who had discharged it, by carrying his head fairly off, with sixteen others, which it met with in its progress to the Barbary coast; where its force, after passing through three masts of vessels, that then lay in a line behind each other, in the harbour, was so much spent, that it only broke its way through the roof of a poor labourer's hut, about two hundred yards inland, and destroyed the few teeth an old woman had left, who lay asleep upon her back, with her mouth open. The ball lodged in her throat. Her husband soon after came home, and endeavoured to extract it; but finding that impracticable, by the assistance of a rammer he forced it into her stomach, from whence it was discharged downwards in the natural way. Our ball did excellent service, for it not only repelled the other in the manner just described; but, proceeding as I intended it should, it dismounted the very piece of cannon that had been just employed against us, and forced it into the hold of the ship, where it fell with so much force, as to break its way through the bottom. The ship immediately filled and sunk, with above a thousand Spanish sailors on-board, besides a considerable number of soldiers. This, to be sure, was a most extraordinary exploit: I will not, however, take the whole merit to myself; my judgment was the principal engine, but chance assisted me a little; for I afterwards found, that the man who charged our forty-eight pounder put in, by mistake, a double quantity of powder, else we could never have succeeded so much beyond all expectation, especially in repelling the enemy's ball. General Elliott would have given me a commission for this singular piece of service; but I declined every thing except his thanks, which I received at a crowded table of officers at supper, on the evening of that very day.

If any gentleman will say he doubts the truth of this story, I

will fine him a gallon of brandy, and make him drink it at one draught.

About two months after I had done the besieged this service, one morning, as I sat at breakfast with General Elliott, a shell entered the apartment we were sitting in; it lodged upon our table. The general, as most men would do, quitted the room directly; but I took it up before it burst, and carried it to the top of the rock: when, looking over the enemy's camp, on an eminence near the sea-coast, I observed a considerable number of people, but could not, with my naked eye, discover how they were employed. I had recourse again to my telescope, when I found that two of our officers, one a general, the other a colonel, with whom I had spent the preceding evening, and who went out into the enemy's camp about midnight, as spies, were taken, and then were actually going to be executed on a gibbet. I immediately threw the shell in the midst of them; it burst as it fell, and destroyed all present, except the two culprits, who were saved by being suspended so high, for they were just turned off: however, one of the pieces of the shell flew with such force against the foot of the gibbet, that it immediately brought it down. Our friends no sooner felt terra firma, than they looked about for the cause; and finding their guards, executioner and all, had taken it into their heads to die first, they directly extricated each other from their disgraceful cords; and then ran down to the sea-shore, seized a Spanish boat with two men in it, and made them row to one of our ships, which they did with great safety, and in a few minutes after, when I was relating to General Elliott how I had acted, they both took us by the hand, and after mutual congratulations, we retired to spend the day with festivity.

I once made a balloon of such extensive dimensions, that an account of the silk it contained would exceed all credibility; every mercer's shop and weaver's stock in London, Westminster, and Spital-fields, contributed to it; with this balloon I played many tricks, such as taking one house from its situation and placing another in its stead, without disturbing the inhabitants, who were generally asleep, or too much employed to observe the peregrinations of their habitations. When the centinel at Windsor Castle heard St. Paul's clock strike thirteen it was through my dexterity; I brought the buildings nearly together that night, by placing the castle in St. George's Fields, and carried it back again before day-light, without waking any of the inhabitants. Notwithstanding these exploits, I should have kept my balloon and its properties a secret, if Montgolfier had not made the art of flying so public!

On the 30th of September, when the College of Physicians choose their annual officers, and dine sumptuously together, I

filled my balloon, brought it over the dome of their building, clapped a sling round the golden ball at the top, fastening the other end of it to the balloon, and immediately ascended with the whole college to an immense height, where I kept them upwards of three months. You will naturally enquire what they did for food such a length of time? To this I answer, Had I kept them suspended twice the time, they would have experienced no inconvenience on that account; so amply, or rather extravagantly, had they spread their table for that day's feasting.

Though this was meant as an innocent frolic, it was productive of much mischief to several respectable characters among the clergy, undertakers, sextons, and grave-diggers; they were, it must be acknowledged, sufferers; for it is a well-known fact, that, during the three months the college was suspended in the air, and therefore incapable of attending their patients, no deaths happened, except a few who fell before the scythe of father Time, and some melancholy objects, who perhaps, to avoid some trifling inconvenience here, laid the hands of violence upon themselves, and plunged into misery infinitely greater than that which they hoped, by such a rash step, to avoid, without a moment's consideration. If the apothecaries had not been very active during the above time, half the undertakers, in all probability, would have been bankrupts.

We all remember Capt. Phipp's (now Lord Mulgrave) last voyage of discovery to the north. I accompanied the captain, not as an officer, but a private friend. When we arrived in a high northern latitude, I was viewing the objects around me with a telescope, which I introduced to your notice in my Gibraltar adventures. I thought I saw two large white bears in violent action upon a body of ice considerably above the masts, and about half a league distance. I immediately took my carbine, slung it across my shoulder, and ascended the ice. When I arrived at the top, the unevenness of the surface made my approach to those animals troublesome and hazardous beyond expression; sometimes hideous cavities opposed me, which I was obliged to spring over; in other parts the surface was as smooth as a mirror, and I was continually falling; as I approached near enough to reach them I found they were only at play. I immediately began to calculate the value of their skins, for they were each as large as a well-fed ox: unfortunately, at the very instant I was presenting my carbine, my right foot slipped, I fell upon my back, and the violence of the blow deprived me totally of my senses for nearly half-an-hour: however, when I recovered, judge of my surprise at finding one of those large animals I have just been describing, had turned me upon my face, and was just laying hold of the waist-band of my breeches, which were then new, and made of leather; he

was certainly going to carry me, feet foremost, God knows where, when I took this knife (showing a large clasp-knife) out of my side-pocket, made a chop at one of his hind-feet, and cut off three of his toes; he immediately let me drop, and roared most horridly. I took up my carbine, and fired at him as he ran off; he fell directly. The noise of the piece roused several thousand of these white bears, who were asleep upon the ice, within half a mile of me; they came immediately to the spot. There was no time to be lost. A most fortunate thought arrived in my pericranium just at that instant. I took off the skin and head of the dead bear in half the time that some people would be in skinning a rabbit, and wrapped myself in it, placing my own head directly under bruin's; the whole herd came round me immediately, and my apprehensions threw me in a most piteous situation, to be sure: however, my scheme turned out a most admirable one for my own safety. They all came smelling, and evidently took me for a brother bruin; I wanted nothing but bulk to make an excellent counterfeit; however, I saw several cubs amongst them not much larger than myself. After they had all smelt me, and the body of their deceased companion, whose skin was now become my protector, we seemed very sociable, and I found I could mimic all their actions tolerably well; but at growling, roaring, or hugging, they were quite my masters. I began now to think how I might turn the general confidence which I had created amongst these animals, to my advantage.

I had heard an old army surgeon say, a wound in the spine was instant death. I now determined to try the experiment, and had again recourse to my knife, with which I struck the largest in the back of the neck near the shoulders, but under great apprehensions, not doubting but the creature would, if he survived the stab, tear me to pieces. However, I was remarkably fortunate: for he fell dead at my feet, without making the least noise. I was now resolved to demolish them every one in the same manner, which I accomplished without the least difficulty; for although they saw their companions fall, they had no suspicion of either the cause or the effect. When they all lay dead before me, I felt myself a second Sampson, having slain my thousands. To make short of the story, I went back to the ship, and borrowed three parts of the crew, to assist me in skinning them, and carrying the hams on-board, which we did in a few hours, and loaded the ship with them. As to the other parts of the animals, they were thrown into the sea, though I doubt not but the whole would eat as well as the legs, were they properly cured.

As soon as we returned, I sent some of the hams, in the captain's name, to the Lords of the Admiralty, others to the Lords of the Treasury, some to the lord-mayor and corporation of

London, a few to each of the trading companies, and the remainder to my particular friends, from all of whom I received warm thanks ; but from the city I was honoured with the substantial notice, viz. an invitation to dine at Guildhall annually on Lord-Mayor's day. The bear-skins I sent to the Empress of Russia, to clothe her majesty and her court in the winter, for which she wrote me a letter of thanks with her own hand, and sent it by an ambassador-extraordinary, inviting me to share the honours of her bed and crown ; but, as I was never ambitious of royal dignity, I declined her majesty's favour in the politest terms. The same ambassador had orders to wait and bring my answer to her majesty personally, upon which business he was absent about three months ; her majesty's reply convinced me of the strength of her affection, and the dignity of her mind : her late indisposition was entirely owing (as she, kind creature ! was pleased to express herself in a late conversation with the Prince Doldoroucki) to my cruelty. What the sex see in me I cannot conceive, but the Empress is not the only female sovereign who has offered me her hand.

I have already informed you of one trip I made to the moon, in search of my silver hatchet ; I afterwards made another in a much pleasanter manner, and staid in it long enough to take notice of several things, which I will endeavour to describe as accurately as my memory will permit.

I went on a voyage of discovery, at the request of a distant relation, who had a strange notion that there were people to be found equal in magnitude to those described by Gulliver in the empire of Brobdignag. For my part, I always treated that account as fabulous ; however, to oblige him, for he had made me his heir, I undertook it, and sailed for the South Seas, where we arrived without meeting with any thing remarkable, except some flying men and women, who were playing at leap-frog, and dancing minuets in the air.

On the eighteenth day after we had passed the island of Otaheite, mentioned by Captain Cook, as the place from whence they brought Omai, a hurricane blew our ship at least one thousand leagues above the surface of the water, and kept it at that height till a fresh gale arising, filled the sails in every part, and onwards we travelled at a prodigious rate : thus we proceeded above the clouds for six weeks. At last we discovered a great land in the sky, like a shining island, round and bright : where coming into a convenient harbour, we went on shore, and soon found it was inhabited. Below us we saw another earth, containing cities, trees, mountains, rivers, seas, &c. which we conjectured was this world which we had left. Here we saw huge figures riding upon vultures of a prodigious size, and each of them having three heads. To form some idea of the magnitude of these birds, I must inform you, that each of their wings are

as wide, and six times the length of the main-sheet of our vessel, which was about six hundred tons burthen. Thus, instead of riding upon horses, as we do in this world, the inhabitants of the Moon (for we now found we were in Madam Luna) fly about on these birds. The king, we found, was engaged in a war with the Sun, and he offered me a commission, but I declined the honour his majesty intended me.

Every thing of *this* world is of extraordinary magnitude; a common flea being much larger than one of our sheep: in making war, their principal weapons are radishes, which are used as darts; those who are wounded by them, die immediately. Their shields are made of mushrooms, and their darts, when radishes are out of season, of the tops of asparagus. Some of the natives of the dog-star are to be seen here; commerce tempts them to ramble: their faces are like large mastiffs, with their eyes near the lower end or tip of their noses; they have no eye-lids, but cover their eyes with the end of their tongues, when they go to sleep; they are generally twenty feet high. As to the natives of the Moon, none of them are less in stature than thirty-six feet: they are not called the human species, but the cooking animals, for they all dress their food by fire, as we do, but lose no time at their meals, as they open their left side, and place the whole quantity at once in their stomach, then shut it again till the same day in the next month; for they never indulge themselves with food more than twelve times in a year, or once a month. All but gluttons and epicures must prefer this method to ours.

There is but one sex either of the cooking or any other animals in the Moon: they are all produced from trees of various sizes and foliage: that which produces the cooking animal, or human species, is much more beautiful than any of the others; it has large straight boughs, and flesh-coloured leaves, and the fruit it produces are nuts or pods, with hard shells, at least two yards long when they become ripe, which is known from their changing colour; they are gathered with great care, and laid by as long as they think proper; when they choose to animate the seed of these nuts, they throw them into a large cauldron of boiling water, which opens the shells in a few hours, and out jumps the creature.

Nature forms their minds for different pursuits before they come into the world; from one shell comes forth a warrior, from another a philosopher, from a third a divine, from a fourth a lawyer, from a fifth a farmer, from a sixth a clown, &c. &c. and each of them immediately begin to perfect themselves, by practising what they before knew only in theory.

When they grow old, they do not die, but turn into air, and dissolve like smoke! As for their drink, they need none; the only evacuations they have are insensible, and by their breath.

They have but one finger upon each hand, with which they perform every thing in as perfect a manner as we do, who have four besides the thumb. Their heads are placed under their right arm; and when they are going to travel, or about any violent exercise, they generally leave them at home, for they can consult them at any distance; this is a very common practice; and, when those of rank or quality among the Lunarians have inclination to see what is going forward among the common people, they stay at home, *i. e.* the body stays at home, and sends the head only, which is suffered to be present *incog.* and return at pleasure with an account of what has passed.

The stones of their grapes are exactly like hail; and I am perfectly satisfied that when a storm or high wind in the moon shakes their vines, and breaks the grapes from the stalks, the stones fall down, and form our hail-showers. I would advise those who are of my opinion, to save a quantity of these stones when it hails next, and make Lunarian wine. It is common beverage at St. Luke's. Some material circumstances I had nearly omitted. They put their bellies to the same use as we do a sack, and throw whatever they have occasion for into it, for they can shut and open it again whenever they please, as they do their stomachs; they are not troubled with bowels, liver, heart, or any other intestines; neither are they encumbered with clothes, nor is there any part of their bodies unseemly or indecent to exhibit.

Their eyes they can take in and out of their places when they please, and can see as well with them in their hands as in their head! and if by accident they lose or damage one, they can borrow or purchase another, and see as clearly with it as their own. Dealers in eyes are on that account very numerous in most parts of the Moon, and in this article alone all the inhabitants are whimsical; sometimes green and sometimes yellow eyes are the fashion. I know these things appear strange; but if the shadow of a doubt can remain on any person's mind, I say let him take a voyage there himself, and then he will know I am a traveller of veracity.

My first visit to England was about the beginning of the present king's reign. I had occasion to go down to Wapping, to see some goods shipped, which I was sending to some friends at Hamburgh: after that business was over, I took the Tower Wharf in my way back. Here I found the sun very powerful; and I was so much fatigued that I stepped into one of the cannons to compose me, where I fell fast asleep. This was about noon; it was the fourth of June: exactly at one o'clock these cannon were all discharged in memory of the day; they had been all charged that morning; and having no suspicion of my situation, I was shot over the house on the opposite side of the river, into a farmer's yard, between Bermondsey and Deptford,

where I fell upon a large hay-stack, without waking, and continued there in a sound sleep, till hay became so extravagantly dear, (which was about three months after,) that the farmer found it his interest to send his whole stock to market; the stack I was reposing upon was the largest in the yard, containing above five hundred load; they began to cut that first. I waked with the voices of the people who had ascended the ladders to begin at the top, and got up, totally ignorant of my situation; in attempting to run away, I fell upon the farmer to whom the hay belonged, and broke his neck, yet received no injury myself! I afterwards found, to my great consolation, that this fellow was a most detestable character, always keeping the produce of his grounds for extravagant markets.

In a voyage which I made to the East Indies with Captain Hamilton, I took a favourite pointer with me; he was, to use a common phrase, worth his weight in gold, for he never deceived me. One day, when we were, by the best observations we could make, at least three hundred leagues from land, my dog pointed: I observed him for near an hour with astonishment, and mentioned the circumstance to the captain and every officer on-board, asserting that we must be near land, for my dog smelt game. This occasioned a general laugh; but that did not alter, in the least, the good opinion I had of my dog. After much conversation pro and con, I boldly told the captain, I placed more confidence in TRAY'S nose, than I did in the eyes of every seaman on-board; and therefore boldly proposed laying the sum I had agreed to pay for my passage, (viz. one hundred guineas,) that we should find game within half-an-hour. The captain (a good hearty fellow) laughed again, desired Mr. Crawford, the surgeon, who was prepared, to feel my pulse; he did so, and reported me in perfect health. The following dialogue between them took place; I overheard it, though spoken low, and at some distance.

Captain. His brain is turned: I cannot with honour accept his wager.

Surgeon. I am of a different opinion; he is quite sane, and depends more upon the scent of his dog, than he will upon the judgment of all the officers on-board: he will certainly lose, and he richly merits it.

Captain. Such a wager cannot be fair on my side; however, I'll take him up, if I return his money afterwards.

During the above conversation, Tray continued in the same situation, and confirmed me still more in my former opinion. I proposed to wager a second time; it was then accepted.

Done! and Done! were scarcely said on both sides, when some sailors who were fishing in the long-boat, which was made fast to the stern of the ship, harpooned an exceeding large shark, which they brought on-board, and began to cut up

for the purpose of barrelling the oil, when behold, they found no less than *six brace of live partridges* in this animal's stomach.

They had been so long in that situation, that one of the hens was sitting upon four eggs, and a fifth was hatching, when the shark was opened.

Mr. Brydone's Travels to Sicily, which I had read with great pleasure, induced me to pay a visit to Mount *Ætna*; my voyage to this place was not attended by any circumstances worth relating. One morning early, three or four days after my arrival, I set out from a cottage where I had slept, within six miles of the foot of the mountain, determined to explore the internal parts, if I perished in the attempt. After three hours hard labour, I found myself at the top; it was then, and had been for upwards of three weeks, raging; its appearance in this state has been so frequently noticed by different travellers, that I will not tire you with descriptions of objects you are already acquainted with. I walked round the edge of the crater, which appeared to be fifty times as capacious as the Devil's Punch-Bowl, near Petersfield, on the Portsmouth road, but not so broad at the bottom, as in that part it resembles the contracted part of a funnel more than a punch-bowl. At last, having made up my mind, in I sprang, feet foremost. I soon found myself in a warm birth, and my body bruised and burnt in various parts by the red-hot cinders, which, by their violent ascent, opposed my descent; however, my weight soon brought me to the bottom, where I found myself in the midst of a noise and clamour, mixed with most horrid imprecations; after recovering my senses, and feeling a reduction of my pain, I began to look about me. Guess, gentlemen, my astonishment, when I found myself in the company of Vulcan and his cyclops, who had been quarrelling for the three weeks before-mentioned, about the observation of good order and due subordination, and which had occasioned such alarms for that space of time in the world above. My arrival restored peace to the whole society, and Vulcan himself did me the honour of applying plasters to my wounds, which healed them immediately; he also placed refreshments before me, particularly nectar and other rich wines, such as the gods and goddesses only aspire to.

Vulcan gave me a very concise account of Mount *Ætna*; he said it was nothing more than an accumulation of ashes thrown from his forge; that he was frequently obliged to chastise his people, at whom, in his passion, he made it a practice to throw red-hot coals, at home, which they often parried with great dexterity, and then threw them up into the world, to place them out of his reach, for they never attempted to assault him in return, by throwing them back again; our quarrels, added he, last sometimes three or four months, and these appearances of coals or cinders in the world are what I find you mortals

call eruptions. Mount Vesuvius, he assured me, was another of his shops, to which he had a passage three hundred and fifty leagues under the bed of the sea, where similar quarrels produced similar eruptions. I should have continued here as an humble attendant upon Madam Venus; but some busy tattlers, who delight in mischief, whispered a tale in Vulcan's ear, which roused in him a fit of jealousy not to be appeased. Without the least previous notice, he took me one morning under his arm, as I was waiting upon Venus, agreeable to custom, and carried me to an apartment I had never before seen, in which there was, to all appearance, a well with a wide mouth; over this he held me at arm's-length, and saying, "Ungrateful mortal, return to the world from whence you came," without giving me the least opportunity of reply, dropped me in the centre. I found myself descending with an increasing rapidity, till the horror of my mind deprived me of all reflection. I suppose I fell into a trance, from which I was suddenly roused, by plunging into a large body of water illuminated by the rays of the sun.

I could, from my infancy, swim well, and play tricks in the water. I now found myself in paradise, considering the horrors of mind I had just been released from. After looking about me some time, I could discover nothing but an expanse of sea, extending beyond the eye in every direction; I also found it very cold, a different climate from Master Vulcan's shop. At last I observed, at some distance, a body of amazing magnitude, like a huge rock, approaching me: I soon discovered it to be a piece of floating ice; I swam round it, till I found a place where I could ascend to the top, which I did, but not without some difficulty. Still I was out of sight of land, and despair returned with double force; however, before night came on, I saw a sail, which we approached very fast; when it was within a very short distance, I hailed them in German, they answered in Dutch; I then flung myself into the sea, and they threw out a rope, by which I was taken on-board. I now enquired where we were, and was informed in the great Southern Ocean; this opened a discovery, which removed all my doubts and difficulties. It was now evident that I had passed from Mount *Ætna* through the centre of the earth to the South Sea; this, gentlemen, was a much shorter cut than going round the world, and which no man has accomplished, or ever attempted but myself; however, the next time I perform it, I will be much more particular in my observations.

I took some refreshment, and went to rest. The Dutch are a very rude sort of people; I related the *Ætna* passage to the officers, exactly as I have done to you; and some of them, particularly the Captain, seemed by his grimace and half-sentences, to doubt my veracity; however, as he had kindly taken me on-

board his vessel, and was then in the very act of administering to my necessities, I pocketed the affront.

I now, in my turn, began to enquire where they were bound? To which they answered, they were in search of new discoveries; "and if (said they) your story is true, a new passage is really discovered, and we shall not return disappointed." We were now in Captain Cook's first track, and arrived the next morning in Botany Bay. This place I would by no means recommend to the English government as a receptacle for felons, or place of punishment; it should rather be the reward of merit, nature having most bountifully bestowed her best gifts upon it.

We staid here but three days; the fourth after our departure, a most dreadful storm arose, which in a few hours destroyed all our sails, splintered our bowsprit, and brought down her topmast; it fell directly upon the box that inclosed our compass, which, with the compass, was broken to pieces. Every one who has been at sea knows the consequences of such a misfortune; we now were at a loss where to steer. At length the storm abated, which was followed by a steady brisk gale, that carried us at least forty knots an hour for six months! when we began to observe an amazing change in every thing about us; our spirits became light, our noses were regaled with the most aromatic effluvia imaginable; the sea had also changed its complexion, and from green became white!! Soon after these wonderful alterations we saw land, and not at any great distance an inlet, which we sailed up near sixty leagues, and found it wide and deep, flowing with milk of the most delicious taste. Here we landed, and soon found it was an island consisting of one large cheese; we discovered this by one of the company fainting away as soon as he landed; this man always had an aversion to cheese: when he recovered, he desired the cheese to be taken from under his feet; upon examination we found him to be perfectly right, for the whole island, as before observed, was nothing but a cheese of immense magnitude! Upon this the inhabitants, who are amazingly numerous, principally sustain themselves, and it grows every night in proportion as it is consumed in the day. Here seemed to be plenty of vines, with bunches of large grapes, which, upon being pressed, yielded nothing but milk. We saw the inhabitants running races upon the surface of the milk; they were upright, comely figures, nine feet high, have three legs, and but one arm; upon the whole their form was graceful; and when they quarrel, they exercise a straight horn, which grows in adults from the centre of their foreheads, with great adroitness: they did not sink at all, but ran and walked upon the surface of the milk, as we do upon a bowling-green.

Upon this island of cheese grows great plenty of corn, the ears of which produce loaves of bread ready made, of a round form, like mushrooms. We discovered, in our rambles over this cheese, seventeen other rivers of milk, and ten of wine.

After thirty-eight days journey, we arrived on the opposite side to that on which we had landed; here we found some blue mould, as cheese-eaters call it, from whence springs all kinds of rich fruit; instead of breeding mites, it produced peaches, nectarines, apricots, and a thousand delicious fruits, which we are not acquainted with. In these trees, which are of an amazing size, were plenty of birds'-nests; amongst others, was a king-fisher's, of prodigious magnitude; it was at least twice the circumference of the dome of St. Paul's church, in London; upon inspection, this nest was made of huge trees, curiously joined together; there were, let me see, (for I make it a rule always to speak within compass,) there were upwards of five hundred eggs in the nest, and each of them was as large as four common hogsheads, or eight barrels, and we could not only see, but hear the young ones chirping within. Having with great fatigue cut open one of these eggs, we let out a young one unfeathered, considerably larger than twenty full-grown vultures. Just as we had given this youngster his liberty, the old king-fisher lighted, and seizing our captain, who had been active in breaking the egg, in one of his claws, flew with him above a mile high, and then let him drop into the sea, but not till she had beaten all his teeth out of his mouth with her wings.

Dutchmen generally swim well; he soon joined us; and we retreated to our ship. On our return we took a different route, and observed many strange objects. We shot two wild oxen, each with one horn, also like the inhabitants, except that it sprouted from between the eyes of these animals; we were afterwards concerned at having destroyed them, as we found, by inquiry, they tamed these creatures, and used them as we do horses, to ride upon, and draw their carriages; their flesh, we were informed, is excellent; but useless where people live upon cheese and milk. When we had reached within two days journey of the ship, we observed three men hanging to a tall tree by the heels: upon inquiring the cause of their punishment, I found they had all been travellers, and upon their return home had deceived their friends, by describing places they never saw, and relating things that never happened; this gave me no concern; *as I have ever confued myself to facts.*

As soon as we arrived at the ship, we unmoored, and set sail from this extraordinary country; when, to our astonishment, all the trees upon shore, of which there were a great number, very tall and large, paid their respects to us twice, bowing to exact

time, and immediately recovered their former posture, which was quite erect.

By what we could learn of this CHEESE, it was considerably larger than the continent of all Europe!

After sailing three months we knew not where, being still without compass, we arrived in a sea which appeared to be almost black; upon tasting it, we found it most excellent wine, and had great difficulty to keep the sailors from getting drunk with it; however, in a few hours we found ourselves surrounded by whales and other animals of an immense magnitude; one of which appeared to be too large for the eye to form a judgment of: we did not see him till we were close to him. The monster drew our ship, with all her masts standing, and sails bent, by suction, into its mouth, between its teeth, which were much larger and taller than the mast of a first-rate man-of-war. After we had been in his mouth some time, he opened it pretty wide, took in an immense quantity of water, and floated our vessel, which was at least five hundred tons burthen, into his stomach; here we lay as quiet as at anchor in a dead calm. The air, to be sure, was rather warm, and very offensive. We found anchors, cables, boats, and barges in abundance, and a considerable number of ships, some laden and some not, which this creature had swallowed. Every thing was transacted by torch-light; no sun, no moon, no planets to make observations from. We were all generally afloat and a-ground twice a-day; whenever he drank, it became high-water with us; and when he evacuated, we found ourselves a-ground; upon a moderate computation, he took in more water at a single draught than is generally to be found in the Lake of Geneva, though that is above thirty miles in circumference. On the second day of our confinement in these regions of darkness, I ventured at low water, as we called it when the ship was a-ground, to ramble with the captain, and a few of the other officers, with lights in our hands; we met with people of all nations, to the amount of upwards of ten thousand; they were going to hold a council how to recover their liberty; some of them having lived in this animal's stomach several years; there were several children here who had never seen the world, their mothers having lain in repeatedly in this warm situation. Just as the chairman was going to inform us of the business upon which we were assembled, this plaguey fish becoming thirsty, drank in his usual manner; the water poured in with such impetuosity, that we were all obliged to retreat to our respective ships immediately, or run the risk of being drowned: some were obliged to swim for it, and with difficulty saved their lives. In a few hours after, we were more fortunate; we met again just after the monster had evacuated. I was chosen chairman, and the first

thing I did was to propose splicing two main-masts together; and the next time he opened his mouth, to be ready to wedge them in, so as to prevent his shutting it. It was unanimously approved. One hundred stout men were chosen upon this service. We had scarcely got our masts properly prepared, when an opportunity offered; the monster opened his mouth; immediately the top of the mast was placed against the roof, and the other end pierced his tongue, which effectually prevented him from shutting his mouth. As soon as every thing in his stomach was afloat, we manned a few boats, who rowed themselves and us into the world. The day-light after, as near as we could judge, three months' confinement in total darkness, cheered our spirits surprisingly. When we had all taken our leave of this capacious animal, we mustered just a fleet of ninety-five ships of all nations, who had been in this confined situation.

We left the two masts in his mouth, to prevent others being confined in the same horrid gulph of darkness and filth. Our first object was to learn what part of the world we were in; this we were for some time at a loss to ascertain; at last I found, from former observations, that we were in the Caspian Sea, which washes part of the country of the Calmuck Tartars. How we came here, it was impossible to conceive, as this sea has no communication with any other. One of the inhabitants of the Cheese Island, whom I had brought with me, accounted for it thus:—that the monster, in whose stomach we had been so long confined, had carried us here through some subterraneous passage; however, we pushed to shore, and I was the first who landed. Just as I put my foot upon the ground, a large bear leaped upon me, with his fore-paws; I caught one in each hand, and squeezed him till he cried out most lustily; however, in this position I held him till I starved him to death.

You may laugh, gentlemen, but this was soon accomplished, as I prevented him from licking his paws. From hence I travelled up to St. Petersburg a second time; here an old friend gave me a most excellent pointer, descended from the famous bitch before-mentioned, that littered while she was hunting a hare. I had the misfortune to have him shot soon after by a blundering sportsman, who fired at him, instead of a covey of partridges which he had just set. Of this creature's skin I have had this waistcoat made, (showing his waistcoat,) which always leads me involuntarily to game, if I walk in the fields in the proper season; and when I come within shot, *one of the buttons constantly flies off, and lodges upon the spot where the sport is;* and, as the birds rise, being always primed and cocked, I never miss them. Here are now but three buttons left. I shall have a new set sewed on against the shooting season commences.

When a covey of partridges is disturbed in this manner, by

the button falling amongst them, they always rise from the ground in a direct line before each other. I one day, by forgetting to take my ramrod out of my gun, shot it straight through a leash, as regularly as if the cook had spitted them. I had forgot to put in any shot, and the rod had been made so hot with the powder, that the birds were completely roasted by the time I reached home.

Since my arrival in England I have accomplished what I had very much at heart, viz. providing for the inhabitant of the Cheese Island, whom I had brought with me. My old friend, Sir William Chambers, who is entirely indebted to me for all his ideas of Chinese gardening, by a description of which he has gained such high reputation; I say, gentlemen, in a discourse which I had with this gentleman, he seemed much distressed for a contrivance to light the lamps at the new buildings, Somerset-House, the common mode with ladders, he observed, was both dirty and inconvenient. My native of the Cheese Island popped into my head; he was only nine feet high when I first brought him from his own country, but was now increased to ten and a half: I introduced him to Sir William, and he is appointed to that honourable office. He is also to carry, under a large cloak, an utensil in each coat-pocket, instead of those four which Sir William has *very properly* fixed for private purposes in so conspicuous a situation, the great quadrangle.

He has also obtained from Mr. PITT the situation of messenger to his Majesty's lords of the bedchamber, whose principal employment will now be, divulging the secrets of the Royal Household to their worthy patrons.

THE END.

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PRICE SIXPENCE.

1829.

