Bibliotheca Curiosa.

EDWARD WEBBE,

Chief Master Gunner,

His Trauailes.

1590.

Edited by

Edmund Goldsmid, F.R.H.S.,
F.S.A. (Scot.)

Privately printed, Edinburgh.

1588.
BIBLIOGRAPHY.

EDWARD WEBBE HIS TRAUAILES.

(a) Issues in the Narrator's life time.

1. [1590]. London. 2 vol. 4to. *Editio princeps*: It has no wood cuts. [Of this first edition the only Copy as yet known is that purchased at Nassau's sale by Mr. Jadin, at whose sale again it was purchased for £2 14s. 4d. *Grenville Catalogue, British Museum.*] See facsimile Title Page.

2. [1590]. London. 1 vol. 4to. *Printed by A. J. for VVilliam Barley, dwelling in Grattious streets neere leden hall.* A reprint of No. 1; with the addition of six woodcuts, one of which, repeated also as a frontispiece, represents Webbe as a young man walking.


The only important addition is the following in the 'Epistle to the Reader':

'And whereas in the first edition of this booke a great faulte in number did negligently escape in Folio 3 [see page 18.] in these words 30 thousand for 500 thousand: and 50 thousand for 500 thousand. that faulte is truly amended in this Edition.' These alterations have been made in the present edition.

(b) Issues subsequent to the Narrator's death.


THE

Rare and most wonderful

things which Edward Webbe

an Englishman borne hath seene and passed

in his troublesome travailes, in the Citties of Jerusalem, Dammafo, Bethel and Gallely: and

in the Landes of Iewrie, Egipt, Grecia,

Russia, and in the Land of Prester Iohn.

Wherein is set foorth his extreame flauerie sustained many yeres together, in the Gallies and wars

of the great Turk against the Landes of Persia,

Tartaria, Spaine, and Portugall, with the

manner of his releasement, and comming

into Englande in May laft.

LONDON,

Printed by Ralph Blower, for Thomas Pauier, &
are to be solde at his shop in Corn-hill, at the signe of the Cat and
Parrats, over against Popeshead alley, nere the Royal Exchange.
Verses Written vppon the Alphabet of the Queenes Maiesties name.

E ternall God, who guideth still your grace,
L engthen your life, in health and happie days.
I nspire your subiects heartes in euerie place:
Z ealous in Loue, and free from secret hate,
A nd shorten life in those that breede debate.
B eholde her Lorde, who is our strength and stay
E uen he it is, by whom we holde our owne:
T urne not thy face from her in any way,
H ew downe her foes, and let them all be knowne.

R Enowned Queene, your highnesse subiectes joy,
E uen for to see the fall of all your foes:
G od of his mercy shielde you from annoy
I ntending treasons, still for to disclose:
N one of vs all, but wil most duely pray,
A Imightie God preserue you night and day.

FINIS.
The Epistle to the Reader.

Vrteous Reader, I haue undertaken in this short discourse, to ytter vnto thee ye most part of such things as I saw and passed in the time of my troublesome trauell and slauish life susteyned in the Gallies, and wars of the great Turke.

And this I do protest, that in this booke there is nothing mentioned or expressed, but that which is of truth: and what mine owne Eies haue perfectly seene. Some foolish persons perhaps will cavell and say, that thiese are but Lies and fables: and that it conteyneth nothing else: but to those I aunswere, that whatsoeuer is herein mentioned, he whosoeuer he be, that shall soe finde faulte, and doubt of the trueth hereof, let him but make inquirie of the best and greatest travellers and Merchants about all this land: and they doubtles will resolue them that it is true which is here expressed: with a great deale more, which now I cannot call to remembrance, for that my memory faileth me, by meanes of my great and greuous troubles. From my lodging at Black-wall, this nineteenth of May. 1590.

Your Loving cuntreman,

EDVYARD WEBBE.
TO THE MOST MIGHTY, MY GRATIOUS AND RENOWNED SOVEREIGNE, ELIZABETH by the grace of God Queene of England, France and Ireland, defender of the faith, &c.

YOUR HIGHNESSE MOST HUMBLE SVBIJECT, Edward VVeb, hartely prayeth for the continuance of your Maiesties health and prosperous raigne to the worldes ende.

Considering (most Gracious and dread Soueraigne) the wonderful prouidence of Almighty god shewed towards your Highnesse since the time of your most happie and prosperous raigne, aswell in the preseruation of your Maiesties person from the handes of your highnesse enemies, as also, in defending this small Angle or Realme of Englande from the force of forraine foes: and the continuall blessings of peace and plentie, with which euer since, he hath in bountifull sort maintained it: I coulde not therefore but (according to my dutie) tender humble thankes to almightie god for the same when to my great comfort, euin in the midst of my thraldome in Turkie, I did heare it most truely reported by a Christiane Captiue, and your Highnesse Clemen-
DEDICATION.

cie, by him highly commended. The report of
whose fame truly descried, aswell in the adminis-
tration of justice, and supporting of Christian
religion, as also in relieuing and succouring the
poore distressed members of this lande, gave me
just cause to pray hartely for my deliuerie, and to
long inwardly, vntill I came to see your highnesse
(my dread Soueraigne) and this my Natuie Cun-
trye: and now hauing obteyned my long expected
wish. I doe in all humbleness prostrate my selfe,
and this plaine discourse of my travels to your
most excellent Maiestie: wherein may be seene,
that if in Turkie I would haue denied my Christ,
or in my travel I woulde have forsaken my Prince
to haue serued for Spaine, thereby to haue become
a traytoryr to your Majestie and my natuie Cun-
trye, I needed not to haue liued in want, but in
great prosperitie: but for as much as almighty
God hath now set me free from thraldome, and
delivered me from many daungers, and sent me
into Englande, my desire is that I may be implo-
ed in such service and affaires, as may be pleasing
to God, and found profitable to my prince and
country. And thus trusting your Highnesse will
accept in good worth this true discourse (though
rudely penned) I most humbly take my leaue, most
hartely praying to the almighty god, for the pro-
spersous health and continuall Raigne of your most
excellent Majestie

Your Highnesses humble subiect,

Ed. Web.
EDWARD WEB an Englishman, borne at S. Katherins, neere ye Tower of London, was the sonne of one Richard Web master gunner of England: my father hauing some natural affection to me, when I was but xij yeares olde, did prefer me to the service of Captaine Jenkenson,* at such time as he was sent Ambassador into Russia, with whom I went by Sea, and vpon him I was daylie attendant: in which my journey, I was conversant among ye people of that Cuntrey, which were apparelled like the Turkes and Tartarians, with furde Caps and long garments down to their shins: much like to Carbines or Horsemen readie to ye warre.

There I made my abode some space in the head Cittie of Russia called Musko, in which their building is all of Firre, except the Emperors Court, which is of lime and stone. They execute very sharpe lawes among themselues, and are a

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*A full account of Jenkinson's voyage will be found in Hakluyt's Collection of Voyages, vol. 1. (Edition 1598-1600.)
kinde of Tyranous People as appeareth by their customs, of which, among many other, these I specially noted: that if any man be indebted one to another and doth not make payment at his day and time appointed: the officers may enter upon the debtors, and forceably breake down their houses, and imprison them in grievous sort where judgment shall presently passe against him, which is with a mallet of wood he shall have so many blowes on the shinnen or on the fore-heade, as the Judge shall awarde: and this punishment shall be inflicted sundry daies upon him. The Turks do also use to beate Debtors with a Mallet, but not in that sort, for in Turkie they are beaten for debt vpon the soles of their feet with a Cane, or else a Cudgell, if that payment be not made by a day. I also noted that if any Nobleman do offend ye Emperor of Russia, the saide Nobleman is taken and imprisonned with al his Children and kinsfolkes, and the first great frost that commeth, (for the Countrie is wonderfully cold and subject to much frost) there is a great hole made in the Ise ouer some great Riuier, and then the partie principal is put in, and after him his wife, his Children, and all other his kins-folkes; and so leave none of his posteritie to possesse his Lands or goodes, but the same are bestowed vpon others, at the Emperors pleasure.

There I staide 3 yeeres attendant on my maister, in which time the Crime-Tartarians [otherwise
named the new Christians] made warre vpon the
said Cittie of Musco,* which soone after was be-
trayed, and speedely burned, the People in great
aboundance massacred, and the Tartarian Souldiers
had wonderfull greate and rich spoyles, in the
same: there was I at that time with viij. other
Englishmen taken prisoners and for slaues were
converted to Caffa, where the king of the Tartarians
abideth and keepeth a statly Court: being con-
veyed thither, we were set to wipe the feet of the
kings horses, and to become ordinarie slaues in
the said Court, to fetch water, cleaue wood, and
to do such other drudgery. There were we beaten
three times a weeke with a horse tayle: and thus in
this sort and miserable seruitude wee stayed there
five yeeres, then were we ransomed from thence
by our friends, where we paide euery man 300.
crownes, which is viij. s. vj. d. a peece of English
money. Among that people called ye Tartarians,
I noted especially this one thing, that their Child-
ren being new borne, do neuer open their eyes
vntill they be ix. dayes and ix. nights olde. Thus
being ransomed as is aforesaid, I returned home
into England, where hauing staid some smal time,
I went againe into Russia in the hart of master
Kings of Ratcliffe with thirty saile of ships more
in our Company, at which time her Maiesties

* The burning of Moscow by the Tartars occurred on the
24th May, 1571. (Hakluyt, 1. 402 and 474 to 497. Ed.
1598-1600.)
shippe called the Willoughby was our Admirall, and the Harry appertayning to the company of the Marchants, was our Vice-Admirall, Maister William Burrow then being our Captaine and maister: in which our voyage we met with v. Rovers or men of war,* whom we set vpon, and burnt their Admirall, and brought those ships into Narr, and there the men ware massacred in this manner by the Russians: first great stakes druen into the grounde, and they spitted vpon Powles, as a man woulde put a Pig vpon a Spitte, and so vij. score were handled in that manner in very Tyranous sort. We vnladen our bourthen at Narre,† and tooke in our lading for our commodities, but the ship wherein I was (which is called the Hart) hauing sayled but xij. miles from thence, stroke vpon a Rocke, whereby the ship and goodes were lost, the residue of the fleet had no harme, and all the men saued their lies by taking themselves into the Boat of the same ship.

By meanes of which ship so cast away, I lost all that I had, and then came againe into England, and gathered a new stocke, and in the Henrie of London I went to Levanra alias Legorne. This ship called the Henrie had bin solde before to Doctor Hector, and other Italian Marchants, which was vnknowne vnto vs, so that at our comming to

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* For an account of the capture of the Danish freebooters see Hakluyt, I. 401. (Ed. 1599-1600.)
† Narva,
Legorne the ship was seized on by the factors of those that were the owners thereof, and by them laden with merchandize to Alexandria, in which voyage my selfe was Master gunner.

But here fortune began to lowre on me againe, and turne her wheele in such sort against me, as that I was soone after brought to liue in greater slauerie than euer I did before, for we hauing safflie arriued at Alexandria, dischardged our burthen: and fraughted our ship with great store of that Cuntrey commodities, and returning back to Legorne, suddainly in the way, we met with Fiftie saile of the Turkes Gallies: with which Gallies, we fought two dayes and two nights, and made great slaughter amongst their men, we being in all but three score men very weake for such a multyture, and hauing lost 50. of 60. men, faintnes constrained vs for to yeeld vnto them, by reason we wanted Winde to help our selves withall, and the Calme was so great a helpe vnto them, as there was no way for vs to escape. Thus did the Turkes take the ship and goodes, and in the same found x of vs liuing whom they tooke Prisoners and presently striped vs naked, and gaue vs 100 blowes a peece for presuming to fight against them.

Then were we sent to Constantinople, and then committed to the Gallies, where we continued the space of vj yeeres: the manner of our vsage, there, was thus.
First we were shauen head and face, and then a shirt of Cotten and Breeches of the same put vppon vs, and our Legs and Feete left naked, and by one of the feet is each slaeue chayned with a great chaine to the Gallie, and our handes fastned with a payre of manacles. The foode which I and others did eat, was very blacke, far worse than Horse-breade, and our drinke was stinking water, [vnlesse it be when we come to the places where we tooke in fresh water] at which time we supposed our diet to be very daintie.

Thus as I saide before, I remained vj. yeeres in this miserable state, wonderfully beaten and misused every day: there haue I seene some of my fellowes when they haue bin so weake as they could not row by reason of sicknes and faintnes, where ye Turkes woulde lay vpon them as vpon Horses, and beat them in such sort, as oft times they dyed, and then threw them into the Sea.

Thus seeing my selfe still to continue in this miserable state, I was constrained for want of victualles, to discover my selfe and to shew them that I had good skill in Gunners art, which I thought would haue bin greatly wel esteemed at the Turkes handes: but then for the same, I was more narrowly looked vnto, yet somewhat better esteemed of, then I was before. Not long after, the Turke made warres against the Persians, and gathered vij. hundred thousand men together, and these were conducted by his chief Bassaes into
Persia: At which time (for that I had skil in Artillery) I was chosen foorth of the Gallies, to go with the Armie into the lande of Persia, and there to do the Turke service in the fielde, with whom I travailed on foote, but in our going thither, their dyed of our Armie, by means of great sickness, diet, and want of Victuals, about the number of 300 thousand so that when wee came into persia we were four hundred thousand strong in the fielde, there wee rested vs one moneth, by which time, we (hauing hartened our selves) gaue a fierce assault against the Persians, where the Turks side got the worst, and lost 60 thousand men. Then the generall ouer the Turkes Armie, whose name was Sannon Basha, sent vs so many souldiers more as made vs 500 thousand strong, there we staide for a long time, making warres against the Persians, and the greate Cittie of Damasco, where the Turke little preuyyled: for if that the Turke were as pollitick as he is strong of power, the Persians were not able to resist him.

Thus leaving the Turkes Armie in Persia, we came through Damasco to our Cittie called the great Cawr which Cittie is three score miles in compass, and is the greatest Cittie in the world, it standeth vpon the riever of Nilo, and in the said Cittie, there is 12 thousand Churches, which they earme Muscots.

This Cittie at all times keepeth xl. thousand
men continually in Souldiers pay, and are ready at one hours warning to serve under the Turke: there we staide to see the cutting or parting of the Riuere of Nilo, which is done once euery yeere, vpon the 25 of August. This Cittie standeth in the land of Egipt, and is vnder the gouernment of the great Turke. And there is a king ouer the saide Cittie, who is called the king of the great Caer, and ye Wize Roy or Lieftenant to the great Turke, and he is then present at the cutting or parting of this river of Nilo: at which time there is a great triumph, and euery Towne and Cuntrey round about to the value of a thousand mile, send gifts and presents to the king of the great Caer, in consideration of the water which commeth to them from that Riuere of Nilo by meanes of the cutting of it, which is but once euery yeere.

It is therefore to be vnderstood, that in ye Land of Egipt it rayneth not at all, and all the grounde throughout the lande of Egipt is continually watred by the water which vppon ye 25 day of August is turned into the countries round about, by meanes of ye wonderfull growing and swelling of the water vpright without any stay at all, on the one side thereof, it is to ye height of a huge mountaine, which beginneth to increase the 15. day of August, and by the 25. of the same moneth it is at the highest, on which day it is cut by ye deuiding of 2 pillars in a strange sort, neere to the cittie of ye great Caer. and so turned as off from a great
mountaine into the lande of Egipt: by means whereof, the Turk holdes all the land of Egipt in subiection to him selfe, and might if he would dismisse them cleane from haung any water at all.

From thence I went with the Turkes power, and vnder his conduction to the lande of Iewry, and from thence to the ciity of Jerusalem, where part of the olde Temple is yet standing, and many Monuments of great antiquitie, as herein after shall be shewed.

In the Land of Siria, there is a riuere that no Iew can catch any fish in it at all, and yet in the same riuere there is great store of fish like vnto Samon trouts: But let a Christian or a Turk come thither and fish for them, and eyther of them shall catch them in great aboundance, if they do but put their hande into the water with a little bread, and an hundred will be about his hand.

Thus hauing seene a number of rare and most wonderful things, we went to the ciity of Agoua, which is ye head and chief ciity in all ye East Indies, there wee gaue Battell against ye Christians yat keep ye said ciity, which are Portugals, for that ye Town appertaineth to ye king of Portugal. In this place wee gaue Battle and lost xx thousand of ye Turkmen, and yet could not obtain it: Neuertheles ye great Turks Lieutenant or Generall with his power toke a place called Armoys, where they had great store of Treasure and Sowes of Silver.
Thus being chief master Gunner in these Turkish warres, I was sent for againe by commandement of ye Turk to Dasmasco, where I staid all that winter with xx M. men. And from thence made provision to make wars against the land of Prester Iohn,* who is by profession a Christian. In this land of Prester Iohn, when it doth raine, it continueth at the least one whole moneth. And in ye ground Caer, there is a plague once in every viij yeeres, which commeth with such a fiercenes, that the most part of all the people there do die of the said plague: and people in great numbers lose their Eie sight with the vapours and great heat which commeth from the ground.

I remember one battaile, which ye Admirall of the great Turke named Ally Basha made with three-score Gallies, and seized vpon a towne where the said Ally Basha was borne himselfe, namely Trybusas, which is in ye confines of Calabria and vnder ye gouernment of the king of Spaine, at which towne he landed his Armie an houre before day, thinking to have taken it by treason: and there vpon in great fury scaled the walls with lathers: but the watch beuraied vs, and on a sodaine, cried Arme, Arme, which was soone done: for every man tooke him to his tooles and weapons of defence.

* The name given by Europeans to a dynasty of supposed Eastern Potentates. (See Encyclopaedia Britannica.)
WEBBE HIS TRAUAILES.

But it is worthy of memorie, to see how the women of ye towne did plie themselves with their weapons, making a great massacre upon our men, and murthered 500 of them in such speedie and furious sort as is wonderfull: we needed not to have feared their men at all, had not ye women bin our great ouerthrow, at which time I my selfe was maister Gunner of the Admirals Gally, yet chainde greevously, and beaten naked with a Turkish sword flatling, for not shooting where they would have me, and where I could not shoot.
It is but a few yeares since, that in the citty of Constantinople, there happned a great plague, where there dyed in six moneths space, seven hundred thousand persons, at which time master Harbarn Ambassador for the Turkie company was there, and lost sundry of his servants.

From Damasco we went into the land of prester Iohn who is a Christian, and is called Christien de Seniour: that is, the Christian of the Gerdel: against this prester Iohn I went with the Turks power, and was then their maister Gunner in the field, ye number of Turkish Souldiers sent thither, was five hundred M. men who went thither by land, and pitched themselves in battaile ray at Saran, neere to the place wher the son of prester Iohn keepeth his Court. There Prester Iohn with his power, slew of ye Turks the number of 60. thousand. onely by policie of drawe Bridges to let foorth water, made as secrete sleweys for
that purpose, in which water so many Turks
perished. The next day following, the Turk's
power did incompass Prester Iohn's sonne and
tooke him prisoner, and sent him for a present to
ye great Turks Court then being at Constantinople,
but soone after, prester Iohn himselfe made an
agreement betweene the greate Turke and his
sonne, that the one shoule not demand tribute
of the other, and so his sonne was released and
sent home againe.

This Prester Iohn of whom I spake before, is a
King of great power, and keepeth a very bounti-
full Court, after the manner of that Cuntrey, and
hath every day to serue him at his Table, sixty
kinges, wearing leaden Crownes on their heads,
and those serue in the meat vnto Prester Iohn's
Table: and continually the first dish of meat set
vpon his Table, is a dead mans scull cleane
picked and laide in black Earth: putting him in
minde that he is but Earth, and that he must die,
and shal become Earth againe.

These 60 Kings are all his Wize Royes in seuerall
places, and they haue their Deputies to supply
their Roomes, and those kings liue continually in
Prester Iohns Courte, and go no furder than they
may be still attendant vpon him, without leave
of their Emperour Prester Iohn.

In the Court of Prester Iohn, there is a wilde
man, and an other in the high street at Constan-
тинople, whose allowance is every day a quarter of
Raw Mutton: and when any man dyeth for some notorious offence, then they are allowed every day a quarter of mans flesh.

These wilde men are chained fast to a post every day, the one in Prester Iohns Court, and the other in the high street of Constantinople, each of them hauing a Mantel cast about their shoulders, and all ouer their bodies they haue wonderfull long haire, they are Chained fast by the neck, and will speedily deuoure any man that commeth in their reach.

There is also a Beast in the Court of Prester Iohn, called Arians, hauing 4 heads, they are in shape like a wilde Cat, and are of the height of a greate mastic Dog.

In this Court likewise, there is Fowles caled Pharses foules whose feathers are very beautifull to be worn, these fowles are as big as a Turkie, their flesh is very sweet, and their feathers of all manner of Collours.

There is Swannes in that place, which are as lardge againe as the Swannes of Englande are, and their Feathers are as blew as any blew cloath.

I have seen in a Place like a Park adjoyning vnto prester Iohns Court, three score and seuenteeene Vnicornes and Eliphants all alieue at one time, and they were so tame that I haue played with them as one would play with young Lambes.

When Prester Iohn is serued at his table, there is no salt at all set one in any salt sellar as in
other places, but a loaf of Bread is cut crosse, and then two kniues are layde acrosse vpon the loafe, and some salt put vpon the blades of the kniues and no more.

Being thus in the land of prester Iohn, I travell-ed within Eighteeene degrees of ye Sun, every degree being in distance three score miles.

I was at the Red Sea, at the place where Meyes made passage with his wande for the Children of Israel, where I saw a Ship called the ground Maria, she drawes but xj foot water, and against this ship lx Gallies and ships haue fought at one time, and cannot conquer her: and this is vnder the gouvernment of ye great Turke.

I haue seene in the Courts of the three great Patriarkes, the first whereof is kept at Ierusalem, the second at the Gran Caer, and the third at Constantinople: these haue their Courts in very stately sort, and attended on by none but Priests.

When I was at Ierusalem, I saw the Sepulchre wherein (it is said) Christ was buried: it is as it were in a Vault, and hath vij Dores, and vij Roes of Marble steppes or stayres to go downe into the same, and then at the bottom of ye stayres, there is a faire Chapel, with an Altar and a Lamp burning continually day and night before it, and the Graue is full of white Earth, as white as Chalke, and a Toombe of ye same Earth made, and laide vpon Stone, wheron were sundry Letters written, but I could not read them.
WEBBE HIS TRAUAILES.

The great Turk hath some profit comming by ye keeping thereof, and hath therefore builded at his owne charges an Hospital within Jerusalem, which his Genezeries doe keepe: and this Hospital is to receive all Pilgrims and travellers to lodge in whencsoever they come. And all that come to see the sepulchre doe pay ten Crowns a-peece, whereof the Turke hath but one, and the rest goes to the Church, and so they may stay there as long as they list to lodge in that new Hospital, and have lodging, bread, victuals and water so long as they will remaine there, but no wine: such as come hither for Pilgrims haue no beds at all, but lie vpon the ground on Turkey Carpets, and before the sepulcher of Christ there is masse said euerie day, and none may say the masse there, but a man that is a pure virgin: there was one that dyed while I was there, that daily said and sung masse before the sepulcher, and he was an hundred and thirtie yeares of age before his death, and now another is in his Roome, but whether ye old man that dead is, or this which is now in the place to sing and say the said Masse, were pure Virgins I know not, but sure I dare not sweare for them, because they bee men, and flesh and bloud as other are.

After that I had thus long trauelled and spent my time in the warres and affaires of the great Turke, I was returned againe to Constantinople, where at my ariuall, a pennie loafe of Bread (of
English sterling money) was worth a crown of gold: such was the scarcity, sickness, misery and death then upon ye said Cittie, and happy was he that so could get Bread to eat. Nevertheless, because I was a Christian, and for that ye Turke had no cause presently to use me in my office of gunnery, I was there imprisoned, where I found two thousand Christians pinned vp in stone walls lockt fast in iron chains, grievously pinched, with extreme penury, and such as wished death rather then in such misery to live: amongst these was I placed, and took part with them accordingly: grieving at my hard hap that the wars had not ended me before I came there.

Thus I remained there with the rest, garded and daily watched, that we could stir no manner of way, there were suffered to worke upon any manner of trade or occupation wherein we were in any way expert: and what we did or made, we sold to the Turkes, and they gave us money for the same: and thus were we suffered to worke untill it were time to goe and gather Snowe, which is thereto used yearly of Custome to be gathered: for the Turke hath great sumnes of monye paid him for ye said snow, which is gathered and sold to his subiects for a penny the pound, which pound, is two pound and a halfe English: and this snowe they use only to coole their drinke in the summer season. And no man may sell any snowe untill the Turke hath solde all his.
Thus living in this slauish life as is aforesaid, divers of vs com lotted and hammered into our heads how we might procure our releasement: whereupon I attempted with the consent of 5 hundredth Christians, fellow slanes with my selfe, to breake a wall of fourteene foote broad, made of earth, lyme, and sand, which we greatly mosened with strong Vinegar, so that the wall being made moist therewith through the help of a spike of yron, five hundred of vs had almost escaped out of prison: but looke what shall be, shall be, and what God will have, shall come to passe and no more, as appeareth by vs, for we hauing made meanes for our speedie flight, as we were issuing foorth, we were bewrayed by ye barking of a dog, which caused the Turkes to arise, and they taking vs with the maner stopped vs from flying away, and gaue vs in recompence for our paines taking herein, seaven hundred blowes a peece vpon he naked skinne, vs three hundred on the belly, and foure hundred on ye back.

Thus lying still Prisoner in the Turkes dungeones, it pleased God to send thether for the releasement of me and others, a worthy gentleman of this land, named Maister Harborne, Ambassadour thether for the company of Marchants, who to the great honour of England did behaue himselfe wonderfull wisely, and was a speciall meanes for the releasement of me and sundrie other English captiues, who were set at libertie soone after the
death of the great Basha: thus by the meanes of the said Maister Harborne I was set free from Thrakhome, and by him sent into England where I arrived on the first of May, 1589.

Whilst I was remaining prisoner in Turkey, and kept in such slauish manner as is Rehearsed the great Turke had his sonne circumcised, at which time there was great tryumphes and free liberty proclaimed for a hundred daies space, that any Nobleman, gentleman, troueller, Christian or other, might freely (without being molested) come and see the tryumphes there used, which were woonderful: I my selfe was there constrained to make a cunning pcece of fire work framed in form like to ye Arke of Noy, beeinge 24 yarde high, and eight yarde broad, wherein was placed 40 men drawn on 6 wheeles, yet no man scene, but seemed to goe alone, as though it were onely drawn by two Fiery Dragons, in which shew or Arke there was thirteene thousand seuerall pceces of fire worke

At the same time that I was Released, there were set at liberty about xx English men, whereof I was one of the last: some of them are at this present in England. My self and others were released by meanes of her Maiesties favorable Letters, sent to ye greate Turke, brought by the foresayd Maister Harborne: some by the Raunsome money gathered at sundry times by the Marchants in the Cittie of London, for ye Godly
purpose: of which, some of their names that were released were these. Hamand Pan, Iohn Beer, Iohn Band, Andrew Pullins, Edward Buggins and others.

Here may the bountiful Citizens of London see (as in a glass) the fruits of their liberalitie and charitable devotion given at seuerall times in the yeare towards the releasement of poore captiues, such as are constrained to abide most wilde and grievous tortures, especially the torture and torment of consciences which troubled me and all true Christians to ye very soule: for the Turk by all meanes possible would still persuade me and other my fellow Christians while I was there the time of 13 yeares, to forsake Christ to deny him, and to beleue in their God Mahomet; which if I would haue done, I might haue had wonderfull preferment of the Turke, and haue liued in as great felicitie as any Lord in that countrey: but I utterly denied their request, though by them greecously beaten naked for my labour, and reuiled in most detestable sort, calling me dogge, diuell, helhound, and such like names: but I giue God thankes he gaue me strength to abide with patience these crosses.

And though I were but a simple man voide of learning, yet stil I had in remembrace that Christ dyed for me, as appeareth by the holy Scriptures, and that Christ therein saith: He that denyeth me before men I will deny him before my
father which is in heaven: and againe he saith
Whosoever beleeueth on me shall be saved, and have
life everlastinge. This comfort made me resolute,
that I would rather suffer all the tormentes of death
in the worlde, then to deny my Saviour and
Redeemer Christ Iesus.

After my free libertie granted in Turkey, I
intending my journey towards England, came by
land to Venice, where I met at Padua thirtie
Englishmen students, I met also with an English-
man, who liued in the state of a Frier, he brought
me before the high Bishop, where I was accused
for an hereticke, and he brought me in two fals
witnesses to be sworn against me (hauing before
known me in Turkey) nevertheless I disproned
his witnesses, and they were found forsworne men,
then was I set at libertie, and constrained to giue
15 Crownes towards the finishing our Ladies
shrine at Padua: and my accuser and his witnesses
punished.

From thence I came to ye Duke of Ferrara,
where I was wel entertained and liberally rewarded
with a horse and fие and twentie Crownes for the
sake of the Queenes Majestie of England.

From thence with my Pasport, I came to Bolony
in Italy, where I met with a popish Bishop being
an Englishman which shewed me great friendship,
he is called Doctor Poole: from thence to
Florence, there I met with an English gentleman
named masister John Stanley. And from thence I
went to Rome, there I was nineteene daies in trouble with the Pope, and the English Cardinall Doctor Allen, a notable Arch-papist, where I was often examined, but finding nothing by me, they let me passe, and understanding that I had bene a captiue long time in Turkey, gaue me xxv. crownes. And before I went out of Rome, I was againe taken by ye English Colledge, and put there into the holy house 3 daies, with a fooles coate on my backe, halfe blew, half yellowe, and a cockescombe with three bels on my head, from whence I was holpen by meanes of an Englishman whom I found there, and presented my petition and cause to the Pope: who againe set me at libertie. From thence I departed to Naples, where I met with a Genowis, who apprehended me and brought me there before ye vice-Roy, saying I was a man of great knowledge and an English spie.

Then I was committed to a darke Dungeon xvj daies, which time they secretely made enquiry where I had liue before, what my wordes and behauiour had bene while I was there, but they coulde finde nothing by me.

Thrice had I ye strappado, hoisted vp backward with my hands bound behinde me, which strooke all the ioynts in my armes out of joynct, and then constrained to drinke salte water and quicklime, and then fine Lawne or Callico thrust downe my throate and pluckt vp againe ready to pluck my
hart out of my belly, al to make me to confesse that I was an English spie. After this, there were four bard horses prepared to quarter me, and I was still threatened to die except I would confesse some thing to my harme.

Thus seauen moneths I endured in this miserie, and yet they coulde finde no cause against me, then I wrote to the Vice-Roy to do me iustice, and he did write to ye K[ing] of Spain to know what should be done with me: whereupon the king of Spaine wrote that I should be employed in a Gunners roome: then was I entertained, and had 35 crownes a moneth, and had ye Kings pattent sealed for the same, and then understand-

ng that three ships were comming towards Eng-land I departed and fled from thence with them to my natie Cuntry, in ye Grace of London by the helpe of one Nicholas Nottingham maister thereof. Thus came I into England with great joy and hearts delight, both to my selfe and all my acquaintance.

The report in Roome, Naples, and all ouer Italy, in my trauell which was at such time as the Spaniardes came to invade England, after I had beene released of my imprisonmment, as I passed through the streetes, the people of that parts asked me how I durst acknowledge my selfe to be an Englishman, and thereupon to daunt me, did say, that England was taken by the Spaniards, and the Queene of England (whome God long preserue)
was taken prisoner, and was comming towards Rome to doe penance: and that her highness was brought thither, through desarts, moist, hilly and foule places: and where plaine ground was, holes and hollow trenches were digged in the way of her Maiesties passage, to ye intent that she might haue gone vp to the mid leg in oes or mire: with these speeches they did check me, and I said, yat I trusted God doubtles would defend my Prince better, then to deliuer her into the hands of her enemies, wherefore they did greatly reuile me.

Many things I haue omitted to speake of, which I haue seen and noted in the time of my troublesome trauel. One thing did greatly comfort me which I saw long since in Sicilia, in the citie of Palermo, a thing worthy of memorie, where the right honorable the Earle of Oxenford a famous man for Chualrie at what time he trauelled into foraine Countries, being then personally present, made there a challeng against al manner of persons whatsoeuer, and at all maner of weapons, as Turniments, Barriers with horse and armour, to fight a combat with any whatsoeuer in the defence of his Prince and countrey: for which he was verie highly commended, and yet no man durst be so hardy to encounter with him, so that all Italy ouer, he is acknowledged the onely Chiuallier and Noble man of England. This title they giue vnto him as worthily deserued.
Moreover, in the land of Egypt near to the River of Nilo, within sixe miles of the Gran Caer. There are seaven Mountaines buildded on the out side, like unto ye point of a Diamond, which Mountaines were buildded in King Pharoes time for to keepe Corne in, and they are Mountaines of great strength.

It is also saide, that they were buildded about that time when Joseph did lade home his Brethren Asses with Corne, in the time of the great deaarth mentioned in the Scripture: At which time, all their Corne lay in those mountaines.

In the River of Nilo, there is long Fishes that are of tenne or twelue foote long, which swimmeth neere the shore, they are called the fishes of King Pharaoh, they are like unto a Dolphin.

These Fishes are so subtile, that swimming neere the shore side, they will pull men or women sodeinly into the River and devoure them.

In the Cittie of the gran Caer, the houses are of a very olde building, all of Lime and stone, and in most of the houses the roofes are covered with fine gold, in a very workemanly sort.

In Egypt there is small store of water, because it neuer raineth in that Country, so that their water is very dangerous to drinke. They haue no springs at all in that country, and yet there falleth such a dew euery night, as doth refresh and keeps their hearebs and plantes in due sort, and makes them spring very fruitfully.
The Citie of Damasco is very fruitfull and greatly replenished with all manner of fruiotes whatsoever, as Pombgranades, Oranges, Limons, Apples, Pears, Plumbs, Grapes, and all other like fruiotes.

The Turkes are a people yet at some time they will attempt to doe wonderfull things as going vpon Ropes, and thrusting their swords in their naked flesh, and stricke their sworde in their flesh like vnto a Scabbard: and many other things of great danger.

In Turkie no man may strike the graunde Cady, that is their chiefest Iudg, if any man do strike him, immediatly he loseth his Right Arme for his offence, without Redemption.

At my comming ouer into Englande from Rome, I was faine to steal away, beeinge then in yeerely fee to the King of Spaine, to be one of his chiefest Gunners.

And if the Ship where in I came ouer, had bin taken, both they and I my selfe had dyed for that offence.

The old Cittie of Ierusalem is a very delicat place, and nothing there to be seene but a little of the old walles which is yet Remayning: and all the rest is Grasse, Mosse and weedes much like to a pece of Rank or moist grounde. They haue no Tillage at all in that partes.

The City of Ierusalem where the Temple now standeth is almost a mile from the olde walles of Ierusalem: it is of a maruellous olde building,
and there standeth the old Relicks preserved and kept as Monuments of great treasure.

Now to Returne where I left off, and declare vnto you in what sort I imploide my selfe since my first entring into englande: here I visited my friends from May till November, and then I departed into Fraunce, where I had good entertainment at the Hands of the Renowned King and Captaine of this age, Henry of Burbon, King of Fraunce and Navarre, who Receiued me into Pay, and appointed me for his chiefe Maister Gunner in the field.

So that vpon Ash-wednesday last, at his most Renowned Battle fought vpon the plaine of Saint Andrew neere vnto Dreuex: I was in seruice vnder him, where I gaue 3 charges vpon the Enemie, and they in steede thereof, gaue vs fifteene shot, and yet God be thanked perualled not against vs.

There were wee constrained to make Bulwarkes of the dead bodies of our Enemies and of the Carcasses of dead Horses; where for my pains taking that day, the king greatlye commended me, and honorably Rewarded me.

But shortly after my first arrivall in Fraunce, I was hated by some lewde Gunners who envying that I should haue the Title to be Master Gunner in Fraunce, practised against me, and gaue me poysnon in drinke that night: which thing when the King vnderstoode, he gaue order to the
governor of Deepe, that his Phisition should presently see vnto me, who gaue me speadely Unicorns horne to drinke, and there by God and the Kings great goodnesse, I was againe restored to my former health.

Thus haue you hearde the manner of my cruell and most grieuous travaile, miserie, slaverie, and crueltie which I haue suffred therein, the manner of some olde Ornamentes and the customes of such as dwell in forraigne nations far off, and in places where our Saviour and his Apostles were resident, and preached vpon the Earth: my seruice done vnder ye great Turke, of Persia, Tartarie, Gracia, and other places seruice, I haue omitted therein my seruice done at the taking of Tannis, and what I did in the Royle vnder Duke Iohn of Austria: and many other things which I could here discouer vnto you: onely let this suffise, that I shall be glad, and do daylie desire that I may be imploied in some such seruice as may be profitable to my Prince and Cuntrey.

FINIS.

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