

EXCERPT  
VIA  
G.H. BALAZS

JOURNAL  
Of a VOYAGE round the  
WORLD,  
In His MAJESTY'S SHIP  
The DOLPHIN,  
Commanded by the Honourable  
Commodore BYRON.

In which is Contained,

A faithful Account of the several PLACES, PEOPLE,  
PLANTS, ANIMALS, &c. seen on the VOYAGE:

And, among other PARTICULARS,

A minute and exact Description of the STREIGHTS of  
MAGELLAN, and of the Gigantic PEOPLE  
called PATAGONIANS.

Together with

An accurate Account of the Seven ISLANDS lately dis-  
covered in the

SOUTH SEAS.

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By a MIDSHIPMAN on Board the said SHIP.

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L O N D O N :

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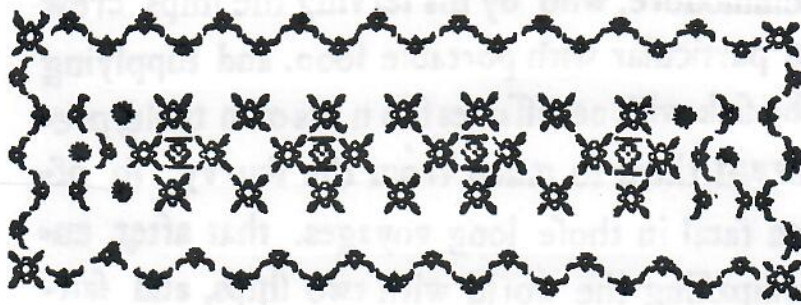
M DCC LXVII,

1765









A

C O P Y  
O F T H E  
A U T H O R ' S L E T T E R

To his F R I E N D ,

Sent with the following J O U R N A L .

*Dear Sir,*

**A**CCORDING to my promise, when I left England, I have kept a journal of my voyage round the world, as exact as possible, except in those islands which we went particularly to discover, and which we are forbid to let the world know, either their latitude or longitude: this you must excuse for the present, till the government allows us that liberty. I cannot however lose this opportunity of acknowledging the great goodness and humanity of the

commodore, who by his serving the ships' crew in particular with portable food, and supplying the sick with necessaries from his own table, preserved them so much from the scurvy, so often fatal in those long voyages, that after encompassing the world with two ships, and sailing so many thousand leagues under the torrid zone, we lost only twelve men out of both ships, including those also who were drowned.

Our commander made us a promise at first setting out, that each man should have double wages, which he accordingly has performed. I hope soon to have the pleasure of seeing you in the country, and am,

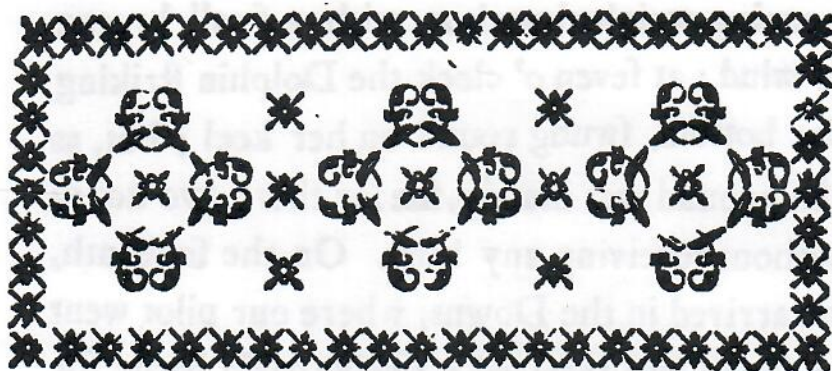
*Dear Sir,*

*Yours affectionately,*

**A MIDSHIPMAN ON BOARD THE DOLPHIN.**







A  
JOURNAL  
OF A  
VOYAGE  
ROUND THE  
WORLD.

EVERY thing being prepared for our voyage, on the ninth of June we slip our moorings, and sailed for Long Reach, where our guns were delivered and taken on board, and were joined by the Tamer frigate, captain Mouat, who was to be our comfort: and on the fourteenth we received on board a pilot for the Downs, and early in the

morning weighed anchor, with a small breeze of wind : at seven o' clock the Dolphin striking the bottom, swung round on her keel ; but, as the ground was muddy, she lay there two hours without receiving any hurt. On the sixteenth, we arrived in the Downs, where our pilot went on shore, and received a twelve oar'd barge for the service of the Dolphin, with fresh provisions for the use of the company. The Tamer, our consort, bound for Plymouth, passed us, and next day we received our commander on board ; upon which we weighed anchor, and sailed.

On the night of the twenty-first we had a strong squall of wind. On the twenty-second, we anchored at Plymouth sound, and saluted the admiral with thirteen guns, and sailed up the Hamoaze, and lash'd along the hulk. It was thought proper, as the Dolphin had taken ground, to examine if she had received any damage ; when, to our great joy, we found she had received none. We here received two months pay to purchase necessaries for so long a voyage. After a stay of four days, we left Plymouth, in company with the Tamer.

Nothing remarkable happened in our voyage to Madeira, where we arrived the four-



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teenth of July. The same day we came to an anchor in Fonchiale bay.

Madeira is situated in a fine and healthful climate,\* and is composed of one continued hill of a considerable height, which extends from east to west. On the south side, the declivity is cultivated, and interspersed with vineyards and country seats belonging to the merchants. The only considerable town in the island is Fonchiale, which is situated on the south, at the bottom of a large bay; it is defended by a high wall with a battery of cannon, and a fortified castle, which stands on the Loo, a rock that rises above the water at a small distance from the shore. This town is the only place where it is possible for a boat to land, and even there a violent surf continually beats upon the beach. The island is justly famous for its excellent wines, which seem designed by providence for the refreshment of the inhabitants of the torrid zone: and never is esteemed good in England, till it has been a voyage to the West Indies. The air is temperate, pure, and serene: They have fine oranges, lemons, bananas, ci-

\* This island is in latitude of 32° 27' and longitude from 18°  $\frac{1}{4}$  to 19°  $\frac{1}{2}$  west, though laid down in the charts at 17°.

END  
EXCERPT

START NEW  
EXCERPT

44

## A VOYAGE

length of the streights of Magellan, where we had been detained by contrary winds, from the twenty-first of December, to the ninth of April, in running, is no more than about one hundred and sixteen leagues.

→ When we entered the South Sea, we frequently had great swelling seas. Nothing material happened till the twenty-sixth of April, when we saw the island of Mafa Fuero.

The greatest disadvantage of this island is, the wanting a commodious harbour. Our men, on account of the great surf, were obliged to swim to and from the boats in cork jackets. About this time they had a fresh attack of the scurvy.

After we had wooded and watered, we left the island, after some alteration in the change of the officers, Captain Mouat being removed from the Tamer to the Dolphin, and the first officer of the Dolphin took command of the Tamer. On the first of May, we weighed, and had now a series of fine weather, though the scurvy still raged among the men.

After a passage of thirty-six days, the Tamer on the seventh of June, at one in the morning, made a signal of seeing land, when we brought to till day light, being greatly rejoiced at the



prospect we had of getting fresh provisions, and a cure for our sick. Soon after day break we had the pleasure of seeing two islands, covered with beautiful trees; and on sailing to the leeward, were regaled with the odoriferous smell of the finest fruits, with cocoa trees in great abundance: we also saw numbers of Indians walking along the beach. The author is not at liberty to give the latitude and longitude, till the government gives leave, and it is made known by public authority: it extends four leagues in length. In the body of the island are many pools of fine water. To our great disappointment, after our boats had been sent to examine the coast, they found the native Indians with weapons, which prevented the boats from landing, being determined to defend their property to the last.

Those Indians were of a very black complexion, with well proportioned limbs, and seemed to be very alert, and full of spirit: all the cloathing they seemed to have, both men and women, was something about their middle, which hung down a little before. The whole number we perceived was about fifty, including their children: and their huts were situated under the shadows of the most delightful groves.

Next morning we worked under the lee of the other island, which lay to the westward of the former, but could find no place fit for anchorage; and great numbers of Indians appeared on the shore, to oppose our landing; the women also took up stones for that purpose. They had a good many canoes on the shore, which they dragged up into the woods. It gave us a great deal of concern to find we could get no landing place. as we had thirty sick on board, and the delightful fruits we saw on shore would have given them great relief, providing they could have been safe on shore

Therefore; with sorrowful hearts, we left those pleasant islands, which we called the Islands of Disappointment. On the eleventh of June, the Tamer made a signal of seeing land; upon which we lay to all night, and in the morning stood into a bay: but there being no soundings, the commodore would not venture in. Upon the boats going again to sound, they espied two canoes following them; upon which the commodore made a signal for the boats to give chase. At one in the afternoon the canoes took to the shore. and the Indians with sticks and staves defended the beach, so that the men in the boats were obliged to fire in their own defence; by

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 & \*  
 TEPOTO



## ROUND THE WORLD. 47

which, several of them were either killed or wounded, and carried away by their companions into the woods.

After dispersing the Indians, we went on shore to procure some refreshment. We saw many of their huts, which are generally built very low, with a top like the roof of a house covered with matting; but they had carried off all their working tools, and whatever was valuable: so that we were disappointed in finding any thing whereby we might have judged of the temper and genius of those people. We carried off a great quantity of cocoa nuts, scurvy-grass, and other vegetables, for the use of the sick.

This island lies <sup>67</sup> sixty-seven leagues distant from the last island we touched at. It is covered on the shore with beautiful red and white coral, pearls, and an innumerable quantity of other fine shells: we gave it the name of Coral Island. We saw but one small spring of water: we saw several turtle shells, by which we imagine there must be a lake in the middle of the island; and great quantities of fish were found hanging on the boughs of the trees to dry.

We imagined those people had some notions of religion, as we saw a place, which we imag-

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= 372 km =  
232 miles

gined designed for a place of worship. A very beautiful grotto, in which was one of the largest cocoas, before which stood several large stones, and behind those stones a box, with a human skeleton, of a very large size; and from one of the trees hung the figure of a dog, adorned with feathers.

Steering still to the westward, we saw another island, which was situated in the same latitude. We sent our boats to find an anchoring place: as soon as they approached the shore, a number of Indians came about the boats, to whom our men gave trinkets, with which they seemed greatly pleased, and, encouraged by their good behaviour, our men ventured on shore. This island is seven miles in length, and three in breadth: we called it King George's Island. There was not so many cocoas here, as in the other islands we had seen.

Proceeding along the shore, we saw another island, which we called the Prince of Wales's Island; it has a narrow neck of land, about five leagues in length. We saw here a number of Indians dispersed along the shore.

On the twenty-first of June, at seven in the morning, we saw land a-head, which we found to be a single island, about four leagues in

King George  
Islands =  
Ahe, Manihi,  
Takapoto,  
Takarua  
and Tikei



## ROUND THE WORLD. 49

length, surrounded with shoals and breakers, which we termed the Island of Danger. We saw on it abundance of cocoas.

Proceeding forward in our voyage, on the twenty-third, we had excessive rains, which we made good use of, by filling our casks with fresh water: this is performed by fastening a piece of canvas in a horizontal position, hanging it by the corners, and placing a cannon ball, or any heavy thing in the center, by which means, the rain running into the middle, pours in a stream into the bung hole of the casks placed under. This is the manner the Manilla ships receive their water, when sailing in those seas.

Next day we had fair weather, and at ten in the morning discovered another island, about four leagues from east to west, and as much from length to breadth: we called this island the Duke of York. This island abounds with cocoa nuts, and, though low at the beach, it has rising grounds, covered with fine lofty trees. There was not the least track of the human race here, so that we supposed we were the first that ever touched upon the island.

On the twenty-eighth of June, we had fresh breezes; with heavy falls of rain. We ima-

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gined we should have met here with Solomon's island, as we were in the same latitude it was placed in our maps. We now altered our course to the north-west, with the Tamer in company, who had been also employed in catching rain water, we having been for four months at the allowance of a quart of water a day, for each man.

On the fourth of July, the Tamer made a signal of seeing land, and discovered an island. It is near four leagues from the north-west to the south-east, and appeared very fruitful, being covered with great numbers of trees: here you may anchor from ten fathoms water to thirty-seven, in a coral bottom, half a mile from the shore. On our boats landing, the Indians came and trafficked their fruits, &c. for our trinkets; and seemed greatly delighted with the courteous behaviour of our men. Their boats are very small, resembling the prows of the Ladrone islands.

Those Indians are of an olive-colour, and have long black hair, and their teeth remarkably white. They are very active, and well proportioned, and they go intirely naked. We observed only one woman amongst them; it is probable they enjoy all things in common a-



mongst themselves, and seem to be of a thevish disposition. They seem to be excellent swimmers and divers, as they frequently stay a long time under water.

The island of Tinian lies in the latitude of  $15^{\circ}$ . 8. north, and in  $114^{\circ}$ . 50. west longitude from Acapulco. It is about twelve miles in length, and half as much in breadth. The land rises in gentle slopes from the beach to the middle of the island; but its ascent is frequently interrupted by vallies of an easy descent, many of which wind irregularly through the country. These vallies, and the gradual swellings of the ground, to which their different combinations give rise, are beautifully diversified, by the mutual approach of woods and lawns, which border upon each other, and in large tracts traverse the island. The woods are composed of tall and spreading trees, most of which are worthy of being admired, either for their fruit or for their beauty. While the lawns are generally of a considerable breadth, and covered with a clean and uniform turf, composed of a very fine trefoil, intermixed with a variety of flowers. In many places the woods are open, and free from all bushes and underwood. So that on the borders of the lawns, neither shubs

nor weeds are to be seen, and the neatness of the adjacent turf is frequently extended to a considerable distance under the hollow shade formed by the trees. Hence arose a great variety of the most elegant and entertaining prospects, according to the different blendings of these woods and lawns as they spread themselves through the valleys, and along the slopes and declivities with which the place abounds. The animals that enliven the landskips, in some measure partake of the romantic cast of the island, and are a great addition to the beauty of the prospects; for the cattle are all of them milk white, except their ears, which are generally black or brown, and it is not uncommon to see some hundreds of these feeding together in a large meadow; and though there are no inhabitants, yet the noise, and frequent appearance of domestic poultry, which in great numbers range the woods, greatly contribute to the cheerfulness and beauty of the place, by perpetually exciting the idea of the neighbourhood of farms and villages.

The cattle at Tinian were computed to amount to at least ten thousand; and as they were not at all shy. the crew of the Dolphin found no difficulty in getting near them. Their flesh



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was extremely well tasted, and was thought to be more easily digested than any they had yet met with. The fowls too, which were extremely good, were also run down with little trouble; as they could scarce fly above an hundred yards at a flight, and were then so fatigued, that they could not readily rise again, so that being assisted by the openness of the woods, they were always able to take what number they pleased. And that no delicacies might be wanting, they were furnished with great plenty of wild fowl; for near the center of the island, there were two considerable pieces of fresh water, which abounded with duck, teal, and curlews; and the whistling plover was also found there in prodigious plenty. They here likewise found abundance of wild hogs, which were most excellent food, but being extremely fierce, the sailors were obliged either to shut them, or to hunt them with some large dogs they found upon the island, and which belonged to a detachment sent to provide provisions for the garrison of Guam; and as these dogs had been trained to the killing of wild hogs, they readily followed the sailors, and hunted for them; but notwithstanding their being of a large and bold breed, the hogs fought with such fury,

that they at length destroyed the greatest part of them.

This island was also of extreme advantage, on account of its fruits and vegetables, which were most happily adapted to the cure of the sea-scurvy; for the woods produced sweet and sour oranges, limes, guavaes, vast quantities of cocoa-nuts, with the cabbages growing on the same tree, and a peculiar kind of fruit, to be found only in these islands, called by the Indians Rhyma, but by the Dolphin's people the bread fruit; for it was constantly eaten by them instead of bread, and so universally preferred to it, that none of the ships bread was expended during our stay on the island. It grows upon a pretty lofty tree, which near the top divides into large and spreading branches; the leaves, which are generally from a foot to eighteen inches in length, are of a remarkable deep green, and notched about the edges. The fruit which is found indifferently on all parts of the branches, is rather of an oval form than round, is covered with a rough rind, and is usually seven or eight inches long, and each of them grows singly, and not in clusters. It is fittest to be used when green; but full grown, and being roasted in the embers, has some dis-



tant resemblance to the taste of an artichoke's bottom, and is, like that, of a soft and spongy nature: but as it ripens it becomes softer, turns yellow, and has a luscious taste, and agreeable smell, not unlike a ripe peach; however, it is then esteemed unwholesome, and is said to produce fluxes. Mr. Dampier, to whom our author refers for a more particular description, says, it is as large as a good sized twopenny loaf, and that the inside is soft, tender, white and crummy like bread, and if eaten in twenty-four hours after it is plucked, has a sweet and pleasant taste; and that this excellent fruit is in season eight months in the year. This island also affords many other vegetables, proper for the cure of that dreadful disease they had so long laboured under, as scurvy-grass, sorrel, mint, dandelion, creeping-purslain, and water-melons, of all which, together with the fresh provisions, they fed with great eagerness, being prompted to it by the strong inclination which the sea-scurvy never fails to excite, for those powerful remedies.

It may seem surprizing, that this beautiful island, so elegantly furnished with the necessaries and luxuries of life, should be entirely void of inhabitants. To remove this difficulty, it

must be observed, that in something less than fifty years ago, it was a populous country, and is said to have contained thirty thousand souls, but a sickness raging at Tinian, Rota, and Guam, all of which were full of inhabitants; the Spaniards to recruit the people at Guam, who were greatly diminished by the mortality, forced all the inhabitants of Tinian to remove thither, where they languished after their native island, till in a few years the greatest part of them died of grief. These poor Indians might reasonably have expected, from their being placed at such an immense distance from Spain, to have escaped the cruelty which had occasioned the destruction of great part of the western world, but the only advantage they received from this distance, was their perishing an age or two later.

The island still affords remains, which show it to have been once extremely populous, for in all parts of it, there are many ruins of a very remarkable kind, which generally consist of two rows of pyramidal pillars, at about twelve feet distance, each pillar in the row, standing about six feet from the next. These pillars are almost five feet square at the base, they are about thirteen feet high, and on the top of



each is a semi-globe, with a flat surface upwards; both the pillars and semi-globe are solid, and composed of sand and stone cemented together, and plaistered over. The prisoners informed the English, that these were the foundations of buildings, set apart only for those Indians who had engaged in some religious vow; and indeed monastic institutions are often to be met with in Pagan nations; but if these ruins were originally the basis of the common dwelling houses of the natives, even in this case, their numbers must be considerable, since in many parts of the island, they are extremely thick planted, and are a sufficient proof of the multitude of its former inhabitants.

It must not be omitted, that all the above advantages enjoyed by this island, were much enhanced by the healthiness of its climate, by the breezes that almost constantly prevailed, and the frequent showers with which it was sprinkled, which were usually of a very short and almost momentary duration. The salubrity of the air had a surprizing effect in strengthening both the appetite and digestion. It was here very remarkable that even those of the officers, who every where else had been very temperate eaters, and who, besides a slight

breakfast, used to make only one moderate meal a day, seemed here transformed into gluttons; for instead of one reasonable meal upon flesh, they were now hardly satisfied with three, each of which was so prodigious, that at another place, it would have produced a fever, or a surfeit; and yet their digestion was so agreeable to the keeness of their appetites, that they were neither disordered nor overloaded by this uncommon repletion.

The principal inconvenience attending those who reside in this island, arises from the great number of muscatoes, and many other species of flies, together with a kind of tick, which though it principally fixes on the cattle, would frequently fall upon the limbs and bodies of the men, and if not removed in time, would bury its head under the skin, and raise a painful inflammation. The Dolphin's people also found there scorpions and centipedes, which they supposed to be venemous, though they received no injury from them.

However, the most considerable exception to this place, is the inconvenience of the road, which, in some seasons of the year, affords but little security for a ship to anchor. The only proper anchoring-place for ships of burden is



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at the south-west end of the island, where the Dolphin anchored in twenty and twenty-two fathom water, opposite to a sandy bay, about a mile and a half distant from the shore; but the bottom of this road being full of sharp-pointed coral rocks, it has a very unsafe anchorage from the middle of June, to the middle of October, which is the season of the western monsoons, and what adds to this danger, is the extraordinary rapidity of the tide of flood, which sets to the south-east between this island, and Aguigan. But in the remaining eight months of the year, there is such a constant season of settled weather, that if the cables are well armed, there is scarcely any danger of their being ever rubbed.

Having taken in a large quantity of cocoas and limes, which were distributed to the ship's company, on the second of October we sailed from Tinian, and the rest of the Ladrone islands; for now having finished the business for which we were sent, for the discovery of those islands in the South Sea, all our thoughts ran now upon getting home. In our way home, it was proposed to touch at Batavia.

On the twenty-second of October we passed by the Bushee islands, which appeared very

high and mountainous; and on the sixteenth of November, entered the streights of Banca, which are forty-five miles in length; the land on the starboard side very high, and that on the larboard side very low.

STRAIT  
SEPARATING  
SUMATRA  
FROM  
BANGKKA  
IS.

On the twentieth of November, according to our reckoning, we moored in the road of Batavia, and observed that we had lost a day since our leaving England, it being, on our arrival in that city, the twenty-eighth day of November.

Batavia is the capital of all the Dutch settlements in the East Indies, and center of their commerce in Asia. It is situated on the N. E. part of the island of Java, S E. of Sumatra, and S. W. of Borneo. Here is the residence of their governor general, and council of the Indies. It has a most excellent harbour belonging to it. The Dutch at Batavia can now fit out so many ships, that no European nation at that distance can cope with them; so powerful are they, and so numerous are the subjects and dominions dependent upon them. When they first came hither, which was in the year 1619, the place was only a village, in a flat country, with fenny grounds round about it: but they have since made it a beautiful ci-



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ty, built of white stone, having cut canals faced with stone, on the borders of which are evergreens planted, running all along the principal streets; so that the water of land-floods is carried off. About seventeen or eighteen small islands in the Offing so break the violence of the winds and waves, that a thousand sail may ride there safe at a time, besides small craft, which go into the river, and lie close in-shore fastened to piles. Two large piers run out about half a mile into the sea, between which a hundred slaves are constantly employed in taking up the mud and soil from the town, otherwise it would soon be choaked up. Cross the river below the town is a boom, which is shut up every night, and well-guarded. Here all the vessels pay toll. A sea-gale rises every morning about ten, to bring the vessels into the bar, and a land one about ten at night, to carry them out. The one comes from the north and the other from the south.

The city is nearly square, being divided into two parts by a river, and is between five and six miles in circuit. The streets are spacious, exactly crossing each other alike; and over the canals are reckoned no less than sixty-six stone bridges, besides those of timber, and draw-

bridges. The buildings in general are neat, most of the houses having handsome gardens. The public structures are magnificent, particularly the governor's house, with a lofty turret, which may be seen a good way at sea. Here are several spacious market-places; and in the middle of the city is a large square, which serves as a parade for the garrison. On its W. side stands the great church, and on the S. the stadthouse. The suburbs reach almost half a league into the country. Here the Chinese have their temples and burying-ground: and here live Malayans, Javans, and other nations, which the Dutch have transported from Banda, Amboyna, &c. The reformed Portuguese and Malayans have each a church in Batavia: but neither Papists nor Lutherans are tolerated. The city has four stately gates; namely, two on each side of the river, and is surrounded with a good rampart faced with stone, as is also the curtain between its two bastions, and planted with cannon so contrived as to be equally serviceable against an invasion or insurrection, the guns being easily brought to point down the principal streets. On the W. side of the city is a large quadrangular fort, commanding both the town and road. There are al-



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so five very strong forts erected two or three leagues from the town, in order to defend the avenues from the incursions of the natives. The city may be so surrounded with water, that no approaches nor attacks can be formed against it in the ordinary way. In the islands Omus and Onrost in the bay, and about two leagues from Batavia, are several good platforms of guns lying level with the water; they have also yards and docks for ships, with plenty of timber, and other naval stores. The city is said to be the best supplied with flesh-meat of any factory in the Indies, though the beef is generally lean, and the mutton dear. The regular troops that garrison the city and neighbouring forts, are ten or twelve thousand, about a thousand of which mount guard every day. And these consist, 1. of Chinese, who are computed at no less than 80,000 under this government. 2. Dutch. 3. Reformed Malaysians. 4. Mahometans. 5. Amboynese. 6. Javanese, who are all Mahometans. 7. Topasses or Mardykes, who are a mixture of Indian and other nations. 8. The Bugaffes and Macassars, descended from the ancient inhabitants of Macassar and the neighbouring islands. And, 9. The Timoreans transported hither

from the island of Timor, whose inhabitants were formerly barbarous Pagans; but many of them have turned Christians, or Mahometans. The Dutch have in Batavia a spin-house, or house of correction; a pest-house, a house of artisans, and a Chinese-hospital for sick and old people. They have set up a printing house, and founded schools for teaching the learned languages, as well as the liberal arts. Most Indian languages are spoken here, though the Malayan and the bastard Portuguese are most in use: and these two serve a man in almost any part of this country. This city being the great magazine of the Dutch East India company, they import hither not only what Europe affords, but the merchandise of Japan, the Spice-islands, Persia, Surat, Bengal, the coasts of Malabar and Coromandel, &c. Tho' they suffer no Europeans to trade hither, yet fifteen or twenty sail of Chinese junks, from 300 to 500 tons apiece, come hither every November or December, and return the beginning of June: by which means the Dutch are furnished with the goods of China much cheaper than if they sent their fleets thither. All the other governors belonging to the Dutch East India company are not only subject to the governor



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general and council of Batavia, but the following chiefships and factories are immediately under their direction; namely, Japan, Tonquin, Macassar, Siam, Bantam, Japara, Jambee, Pul-lambam, and Arrakan. The governor and his lady have their respective guards, and splendid equipage, like those of princes. Every thing in Batavia being subject to a duty, the revenues of this government must be very considerable. Here, or in any part of Java, are few common servants, besides the slaves brought hither from almost every country of Asia. Crocodiles are so much dreaded here, that the company give thirty florins for every one that is killed. That frequent disturbances arise from such a medley of different nations is not to be wondered at, considering that none of them are celebrated for their probity. A plot of the Javanese to destroy this whole colony, was discovered but a few days before that fixed for the execution of it, namely January 2, 1722; when the ringleader, with eighteen of his adherents, was put to death. A more dangerous plot contrived in 1740, by the Chinese was frustrated by governor Imhoff; when many thousands of that nation were massacred, and 635 of them committed to prison, were

directly put to death. Batavia lies in latitude 6 degrees, 5 minutes south, longitude 105 degrees, 5 minutes east.

During our stay in Batavia we were plentifully supplied with fresh meat, greens, and fruits of all kinds; and as we continued here for some time repairing and careening the Dolphin, it may not be amiss to give an account of the country.

Java is an island of Asia, in the East-Indies, lying to the south of the equator. It is generally known by the name of Great Java, to distinguish it from Bali, by some named the Lesser Java; and is about 420 miles in length, and of a very different breadth. The north has a great many commodious creeks, bays, harbours, and towns, with many little islands near the shore. In former times it had as many petty kings as there are large towns; but now it has two kingdoms only; one of which is under the jurisdiction of the king of Mataram, and the other under the king of Banram. The inhabitants are a barbarous, proud, and fierce people, of a brown complexion, flat faces, short coal-black hair, with small eyes, and large eye-lids. The men are very robust and strong-limbed, and very proper for war; but the wo-



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men are small. The men wear a piece of callicoe wrapt two or three times round their middles; and the women wear them from their arm-pits down to their knees; but all other parts are bare. The men have two or three wives, and several concubines, according to their abilities. Those living near the sea-side are generally Mahometans; but within land they are Gentoes, abstaining from flesh of all kinds. It is a very fertile island, and has very high mountains, reaching to the clouds, particularly the pepper mountain, on the south side of the island. It has likewise impassable forests and wildernesses; but to the north between Batavia and Bantam, is a very populous country, full of rice-fields, and all sorts of tame and wild animals. Here also is plenty of salt and pepper, besides most sorts of fruit proper to the climate. They have also plenty of beeves and sheep, with other tame creatures. They have likewise fowl, both wild and tame in great abundance; and in the woods there are large tigers, rhinoceroes, and other wild beasts; and in the rivers there are crocodiles. The air is as temperate and healthy as any part of the East Indies. The most agreeable season begins in May, with the eastern breezes, and a

very serene sky till November ; and then the rains begin, which lay the low grounds under water, and kill the insects. and continue till May. In March they begin to sow, and in July the sugar and rice begin to ripen ; but September and October are the best season for all sorts of fruits. It has a river which rises in the mountains, and, dividing itself into many branches, waters the circumjacent country, which afterwards re-unite, and pass through the midst of Batavia, dividing it into two equal parts. The island is mostly under the Dutch ; and inhabited by a great many people besides the Javaneſe, brought from diſtant countries by the Dutch, who have ſuch large fleets that they command the coaſt of Aſia and Africa. Longitude from 105 to 116 eaſt, latitude from 6 to 8 ſouth. It is to the ſouth of the iſland of Sumatra, from which it is only ſeparated by the ſtraits of Sunda.

Having compleatly repaired our ſhip, and taken in water and freſh proviſions of all kinds, we weighed anchor, with the Tamer, on the ninth of December, being ſaluted by the Engliſh ſhips, the Dutch commodore, and the fort. We paſſed by the Thouſand Iſlands, a number of ſmall iſlands on the north ſide of Java.