

TRAVELS  
INTO SEVERAL  
Remote Nations  
OF THE  
WORLD.

*By Captain* LEMUEL GULLIVER.

PART III.

A VOYAGE to LAPUTA, BALNIBARBI,  
GLUBBDUBDRIB, LUGGNAGG, and  
JAPAN.

PART IV.

A VOYAGE to the HOUYHNHNMS.

The Second Edition.

L O N D O N:

Printed for BENJAMIN MOTTE, at the  
*Middle-Temple-Gate.* M.DCC.XXVI.



THE  
CONTENTS.

CHAP. I.

**T**HE Author sets out on his third  
Voyage; is taken by Pirates:  
The Malice of a Dutchman. His Ar-  
rival at an Island. He is received into  
Laputa. Page 1.

CHAP. II.

*The Humours and Dispositions of the  
Laputians described. An Account of  
A 2 their*

## C O N T E N T S.

*their Learning. Of the King and his Court. The Author's Reception there. The Inhabitants subject to Fears and Disquietudes. An Account of the Women.*  
p. 15.

### C H A P. III.

*A Phænomenon solved by modern Philosophy and Astronomy. The Laputians great Improvements in the latter. The King's Method of suppressing Insurrections.*  
p. 35.

### C H A P. IV.

*The Author leaves Laputa, is conveyed to Balnibarbi, arrives at the Metropolis. A Description of the Metropolis, and the Country adjoining. The Author hospitably received by a great Lord. His Conversation with that Lord.*  
p. 48.

### C H A P.

# CONTENTS.

## CHAP. V.

*The Author permitted to see the grand Academy of Lagado. The Academy largely described. The Arts wherein the Professors employ themselves.* p. 62.

## CHAP. VI.

*A farther Account of the Academy. The Author proposes some Improvements, which are honourably received.* p. 80.

## CHAP. VII.

*The Author leaves Lagado, arrives at Maldonada. No Ship ready. He takes a short Voyage to Glubbdubdrib. His Reception by the Governor.* p. 94.

## CHAP. VIII.

*A farther Account of Glubbdubdrib. Antient and Modern History corrected.*  
p. 104.

## CHAP.

# CONTENTS.

## CHAP. IX.

*The Author's Return to Maldonada, sails to the Kingdom of Luggnagg. The Author confined. He is sent for to Court. The Manner of his Admittance. The King's great Lenity to his Subjects.* p. 118.

## CHAP. X.

*The Luggnaggians commended. A particular Description of the Struldbruggs, with many Conversations between the Author and some eminent Persons upon that Subject.* p. 127.

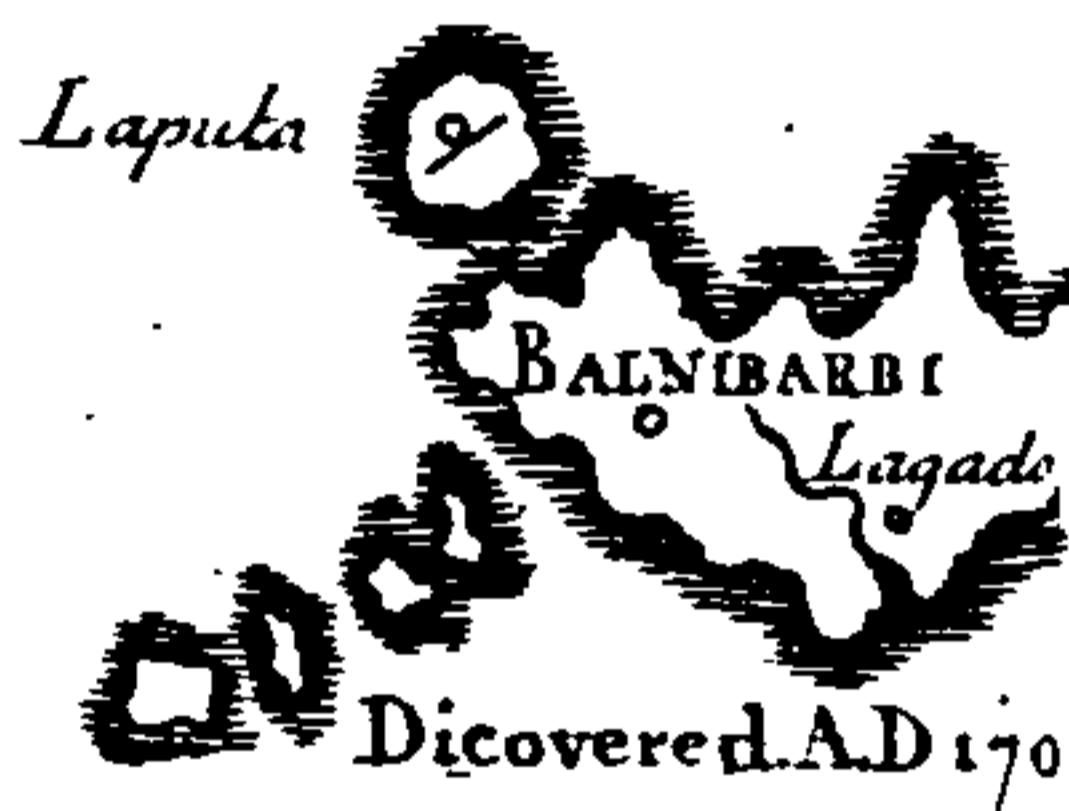
## CHAP. XI.

*The Author leaves Luggnagg, and sails to Japan. From thence he returns in a Dutch Ship to Amsterdam, and from Amsterdam to England.* p. 147.

20 JY 63

TRAVELS.

Parts Unknown





# TRAVELS.

## PART III.

A VOYAGE *to* LAPUTA, BAL-  
NIBARBI, LUGGNAGG, GLUBB-  
DUBDRIBB, *and* JAPAN.

## CHAP. I.

*The Author sets out on his Third Voyage ;  
is taken by Pyrates. The Malice of a  
Dutchman. His Arrival at an Island.  
He is received into Laputa.*



HAD not been at Home a-  
bove ten Days, when Cap-  
tain *William Robinson*, a  
*Cornish* Man, Commander  
of the *Hopewell*, a stout Ship of Three  
Part III. B Hundred

Hundred Tuns, came to my House. I had formerly been Surgeon of another Ship where he was Master, and a fourth Part Owner, in a Voyage to the *Levant*; He had always treated me more like a Brother than an inferior Officer, and hearing of my Arrival made me a Visit, as I apprehended only out of Friendship, for nothing passed more than what is usual after long Absences. But repeating his Visits often, expressing his Joy to find me in good Health, asking whether I were now settled for Life, adding that he intended a Voyage to the *East-Indies*, in two Months. At last he plainly invited me, though with some Apologies, to be Surgeon of the Ship; that I should have another Surgeon under me besides our two Mates; that my Sallary should be double to the usual Pay; and that having experienced my Knowledge in Sea-Affairs to be at least equal to his, he would enter into any Engagement to follow my Advice, as much as if I had share in the Command.

H B

to L A P U T A, &c. } 3

HE said so many other obliging Things, and I knew him to be so honest a Man, that I could not reject his Proposal; the Thirst I had of seeing the World, notwithstanding my past Misfortunes, continuing as violent as ever. The only Difficulty that remained, was to persuade my Wife, whose Consent, however, I at last obtained by the Prospect of Advantage she proposed to her Children.

WE set out the 5th Day of *August*, 1706. and arrived at Fort *St. George* the 11th of *April*, 1707. stayed there three Weeks to refresh our Crew, many of whom were sick. From thence we went to *Tonquin*, where the Captain resolved to continue some Time, because many of the Goods he intended to buy were not ready, nor could he expect to be dispatched in some Months. Therefore in hopes to defray some of the Charges he must be at, he bought a Sloop, loaded it with several sorts of

B 2

Goods;

Goods, wherewith the *Tonquinese* usually trade to the neighbouring Islands, and putting fourteen Men on Board, whereof three were of the Country, he appointed me Master of the Sloop, and gave me Power to traffick for two Months, while he transacted his Affairs at *Tonquin*.

WE had not sailed above three Days, when a great Storm arising, we were driven five Days to the North-North-East, and then to the East; after which we had fair Weather, but still with a pretty strong Gale from the West. Upon the tenth Day we were chased by two Pyrates, who soon overtook us; for my Sloop was so deep loaden, that she sailed very slow, neither were we in a Condition to defend our selves.

WE were boarded about the same Time by both the Pyrates, who enter'd furiously at the Head of their Men, but finding us all prostrate upon our Faces,  
(for



who spoke a little *Dutch*, but very imperfectly. He came up to me, and after several Questions, which I answered in great Humility, he said we should not die. I made the Captain a very low Bow, and then turning to the *Dutchman*, said, I was sorry to find more Mercy in a Heathen, than in a Brother Christian. But I had soon Reason to repent those foolish Words, for that malicious Reprobate, having often endeavoured in vain to persuade both the Captains that I might be thrown into the Sea, (which they would not yield to after the Promise made me, that I should not die,) however prevailed so far as to have a Punishment inflicted on me, worse in all human Appearance than Death it self. My Men were sent by an equal Division into both the Pirate-Ships, and my Sloop new manned. As to my self, it was determined that I should be set a drift in a small Canoe, with Paddles and a Sail, and four Days Provisions, which last the *Japanese* Cap-  
tain

tain was so kind to double out of his own Stores, and would permit no Man to search me. I got down into the Canoe, while the *Dutchman* standing upon the Deck, loaded me with all the Curses and injurious Terms his Language could afford.

A B O U T an Hour before we saw the Pirates, I had taken an Observation, and found we were in the Latitude of 46 N. and of Longitude 183. When I was at some Distance from the Pirates, I discovered by my Pocket-Glass several Islands to the South-East. I set up my Sail, the Wind being fair, with a Design to reach the nearest of those Islands, which I made a Shift to do in about three Hours. It was all rocky; however, I got many Birds Eggs, and striking Fire I kindled some Heath and dry Sea-Weed, by which I roasted my Eggs. I eat no other Supper, being resolved to spare my Provisions as much as I could. I passed the Night under the Shelter of a Rock,

throwing some Heath under me, and slept pretty well.

THE next Day I sailed to another Island, and thence to a third and fourth, sometimes using my Sail, and sometimes my Paddles. But not to trouble the Reader with a particular Account of my Distresses, let it suffice, that on the 5th Day I arrived at the last Island in my Sight, which lay South-South-East to the former.

THIS Island was at a greater Distance than I expected, and I did not reach it in less than five Hours. I encompassed it almost round before I could find a convenient Place to land in, which was a small Creek, about three Times the Wideness of my Canoe. I found the Island to be all rocky, only a little intermingled with Tufts of Grass, and sweet-smelling Herbs. I took out my small Provisions, and after having refreshed my self, I secured the Remainder  
in

in a Cave, whereof there were great Numbers. I gathered plenty of Eggs upon the Rocks, and got a Quantity of dry Sea-Weed and parched Grafs, which I designed to kindle the next Day, and roast my Eggs as well as I could. (For I had about me my Flint, Steel, Match, and Burning-Glass.) I lay all Night in the Cave where I had lodged my Provisions. My Bed was the same dry Grafs and Sea-weed which I intended for Fuel. I slept very little, for the Disquiets of my Mind prevailed over my Weariness, and kept me awake. I considered how impossible it was to preserve my Life in so desolate a Place, and how miserable my End must be. Yet I found my self so listless and desponding, that I had not the Heart to rise, and before I could get Spirits enough to creep out of my Cave, the Day was far advanced. I walked a while among the Rocks; the Sky was perfectly clear, and the Sun so hot, that I was forced to turn my Face from it: When all on a sudden

den it became obscured, as I thought, in a Manner very different from what happens by the Interposition of a Cloud. I turned back, and perceived a vast Opake Body between me and the Sun, moving forwards towards the Island: It seemed to be about two Miles high, and hid the Sun six or seven Minutes; but I did not observe the Air to be much colder, or the Sky more darkned, than if I had stood under the Shade of a Mountain. As it approached nearer over the Place where I was, it appeared to be a firm Substance, the Bottom flat, smooth, and shining very bright from the Reflection of the Sea below. I stood upon a Height about two hundred Yards from the Shoar, and saw this vast Body descending almost to a Parallel with me, at less than an *English* Mile distance. I took out my Pocket-Perspective, and could plainly discover Numbers of People moving up and down the Sides of it, which appeared to be sloping, but  
what

what those People were doing, I was not able to distinguish.

THE natural Love of Life gave me some inward Motions of Joy, and I was ready to entertain a Hope, that this Adventure might some Way or other help to deliver me from the desolate Place and Condition I was in. But at the same Time the Reader can hardly conceive my Astonishment, to behold an Island in the Air, inhabited by Men, who were able, (as it should seem,) to raise, or sink, or put it into a Progressive Motion, as they pleased. But not being at that Time in a Disposition to philosophise upon this Phænomenon, I rather chose to observe what Course the Island would take, because it seemed for a while to stand still. Yet soon after it advanced nearer, and I could see the Sides of it encompassed with several Gradations of Galleries and Stairs, at certain Intervals, to descend from one to the other. In the lowest Gallery I beheld

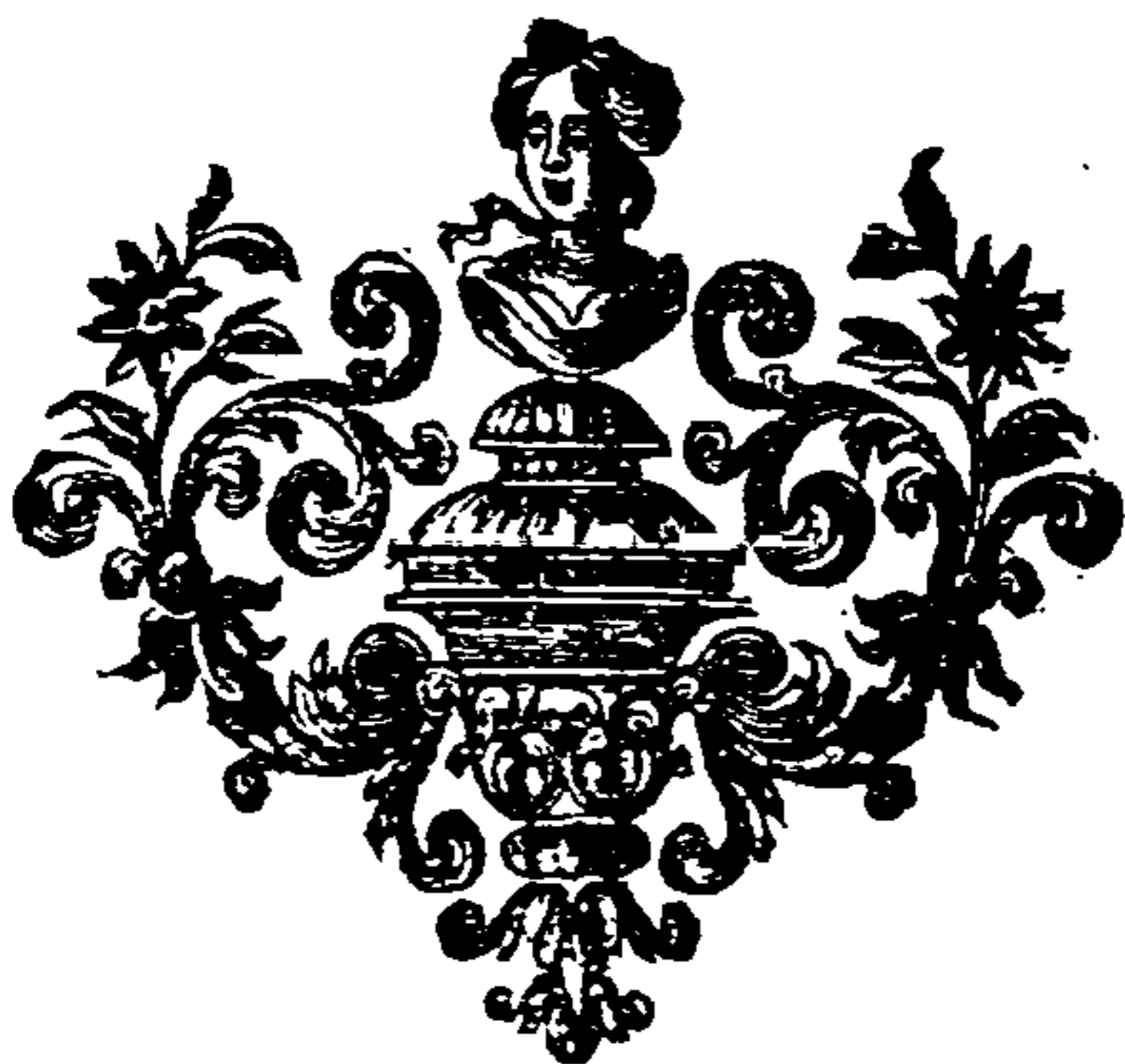
beheld some People fishing with long Angling Rods, and others looking on. I waved my Cap, ( for my Hat was long since worn out,) and my Handkerchief towards the Island ; and, upon its nearer Approach, I called and shouted with the utmost Strength of my Voice, and then looking circumspectly, I beheld a Crowd gathered to that Side which was most in my View. I found by their pointing towards me, and to each other, that they plainly discovered me, although they made no Return to my Shouting. But I could see four or five Men running in great Haste up the Stairs to the Top of the Island, who then disappeared. I happened rightly to conjecture, that these were sent for Orders to some Person in Authority upon this Occasion.

THE Number of People increased, and in less than half an Hour the Island was moved and raised in such a Manner, that the lowest Gallery appeared in a Parallel of less than an Hundred Yards distance

distance from the Height where I stood. I then put my self into the most supplicating Postures, and spoke in the humblest Accent, but received no Answer. Those who stood nearest over-against me, seemed to be Persons of Distinction, as I supposed by their Habit. They conferred earnestly with each other, looking often upon me. At length one of them called out in a clear, polite, smooth Dialect, not unlike in Sound to the *Italian*; and therefore I returned an Answer in that Language, hoping at least that the Cadence might be more agreeable to his Ears. Although neither of us understood the other, yet my Meaning was easily known, for the People saw the Distress I was in.

THEY made Signs for me to come down from the Rock, and go towards the Shoar, which I accordingly did; and the flying Island being raised to a convenient Height, the Verge directly over me,

a Chain was let down from the lowest Gallery, with a Seat fasten'd to the Bottom, to which I fixed my self, and was drawn up by Pullies.



CHAP.



## CHAP. II.

*The Humours and Dispositions of the Laputians described. An Account of their Learning. Of the King and his Court. The Authors Reception there. The Inhabitants subject to Fears and Disquietudes. An Account of the Women.*



At my alighting I was surrounded by a Crowd of People; but those who stood nearest seemed to be of better Quality. They beheld me with all the Marks and Circumstances of Wonder; neither, indeed, was I much in their Debt, having never till then seen a Race of Mortals so singular in their Shapes,

Shapes, Habits, and Countenances. Their Heads were all reclined either to the Right, or the Left; one of their Eyes turned inward, and the other directly up to the Zenith. Their outward Garments were adorned with the Figures of Suns, Moons, and Stars, interwoven with those of Fiddles, Flutes, Harps, Trumpets, Guittars, Harpsicords, and many more Instruments of Musick, unknown to us in *Europe*. I observed here and there many in the Habit of Servants, with a blown Bladder fasten'd like a Flail to the End of a short Stick, which they carried in their Hands. In each Bladder was a small Quantity of dried Pease, or little Pebbles, (as I was afterwards informed.) With these Bladders they now and then flapped the Mouths and Ears of those who stood near them, of which Practice I could not then conceive the Meaning: It seems, the Minds of these People are so taken up with intense Speculations, that they neither can speak, nor attend to the Discourses of others, without being

ing rouzed by some external Taction upon the Organs of Speech and Hearing; for which Reason, those Persons who are able to afford it always keep a *Flapper* (the Original is *Climenole*) in their Family, as one of their Domesticks, nor ever walk abroad or make Visits without him. And the Business of this Officer is, when two or three more Persons are in Company, gently to strike with his Bladder the Mouth of him who is to speak, and the right Ear of him or them to whom the Speaker addresseth himself. This *Flapper* is likewise employed diligently to attend his Master in his Walks, and, upon occasion, to give him a soft Flap on his Eyes, because he is always so wrapped up in Cogitation, that he is in manifest Danger of falling down every Precipice, and bouncing his Head against every Post, and in the Streets of jostling others, or being jostled himself into the Kennel.

C

IT

IT was necessary to give the Reader this Information, without which he would be at the same Loss with me, to understand the Proceedings of these People, as they conducted me up the Stairs, to the Top of the Island, and from thence to the Royal Palace. While we were ascending, they forgot several Times what they were about, and left me to my self, till their Memories were again rouzed by their *Flappers*; for they appeared altogether unmoved by the Sight of my foreign Habit and Countenance, and by the Shouts of the Vulgar, whose Thoughts and Minds were more disengaged.

AT last we enter'd the Palace, and proceeded into the Chamber of Presence, where I saw the King seated on his Throne, attended on each Side by Persons of Prime Quality. Before the Throne, was a large Table filled with Globes and Spheres, and Mathematical Instruments of all Kinds. His Majesty took

took not the least Notice of us, although our Entrance was not without sufficient Noise, by the Concourse of all Persons belonging to the Court. But he was then deep in a Problem, and we attended at least an Hour, before he could solve it. There stood by him on each Side, a young Page, with Flaps in their Hands, and when they saw he was at Leisure, one of them gently struck his Mouth, and the other his right Ear, at which he started like one awaked on the sudden, and looking towards me, and the Company I was in, recollected the Occasion of our coming, whereof he had been informed before. He spoke some Words, whereupon immediately a young Man with a Flap came up to my Side, and flapt me gently on the right Ear, but I made Signs, as well as I could, that I had no Occasion for such an Instrument; which as I afterwards found gave his Majesty and the whole Court a very mean Opinion of my Understanding. The King, as far as I could conjecture,

jecture, asked me several Questions, and I addressed my self to him in all the Languages I had. When it was found, that I could neither understand, nor be understood, I was conducted, by the King's Order, to an Apartment in his Palace, (this Prince being distinguished above all his Predecessors for his Hospitality to Strangers,) where two Servants were appointed to attend me. My Dinner was brought, and four Persons of Quality, whom I remember'd to have seen very near the King's Person, did me the Honour to dine with me. We had two Courses, of three Dishes each. In the first Course there was a Shoulder of Mutton, cut into an *Æquilateral Triangle*, a Piece of Beef into a *Rhomboïdes*, and a Pudding into a *Cycloid*. The second Course was two Ducks, trussed up into the Form of *Fiddles*, *Sausages* and *Puddings* resembling *Flutes* and *Hautboys*, and a Breast of Veal in the Shape of a *Harp*. The Servants cut our Bread into  
Cones,

Cones, Cylinders, Parallelograms, and several other mathematical Figures.

W H I L E we were at Dinner, I made bold to ask the Names of several Things in their Language, and those noble Persons, by the Assistance of their *Flappers*, delighted to give me Answers, hoping to raise my Admiration of their great Abilities, if I could be brought to converse with them. I was soon able to call for Bread, and Drink, or whatever else I wanted.

A F T E R Dinner my Company withdrew, and a Person was sent to me by the King's Order, attended by a *Flapper*. He brought with him Pen, Ink, and Paper, and three or four Books, giving me to understand by Signs, that he was sent to teach me the Language. We sat together four Hours, in which Time I wrote down a great Number of Words in Columns, with the Translations over against them. I likewise made a Shift to learn several

short Sentences. For my Tutor would order one of my Servants to fetch something, or turn about, to make a Bow, to sit, or stand, or walk, and the like. Then I took down the Sentence in writing. He shewed me also in one of his Books, the Figures of the Sun, Moon, and Stars, the Zodiack, the Tropics, and Polar Circles, together with the Denominations of many Figures of Planes and Solids. He gave me the Names and Descriptions of all the musical Instruments, and the general Terms of Art in playing on each of them. After he had left me, I placed all my Words with their Interpretations in Alphabetical Order. And thus in a few Days, by the help of a very faithful Memory, I got some Insight into their Language.

THE Word, which I interpret the *Flying* or *Floating Island*, is in the Original *Laputa*, whereof I could never learn the true Etymology. *Lap* in the old obsolete Language signifieth *High*,  
and

and *Untub* a Governor, from which, they say, by Corruption was derived *Laputa* from *Lapuntub*. But I do not approve of this Derivation, which seems to be a little strained. I ventured to offer to the Learned among them a Conjecture of my own, that *Laputa* was *quasi Lap outed*, *Lap* signifying properly the Dancing of the Sun-Beams in the Sea, and *outed* a Wing ; which, however, I shall not obtrude, but submit to the judicious Reader.

THOSE to whom the King had entrusted me, observing how ill I was clad, ordered a Taylor to come next Morning, and take my Measure for a Suit of Clothes. This Operator did his Office after a different manner from those of his Trade in *Europe*. He first took my Altitude by a Quadrant, and then with Rule and Compasses, described the Dimensions and Out-lines of my whole Body, all which he enter'd upon Paper, and in six Days brought my Clothes very ill made, and

quite out of shape, by happening to mistake a Figure in the Calculation. But my Comfort was, that I observed such Accidents very frequent, and little regarded.

DURING my Confinement for want of Clothes, and by an Indisposition that held me some Days longer, I much enlarged my Dictionary; and when I went next to Court, was able to understand many Things the King spoke, and to return him some kind of Answers. His Majesty had given Orders that the Island should move North-East and by East, to the Vertical Point over *Lagado*, the Metropolis of the whole Kingdom below upon the firm Earth. It was about ninety Leagues distant, and our Voyage lasted four Days and an half. I was not in the least sensible of the progressive Motion made in the Air by the Island. On the second Morning, about Eleven a-Clock, the King himself in Person, attended by his Nobility, Courtiers,

Courtiers, and Officers, having prepared all their musical Instruments, played on them for three Hours without Intermission, so that I was quite stunned with the Noise; neither could I possibly guess the Meaning till my Tutor informed me. He said that the People of their Island had their Ears adapted to hear the Musick of the Spheres, which always played at certain Periods, and the Court was now prepared to bear their Part in what ever Instrument they most excelled.

IN our Journey towards *Lagado* the capital City, his Majesty ordered that the Island should stop over certain Towns and Villages, from whence he might receive the Petitions of his Subjects. And to this Purpose several Packthreads were let down with small Weights at the Bottom. On these Packthreads the People strung their Petitions, which mounted up directly like the Scraps of Paper fastned by School-Boys at the End of the String  
that

that holds their Kite. Sometimes we received Wine and Victuals from below, which were drawn up by Pullies.

THE Knowledge I had in Mathematicks gave me great Assistance in acquiring their Phraseology, which depended much upon that Science and Musick; and in the latter I was not unskilled. Their Ideas are perpetually conversant in Lines and Figures. If they would, for Example, praise the Beauty of a Woman, or any other Animal, they describe it by Rhombs, Circles, Parallelograms, Ellipses, and other Geometrical Terms, or by Words of Art drawn from Musick, needless here to repeat. I observed in the King's Kitchen all Sorts of mathematical and musical Instruments, after the Figures of which they cut up the Joints that were served to his Majesty's Table.

THEIR Houses are very ill built, the Walls bevil, without one Right Angle

Angle in any Apartment; and this Defect ariseth from the Contempt they bear to practical Geometry, which they despise, as Vulgar and Mechanick, those Instructions they give being too refined for the Intellectuals of their Workmen; which occasions perpetual Mistakes. And although they are dextrous enough upon a Piece of Paper in the Management of the Rule, the Pencil, and the Divider, yet in the common Actions and Behaviour of Life, I have not seen a more clumsy, awkward, and unhandy People, nor so slow and perplexed in their Conceptions upon all other Subjects, except those of Mathematicks and Musick. They are very bad Reasoners, and vehemently given to Opposition, unless when they happen to be of the right Opinion, which is seldom their Case. Imagination, Fancy, and Invention, they are wholly Strangers to, nor have any Words in their Language by which those Ideas can be expressed; the whole Compass of their Thoughts  
and

and Mind being shut up within the two forementioned Sciences.

M o s t of them, and especially those who deal in the Astronomical Part, have great Faith in judicial Astrology, although they are ashamed to own it publickly. But what I chiefly admired, and thought altogether unaccountable, was the strong Disposition I observed in them towards News and Politicks, perpetually enquiring into publick Affairs, giving their Judgments in Matters of State, and passionately disputing every Inch of a Party Opinion. I have indeed observed the same Disposition among most of the Mathematicians I have known in *Europe*, although I could never discover the least Analogy between the two Sciences, unless those People suppose, that because the smallest Circle hath as many Degrees as the largest, therefore the Regulation and Management of the World require no more Abilities than the handling and turning  
ing

ing of a Globe. But, I rather take this Quality to spring from a very common Infirmary of human Nature, inclining us to be more curious and conceited in Matters where we have least Concern, and for which we are least adapted either by Study or Nature.

THESE People are under continual Disquietudes, never enjoying a Minute's Peace of Mind; and their Disturbances proceed from Causes which very little affect the rest of Mortals. Their Apprehensions arise from several Changes they dread in the celestial Bodies. For Instance; That the Earth by the continual Approaches of the Sun towards it, must in Course of Time be absorbed or swallowed up. That the Face of the Sun will, by degrees, be encrusted with its own Effluvia, and give no more Light to the World. That the Earth very narrowly escaped a Brush from the Tail of the last Comet, which would have infallibly reduced it to Ashes; and that  
the

the next, which they have calculated for one and thirty Years hence, will probably destroy us. For, if in its Perihelion it should approach within a certain Degree of the Sun, (as by their Calculations they have Reason to dread; it will conceive a Degree of Heat ten thousand times more intense than that of red-hot glowing Iron; and in its Absence from the Sun, carry a blazing Tail ten hundred thousand and fourteen Miles long; through which, if the Earth should pass at the Distance of one hundred thousand Miles from the *Nucleus* or main Body of the Comet, it must in its Passage be set on fire, and reduced to Ashes. That the Sun daily spending its Rays without any Nutriment to supply them, will at last be wholly consumed and annihilated; which must be attended with the Destruction of this Earth, and of all the Planets that receive their Light from it.

THEY

THEY are so perpetually alarmed with the Apprehensions of these and the like impending Dangers, that they can neither sleep quietly in their Beds, nor have any Relish for the common Pleasures or Amusements of Life. When they meet an Acquaintance in the Morning, the first Question is about the Sun's Health, how he looked at his Setting and Rising, and what Hopes they have to avoid the Stroke of the approaching Comet. This Conversation they are apt to run into with the same Temper that Boys discover, in delighting to hear terrible Stories of Spirits and Hobgoblins, which they greedily listen to, and dare not go to Bed for fear.

THE Women of the Island have Abundance of Vivacity; they contemn their Husbands, and are exceedingly fond of Strangers, whereof there is always a considerable Number from the Continent below, attending at Court, either upon Affairs of the several Towns  
and

and Corporations, or their own particular Occasions, but are much despised, because they want the same Endowments. Among these the Ladies chuse their Gal-lants: But the Vexation is, that they act with too much Ease and Security, for the Husband is always so wrapt in Speculation, that the Mistrefs and Lover may proceed to the greatest Familiarities before his Face, if he be but provided with Paper and Implements, and without his Flapper at his Side.

T H E Wives and Daughters lament their Confinement to the Island, although I think it the most delicious Spot of Ground in the World ; and although they live here in the greatest Plenty and Magnificence, and are allowed to do whatever they please, they long to see the World, and take the Diversions of the Metropolis, which they are not allowed to do without a particular Licence from the King ; and this is not easy to be obtained, because the People of Qua-  
lity

lity have found, by frequent Experience, how hard it is to persuade their Women to return from below. I was told that a great Court-Lady, who had several Children, is married to the Prime Minister, the richest Subject in the Kingdom, a very graceful Person, extremely fond of her, and lives in the finest Palace of the Island, went down to *Lagado*, on the Pretence of Health, there hid her self for several Months, till the King sent a Warrant to search for her, and she was found in an obscure Eating-house all in Rags, having pawned her Clothes to maintain an old deformed Footman, who beat her every Day, and in whose Company she was taken much against her Will. And although her Husband received her with all possible Kindness, and without the least Reproach, she soon after contrived to steal down again, with all her Jewels, to the same Gallant, and hath not been heard of since.


THIS may, perhaps, pass with the Reader rather for an *European* or *English* Story, than for one of a Country so remote: But he may please to consider, that the Caprices of Womenkind are not limited by any Climate or Nation, and that they are much more uniform than can be easily imagined.

IN about a Month's Time I had made a tolerable Proficiency in their Language, and was able to answer most of the King's Questions, when I had the Honour to attend him. His Majesty discovered not the least Curiosity to enquire into the Laws, Government, History, Religion, or Manners of the Countries where I had been, but confined his Questions to the State of Mathematics, and received the Account I gave him, with great Contempt and Indifference, though often roused by his *Flapper* on each Side.



### CHAP. III.

*A Phenomenon solved by modern Philosophy and Astronomy. The Laputians great Improvements in the latter. The King's Method of suppressing Insurrections.*

 Desired leave of this Prince to see the Curiosities of the Island, which he was graciously pleased to grant, and ordered my Tutor to attend me. I chiefly wanted to know to what Cause in Art, or in Nature, it owed its several Motions, whereof I will now give a Philosophical Account to the Reader.

THE Flying or Floating Island is exactly circular, its Diameter 7837 Yards, or about four Miles and an  

D 2
half,

half, and consequently contains ten thousand Acres. It is three hundred Yards thick. The Bottom or under Surface, which appears to those who view it from below, is one even regular Plate of Adamant, shooting up to the Height of about two hundred Yards. Above it lie the several Minerals in their usual Order, and over all is a Coat of rich Mould ten or twelve Foot deep. This Declivity of the upper Surface, from the Circumference to the Center, is the natural Cause why all the Dews and Rains which fall upon the Island, are conveyed in small Rivulets towards the Middle, where they are emptied into four large Basons, each of about half a Mile in Circuit, and two hundred Yards distant from the Center. From these Basons the Water is continually exhaled by the Sun in the Day-time, which effectually prevents their overflowing. Besides, as it is in the Power of the Monarch to raise the Island above the Region of Clouds and Vapours,

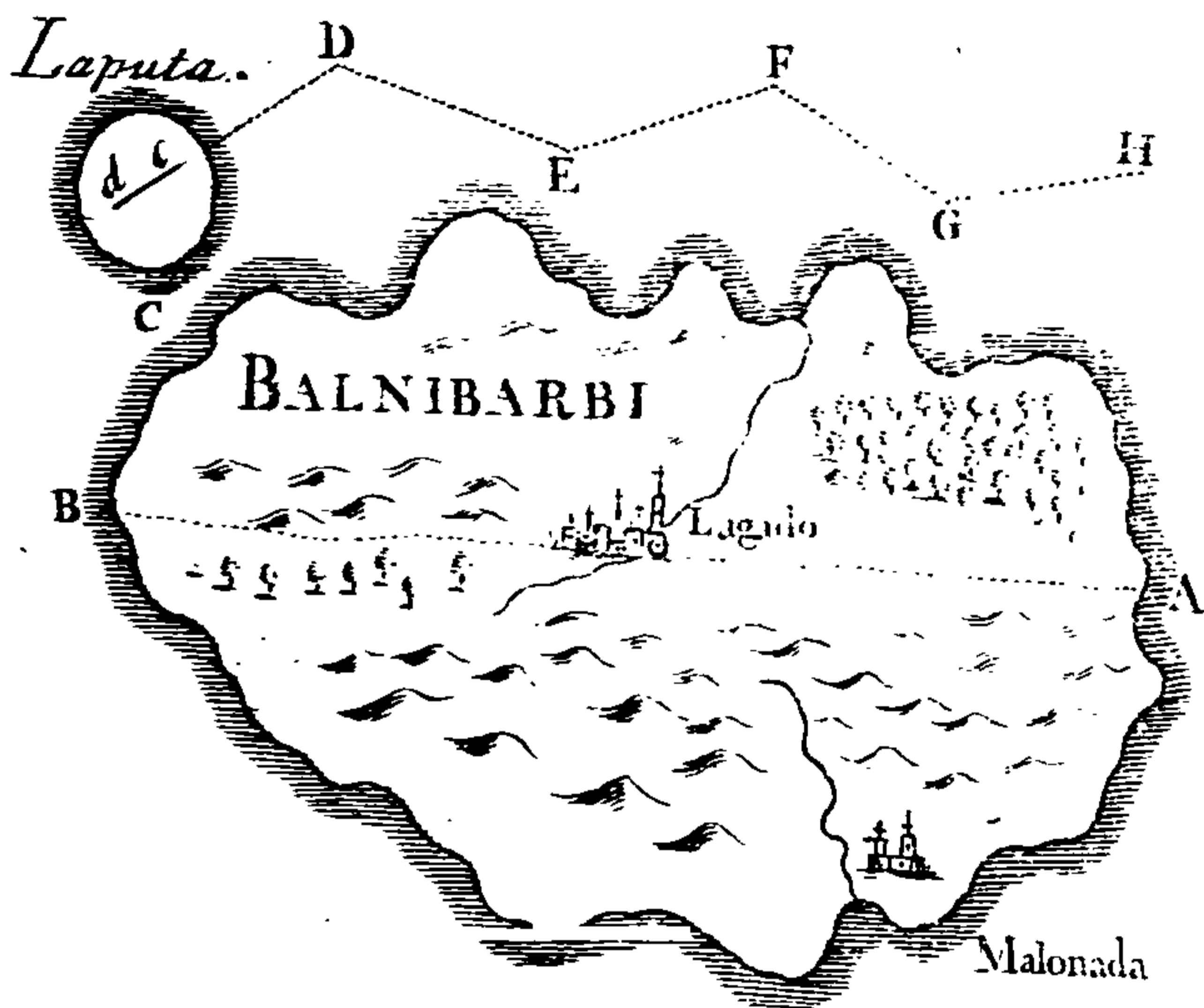
pours,

pours, he can prevent the falling of Dews and Rains when ever he pleases: For the highest Clouds cannot rise above two Miles, as Naturalists agree, at least they were never known to do in that Country.

At the Center of the Island there is a Chasm about fifty Yards in Diameter, from whence the Astronomers descend into a large Dome, which is therefore called *Flandona Gagnole*, or the *Astronomers Cave*, situated at the Depth of a hundred Yards beneath the upper Surface of the Adamant. In this Cave are twenty Lamps continually burning, which from the Reflection of the Adamant cast a strong Light into every Part. The Place is stored with great Variety of Sextants, Quadrants, Telescopes, Astrolabes, and other Astronomical Instruments. But the greatest Curiosity, upon which the Fate of the Island depends, is a Load-stone of a prodigious Size, in Shape resembling a Weaver's Shuttle. It

is in Length six Yards, and in the thickest Part at least three Yards over. This Magnet is sustained by a very strong Axle of Adamant passing through its Middle, upon which it plays, and is poized so exactly, that the weakest Hand can turn it. It is hooped round with an hollow Cylinder of Adamant, four Foot deep, as many thick, and twelve Yards in Diameter, placed Horizontally, and supported by eight Adamantine Feet, each six Yards high. In the middle of the Concave Side there is a Groove twelve Inches deep, in which the Extremities of the Axle are lodged, and turned round as there is Occasion.

THE Stone cannot be moved from its Place by any Force, because the Hoop and its Feet are one continued Piece with that Body of Adamant, which constitutes the Bottom of the Island.



By Means of this Load-stone, the Island is made to rise and fall, and move from one Place to another. For, with Respect to that Part of the Earth over which the Monarch presides, the Stone is endued at one of its Sides with an attractive Power, and at the other with a repulsive. Upon placing the Magnet erect with its attracting End towards the Earth, the Island descends; but when the repelling Extremity points downwards, the Island mounts directly upwards. When the Position of the Stone is oblique, the Motion of the Island is so too. For in this Magnet the Forces always act in Lines parallel to its Direction.

By this oblique Motion the Island is conveyed to different Parts of the Monarch's Dominions. To explain the manner of its Progress, let *AB* represent a Line drawn cross the Dominions of *Balnibarbi*, let the Line *c d* represent

the Load-stone, of which let  $d$  be the repelling End, and  $c$  the attracting End; the Island being over  $C$ , let the Stone be placed in the Position  $c d$ , with its repelling End downwards, then the Island will be driven upwards obliquely towards  $D$ . When it is arrived at  $D$ , let the Stone be turned upon its Axle till its attracting End points towards  $E$ , and then the Island will be carried obliquely towards  $E$ ; where, if the Stone be again turned upon its Axle till it stands in the Position  $E F$ , with its repelling Point downwards, the Island will rise obliquely towards  $F$ ; where, by directing the attracting End towards  $G$ , the Island may be carried to  $G$ , and from  $G$  to  $H$ , by turning the Stone, so as to make its repelling Extremity point directly downwards. And thus by changing the Situation of the Stone as often as there is Occasion, the Island is made to rise and fall by Turns in an oblique Direction; and by those alternate Risings and Fallings (the Obliquity being not considerable

ble) is conveyed from one Part of the Dominions to the other.

BUT it must be observed, that this Island cannot move beyond the Extent of the Dominions below, nor can it rise above the Height of four Miles. For which the Astronomers (who have written large Systems concerning the Stone) assign the following Reason; That the magnetick Virtue does not extend beyond the Distance of four Miles, and that the Mineral which acts upon the Stone in the Bowels of the Earth, and in the Sea about six Leagues distant from the Shoar, is not diffused through the whole Globe, but terminated with the Limits of the King's Dominions; and it was easy from the great Advantage of such a superior Situation, for a Prince to bring under his Obedience whatever Country lay within the Attraction of that Magnet.

W H E N

W H E N the Stone is put parallel to the Plane of the Horizon, the Island standeth still ; for in that Case, the Extremities of it being at equal Distance from the Earth, act with equal Force, the one in drawing downwards, the other in pushing upwards, and consequently no Motion can ensue.

T H I S Load-stone is under the Care of certain Astronomers, who from Time to Time give it such Positions as the Monarch directs. They spend the greatest Part of their Lives in observing the celestial Bodies, which they do by the Assistance of Glasses far excelling ours in Goodness. For this Advantage hath enabled them to extend the Discoveries much farther than our Astronomers in *Europe* ; for they have made a Catalogue of ten thousand fixed Stars ; whereas the largest of ours do not contain above one third Part of that Number. They have likewise discovered two lesser Stars, or  
*Satellites,*

*Satellites*, which revolve about *Mars*, whereof the innermost is distant from the Center of the primary Planet exactly three of his Diameters, and the outermost five; the former revolves in the Space of ten Hours, and the latter in twenty one and an half; so that the Squares of their periodical Times are very near in the same Proportion with the Cubes of their Distance from the Center of *Mars*, which evidently shews them to be governed by the same Law of Gravitation, that influences the other Heavenly Bodies.

T H E Y have observed ninety three different Comets, and settled their Periods with great Exactness. If this be true, (and they affirm it with great Confidence,) it is much to be wished that their Observations were made publick, whereby the Theory of Comets, which at present is very lame and defective, might be brought to the same  
Per-

Perfection with other Parts of Astronomy.

T H E King would be the most absolute Prince in the Universe, if he could but prevail on a Ministry to join with him ; but these having their Estates below on the Continent, and considering that the Office of a Favourite hath a very uncertain Tenure, would never consent to the enslaving their Country.

I F any Town should engage in Rebellion or Mutiny, fall into violent Factions, or refuse to pay the usual Tribute, the King hath two Methods of reducing them to Obedience. The first and the mildest Course is by keeping the Island hovering over such a Town, and the Lands about it, whereby he can deprive them of the Benefit of the Sun and the Rain, and consequently afflict the Inhabitants with Death and Diseases. And if the Crime deserve it, they are at the same Time pelted from above with

with great Stones, against which they have no Defence but by creeping into Cellars or Caves, while the Roofs of their Houses are beaten to Pieces. But if they still continue obstinate, or offer to raise Insurrections, he proceeds to the last Remedy, by letting the Island drop directly upon their Heads, which makes a universal Destruction both of Houses and Men. However, this is an Extremity to which the Prince is seldom driven, neither indeed is he willing to put it in Execution, nor dare his Ministers advise him to an Action, which, as it would render them odious to the People, so it would be a great Damage to their own Estates, which lie all below, for the Island is the King's Demefn.

BUT there is still indeed a more weighty Reason, why the Kings of this Country have been always averse from executing so terrible an Action, unless upon the utmost Necessity. For if the Town intended to be destroyed should have

have in it any tall Rocks, as it generally falls out in the larger Cities, a Situation probably chosen at first with a View to prevent such a Catastrophe; or if it abound in high Spires or Pillars of Stone, a sudden Fall might endanger the Bottom or Under-surface of the Island, which, although it consists, as I have said, of one entire Adamant two hundred Yards thick, might happen to crack by too great a Choque, or burst by approaching too near the Fires from the Houses below, as the Bricks both of Iron and Stone will often do in our Chimneys. Of all this the People are well apprized, and understand how far to carry their Obstinacy, where their Liberty or Property is concerned. And the King, when he is highest provoked, and most determined to press a City to Rubbish, orders the Island to descend with great Gentleness, out of a Pretence of Tenderneſs to his People, but indeed for fear of breaking the Adamantine Bottom; in which Case, it is the Opinion of all their  
Phi-

Philosophers, that the Load-stone could no longer hold it up, and the whole Mass would fall to the Ground.

By a fundamental Law of this Realm, neither the King, nor either of his two elder Sons, are permitted to leave the Island; nor the Queen, till she is past Child-bearing.

