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Travels into several remote nations of the world

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Part I. A Voyage to Lilliput.

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TRAVELS

INTO SEVERAL

Remote Nations

OF THE

WORLD.

By Captain LEMUEL GULLIVER.

PART I.

A VOYAGE to LILLIPUT.

LONDON:

Printed in the Year, MDCCXXVI.

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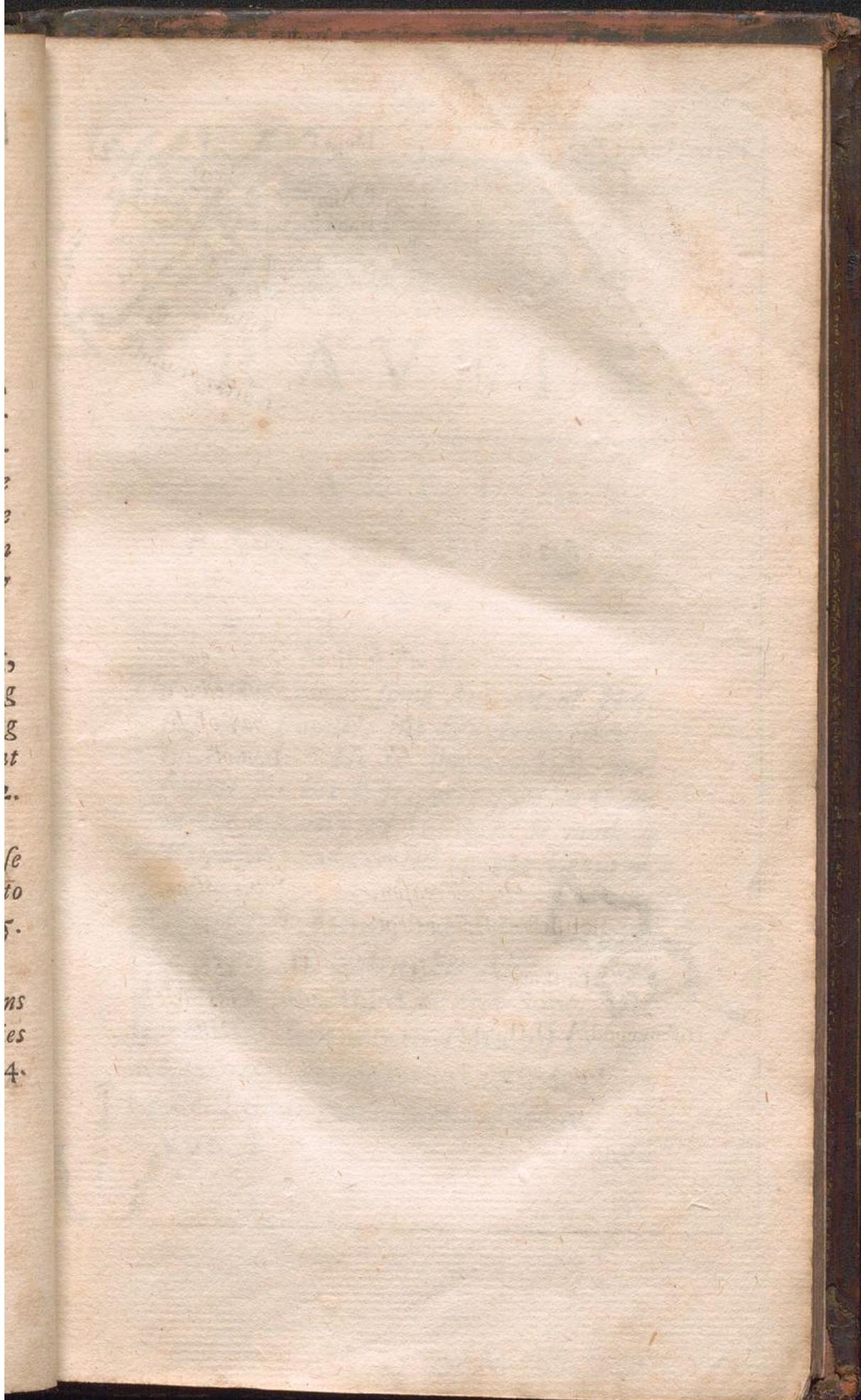


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Sillabar

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Discovered, A.D. 1699.



Donnerstag





TRAVELS.

PART I.

A Voyage to LILLIPUT.

CHAP. I.

The Author gives some Account of himself and Family, his first Inducements to travel. He is shipwrecked, and swims for his Life, gets safe on shoar in the Country of Lilliput, is made a Prisoner, and carried up the Country.



MY Father had a small Estate in Nottinghamshire; I was the third of five Sons. He sent me to *Emanuel College* in *Cambridge*, at fourteen years old, where I resided three years, and applied my self

VOL. I.

close

close to my Studies; but the Charge of maintaining me (although I had a very scanty Allowance) being too great for a narrow Fortune, I was bound Apprentice to Mr. *James Bates*, an eminent Surgeon in *London*, with whom I continued four years; and my Father now and then sending me small Sums of Money, I laid them out in learning Navigation, and other Parts of the Mathematicks, useful to those who intend to travel, as I always believed it would be some time or other my fortune to do. When I left Mr. *Bates*, I went down to my Father; where, by the Assistance of him and my Uncle *John*, and some other Relations, I got forty Pounds, and a Promise of thirty Pounds a year to maintain me at *Leyden*: There I studied Physick two years and seven months, knowing it would be useful in long Voyages.

SOON after my Return from *Leyden*, I was recommended by my good Master Mr. *Bates*, to be Surgeon to the *Swallow*,

to LILLIPUT. 3

low, Captain *Abraham Pannell* Com-
mander; with whom I continued three
years and a half, making a Voyage or two
into the *Levant*, and some other Parts.
When I came back, I resolv'd to settle in
London, to which Mr. *Bates*, my Master,
encouraged me, and by him I was recom-
mended to several Patients. I took Part
of a small House in the *Old Jury*; and
being advis'd to alter my Condition, I
married Mrs. *Mary Burton*, second Daugh-
ter to Mr. *Edmond Burton* Hosier in
Newgate-Street, with whom I received
four hundred Pounds for a Portion.

BUT, my good Master *Bates* dying in
two Years after, and I having few Friends,
my Business began to fail; for my Con-
science would not suffer me to imitate
the bad Practice of too many among my
Brethren. Having therefore consult'd
with my Wife, and some of my Acquain-
tance, I determin'd to go again to Sea.
I was Surgeon successively in two Ships.
and made several Voyages, for six Years,

to the *East* and *West-Indies*, by which I got some addition to my Fortune. My hours of Leisure I spent in reading the best Authors, antient and modern, being always provided with a good number of Books; and when I was ashore, in observing the Manners and Dispositions of the People, as well as learning their Language, wherein I had a great facility by the strength of my Memory.

THE last of these Voyages not proving very fortunate, I grew weary of the Sea, and intended to stay at home with my Wife and Family. I removed from the *Old Jury* to *Fetter-Lane*, and from thence to *Wapping*, hoping to get Business among the Sailors; but it would not turn to account. After three years Expectation that things would mend, I accepted an advantageous Offer from Captain *William Prichard*, Master of the *Antelope*, who was making a Voyage to the *South-Sea*. We set sail from *Bristol*, *May* 4th, 1699, and our Voyage at first was very prosperous. Ir

longer, being already spent with Labour while we were in the Ship. We therefore trusted our selves to the Mercy of the Waves, and in about half an hour the Boat was over-set by a sudden Flurry from the North. What became of my Companions in the Boat, as well as of those who escaped on the Rock, or were left in the Vessel, I cannot tell; but conclude they were all lost. For my own part, I swam as Fortune directed me, and was pushed forward by Wind and Tide. I often let my Legs drop, and could feel no bottom: But when I was almost gone, and able to struggle no longer, I found myself within my Depth; and by this time the Storm was much abated. The Declivity was so small, that I walked near a mile before I got to the Shore, which I conjectur'd was about eight a-clock in the Evening. I then advanced forward near half a mile, but could not discover any sign of Houses or Inhabitants; at least I was in so weak a Condition that I did not observe them. I was extremely

tired,

to LILLIPUT. 7

tired, and with that, and the heat of the Weather, and about half a Pint of Brandy that I drank as I left the Ship, I found my self much inclined to sleep. I lay down on the grass, which was very short and soft, where I slept sounder than ever I remember to have done in my Life, and, as I reckoned, about nine hours; for when I awaked, it was just day-light. I attempted to rise, but was not able to stir: For as I happen'd to lie on my Back, I found my Arms and Legs were strongly fastened on each side to the Ground; and my Hair, which was long and thick, tied down in the same manner. I likewise felt several slender Ligatures across my Body, from my Armpits to my Thighs. I could only look upwards, the Sun began to grow hot, and the Light offended mine Eyes. I heard a confused Noise about me, but in the Posture I lay, could see nothing except the Sky. In a little time I felt something alive moving on my left Leg, which advancing gently forward over my Breast,

came almost up to my Chin; when bending mine Eyes downwards as much as I could, I perceived it to be a human Creature not six inches high, with a Bow and Arrow in his Hands, and a Quiver at his Back. In the mean time, I felt at least forty more of the same kind (as I conjectured) following the first. I was in the utmost Astonishment, and roared so loud, that they all ran back in a fright; and some of them, as I was afterwards told, were hurt with the Falls they got by leaping from my sides upon the Ground. However, they soon returned, and one of them, who ventured so far as to get a full sight of my Face, lifting up his Hands and Eyes by Way of Admiration, cried out in a shrill, but distinct Voice, *Hekinal Degul*: The others repeated the same Words several times, but I then knew not what they meant. I lay all this while as the Reader may believe, in great Uneasiness: at length, struggling to get loose I had the fortune to break the Strings and wrench out the Pegs that fastened my

let

left Arm to the Ground; for, by lifting it up to my Face, I discover'd the Methods they had taken to bind me, and, at the same time, with a violent pull, which gave me excessive Pain, I a little loosened the strings that tied down my Hair on the left side, so that I was just able to turn my Head about two inches. But the Creatures ran off a second time, before I could seize them; whereupon there was a great Shout in a very shrill Accent, and after it ceased, I heard one of them cry aloud, *Tolgo Phonac*; when in an instant I felt above an hundred Arrows discharged on my left Hand, which pricked me like so many needles; and besides they shot another Flight into the Air, as we do Bombs in *Europe*, whereof many, I suppose, fell on my Body, (though I felt them not) and some on my Face, which I immediately covered with my left Hand. When this shower of Arrows was over, I fell a groaning with Grief and Pain, and then striving again to get loose, they discharged an-

other Volley larger than the first, and some of them attempted with Spears to stick me in the Sides; but, by good luck, I had on me a Buff Jerkin, which they could not pierce. I thought it the most prudent Method to lie still, and my design was to continue so till Night, when my left Hand being already loose, I could easily free my self: And as for the Inhabitants, I had reason to believe I might be a match for the greatest Armies they could bring against me, if they were all of the same Size with him that I saw. But Fortune disposed otherwise of me. When the People observed I was quiet, they discharged no more Arrows: But by the Noise I heard, I knew their Numbers encreased; and about four Yards from me, over-against my right Ear, I heard a knocking for above an hour, like that of People at work; when turning my Head that way as well as the Pegs and Strings would permit me, I saw a Stage erected, about a foot and a half from the Ground, capable of hold-

ing

ing four of the Inhabitants, with two or three Ladders to mount it: From whence one of them, who seemed to be a Person of Quality, made me a long Speech, whereof I understood not one Syllable. But I should have mentioned, that before the principal Person began his Oration, he cried out three times, *Langro Debul san*: (these words and the former were afterwards repeated and explained to me.) Whereupon immediately about fifty of the Inhabitants came and cut the strings that fastened the left Side of my Head, which gave me the Liberty of turning it to the right, and of observing the Person and Gesture of him that was to speak. He appeared to be of a middle Age, and taller than any of the other three who attended him, whereof one was a Page that held up his Train, and seemed to be somewhat longer than my middle Finger; the other two stood one on each side to support him. He acted every Part of an Orator, and I could observe many Periods of Threatnings;

and others of Promises, Pity and Kindness. I answered in a few words, but in the most submissive manner, lifting up my left Hand and both mine Eyes to the Sun, as calling him for a Witness; and being almost famished with Hunger, having not eaten a Morsel for some hours before I left the Ship, I found the demands of Nature so strong upon me, that I could not forbear shewing my Impatience (perhaps against the strict rules of Decency) by putting my Finger frequently on my Mouth, to signify that I wanted Food. The *Hurgo* (for so they call a great Lord, as I afterwards learnt) understood me very well. He descended from the Stage, and commanded that several Ladders should be applied to my Sides, on which above an hundred of the Inhabitants mounted, and walked towards my Mouth, laden with baskets full of Meat, which had been provided and sent thither by the King's Orders, upon the first intelligence he received of me. I observ'd there was the Flesh of several Animals,

but

but could not distinguish them by the taste. There were Shoulders, Legs and Loins shaped like those of Mutton, and very well dressed, but smaller than the Wings of a Lark. I eat them by two or three at a mouthful, and took three Loaves at a time, about the Bigness of Musket Bullets. They supplied me as they could, shewing a thousand marks of wonder and astonishment at my Bulk and Appetite. I then made another sign that I wanted Drink. They found by my eating, that a small Quantity would not suffice me, and being a most ingenious People, they slung up with great dexterity one of their largest Hogsheds, then rolled it towards my Hand, and beat out the top; I drank it off at a Draught, which I might well do, for it did not hold half a pint, and tasted like a small Wine of *Burgundy*, but much more delicious. They brought me a second Hogshed, which I drank in the same manner, and made signs for more, but they had none to give me. When I had performed these

Wonders,

Wonders, they shouted for Joy, and danced upon my Breast, repeating several times as they did at first, *Hekinah Degul*. They made me a sign that I should throw down the two Hogheads, but first warning the People below to stand out of the way, crying aloud, *Borach Mivola*, and when they saw the Vessels in the Air, there was an universal shout of *Hekinah Degul*. I confess I was often tempted, while they were passing backwards and forwards on my Body, to seize forty or fifty of the first that came in my reach, and dash them against the Ground. But the Remembrance of what I had felt, which probably might not be the worst they could do, and the Promise of Honour I made them, for so I interpreted my submissive Behaviour, soon drove out these Imaginations. Besides, I now consider'd my self as bound by the Laws of Hospitality to a People who had treated me with so much Expence and Magnificence. However, in my Thoughts, I could not sufficiently wonder at the Intrepidity

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trepidity

trepidity of these diminutive Mortals, who durst venture to mount and walk upon my Body, while one of my Hands was at liberty, without trembling at the very sight of so prodigious a Creature as I must appear to them. After some time, when they observed that I made no more demands for Meat, there appeared before me a Person of high Rank from his Imperial Majesty. His Excellency having mounted on the small of my right Leg, advanced forwards up to my Face, with about a dozen of his Retinue. And producing his Credentials under the Signet Royal, which he applied close to mine Eyes, spoke about ten Minutes, without any signs of Anger, but with a kind of determinate Resolution; often pointing forwards, which, as I afterwards found, was towards the capital City, about half a mile distant, whither it was agreed by his Majesty in Council that I must be conveyed. I answered in few words, but to no purpose, and made a Sign with my Hand that was loose, putting it to the other

other (but over his Excellency's Head, for fear of hurting him or his Train) and then to my own Head and Body, to signify that I desired my Liberty. It appeared that he understood me well enough, for he shook his Head by way of Disapprobation, and held his Hand in a posture to shew that I must be carried as a Prisoner. However, he made other signs to let me understand that I should have Meat and Drink enough, and very good Treatment. Whereupon I once more thought of attempting to break my Bonds, but again, when I felt the Smart of their Arrows, upon my Face and Hands, which were all in Blisters, and many of the Darts still sticking in them, and observing likewise that the Number of my Enemies increased, I gave tokens to let them know that they might do with me what they pleased. Upon this the *Hurgo* and his Train withdrew with much Civility and chearful Countenances. Soon after I heard a general Shout, with frequent repetitions of the Words, *Peplom Selan*, and
I felt

I felt great Numbers of the People on my Left Side relaxing the Cords to such a degree, that I was able to turn upon my Right, and to ease myself with making Water; which I very plentifully did, to the great Astonishment of the People, who conjecturing by my Motions what I was going to do, immediately opened to the right and left on that side to avoid the Torrent which fell with such noise and violence from me. But before this, they had dawbed my Face and both my Hands with a sort of Ointment very pleasant to the Smell, which in a few Minutes removed all the Smart of their Arrows. These Circumstances, added to the Refreshment I had received by their Victuals and Drink, which were very nourishing, disposed me to sleep. I slept about eight Hours, as I was afterwards assured; and it was no wonder, for the Physicians, by the Emperor's Order, had mingled a sleepy Potion in the Hogshheads of Wine.

It

IT seems that upon the first Moment I was discovered sleeping on the ground after my landing, the Emperor had early notice of it by an Express; and determined in Council that I should be tied in the manner I have related, (which was done in the night while I slept) that Plenty of Meat and Drink should be sent to me, and a Machine prepared to carry me to the capital City.

THIS Resolution perhaps may appear very bold and dangerous, and I am confident would not be imitated by any Prince in *Europe* on the like Occasion; however, in my opinion, it was extremely prudent as well as generous: For supposing these People had endeavour'd to kill me with their Spears and Arrows while I was asleep, I should certainly have awaked with the first sense of Smart, which might so far have rouzed my Rage and Strength, as to have enabled me to break the Strings wherewith I was tied; after which, as they

they were not able to make Resistance, so they could expect no Mercy.

THESE People are most excellent Mathematicians, and arriv'd to a great Perfection in Mechanicks, by the Countenance and Encouragement of the Emperor, who is a renowned Patron of Learning. This Prince hath several Machines fixed on wheels, for the Carriage of Trees and other great Weights. He often builds his largest Men of War, whereof some are nine foot long, in the Woods where the Timber grows, and has them carried on these Engines three or four hundred Yards to the Sea. Five hundred Carpenters and Engineers were immediately set at work to prepare the greatest Engine they had. It was a Frame of Wood raised three Inches from the Ground, about seven Foot long, and four wide, moving upon twenty two Wheels. The shout I heard was upon the Arrival of this Engine, which it seems set out in four hours after my Landing. It was brought
parallel

parallel to me as I lay. But the principal Difficulty was to raise and place me in this Vehicle. Eighty Poles, each of one Foot high, were erected for this purpose, and very strong Cords of the bigness of Packthread were fastned by Hooks to many Bandages, which the Workmen had girt round my Neck, my Hands, my Body, and my Legs. Nine hundred of the strongest Men were employed to draw up these Cords by many Pulleys fastned on the Poles, and thus, in less than three Hours, I was raised and slung into the Engine, and there tyed fast. All this I was told, for while the whole Operation was performing, I lay in a profound sleep, by the force of that soporiferous Medicine infused into my Liquor. Fifteen Hundred of the Emperor's largest Horses, each about four Inches and an half high, were employed to draw me towards the Metropolis, which, as I said, was half a Mile distant.

ABOUT

ABOUT four Hours after we began our Journey, I awaked by a very ridiculous Accident; for the Carriage being stopt a while to adjust something that was out of order, two or three of the young Natives had the Curiosity to see how I looked when I was asleep; they climbed up into the Engine, and advancing very softly to my Face, one of them, an Officer in the Guards, put the sharp end of his half-pike a good way up into my left Nostril, which tickled my Nose like a Straw, and made me sneeze violently: Whereupon they stole off unperceived, and it was three Weeks before I knew the cause of my awaking so suddenly. We made a long March the remaining part of that Day, and rested at Night with five hundred Guards on each side of me, half with Torches, and half with Bows and Arrows, ready to shoot me if I should offer to stir. The next Morning at Sun-rise we continued our March, and arrived within two hundred yards of the

City-Gates about Noon. The Emperor, and all his Court came out to meet us, but his great Officers would by no means suffer his Majesty to endanger his Person by mounting on my Body.

At the Place where the Carriage stopp'd there stood an antient Temple, esteem'd to be the largest in the whole Kingdom which having been polluted some Year before by an unnatural Murder, was, according to the Zeal of those People looked on as prophane, and therefore had been applied to common use, and all the Ornaments and Furniture carried away. In this Edifice it was determin'd I should lodge. The great Gate fronting to the North was about four foot high, and almost two foot wide, through which could easily creep. On each side of the Gate was a small Window not above Inches from the Ground: into that on the left Side, the King's Smiths convey'd fourscore and eleven Chains, like those that hang to a Lady's Watch in Europe.

and almost as large, which were lock'd to my left Leg with six and thirty Padlocks. Over-against this Temple, on t'other side of the great Highway, at twenty foot distance, there was a Turret at least five foot high. Here the Emperor ascended with many principal Lords of his Court, to have an opportunity of viewing me, as I was told, for I could not see them. It was reckoned that above an hundred thousand Inhabitants came out of the Town upon the same Errand; and in spight of my Guards, I believe there could not be fewer than ten thousand, at several times, who mounted upon my Body by the help of Ladders. But a Proclamation was soon issued to forbid it upon pain of Death. When the Workmen found it was impossible for me to break loose, they cut all the Strings that bound me; whereupon I rose up with as melancholy a Disposition as ever I had in my Life. But the noise and astonishment of the People at seeing me rise and walk, are not to be expressed. The Chains that held my

C 2

left

left Leg were about two yards long, and gave me not only the liberty of walking backwards and forwards in a Semicircle, but being fixed within four inches of the Gate, allowed me to creep in, and lie at my full length in the Temple.



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C H A P. II.

The Emperor of Lilliput, attended by several of the Nobility, come to see the Author in his Confinement. The Emperor's Person and Habit describ'd. Learned Men appointed to teach the Author their Language. He gains Favour by his mild Disposition. His Pockets are searched, and his Sword and Pistols taken from him.

WHEN I found my self on my Feet, I looked about me, and must confess I never beheld a more entertaining Prospect. The Country round appeared like a continued Garden, and the inclosed Fields, which were generally forty foot square, resembled so many Beds of Flowers. These Fields were intermingled with

C 3 Woods

Woods of half a Stang, and the tallest Trees, as I could judge, appeared to be seven foot high. I viewed the Town on my left hand which looked like the painted Scene of a City in a Theatre.

I had been for some hours extremely pressed by the Necessities of Nature which was no wonder, it being almost two days since I had last disburthened my self. I was under great Difficulty between Urgency and Shame. The best Expedient I could think on, was to creep into my House, which I accordingly did, and shutting the gate after me, I went as far as the length of my Chain would suffice, and discharged my Body of that uneasy Load. But this was the only time I was ever guilty of so uncleanly an Action for which I cannot but hope the candid Reader will give some Allowance, after he hath maturely and impartially considered my Case, and the Distress I was in. From this time my constant Practice was, as soon as I rose, to perform the
Business

Business in open Air, at the full extent of my Chain, and due Care was taken every Morning before Company came, that the offensive matter should be carried off in Wheel-barrows by two Servants appointed for that Purpose. I would not have dwelt so long upon a Circumstance, that perhaps at first sight may appear not very momentous, if I had not thought it necessary to justify my Character in point of Cleanliness to the World; which I am told some of my Maligners have been pleased, upon this and other Occasions, to call in question.

WHEN this Adventure was at an end, I came back out of my House, having occasion for fresh Air. The Emperor was already descended from the Tower, and advancing on horseback towards me, which had like to have cost him dear; for the Beast, though very well trained, yet wholly unused to such a sight, which appeared as if a Mountain moved before him, reared up on his hinder Feet: But

that Prince, who is an excellent Horseman, kept his Seat, till his Attendants ran in, and held the Bridle, while his Majesty had time to dismount. When he alighted, he surveyed me round with great Admiration, but kept without the length of my Chain. He ordered his Cooks and Butlers, who were already prepared to give me Victuals and Drink which they pushed forward in a sort of Vehicles upon Wheels till I could reach them. I took these Vehicles, and soon emptied them all; twenty of them were filled with Meat, and ten with Liquor, each of the former afforded me two or three good Mouthfuls, and I emptied the Liquor of ten Vessels, which was contained in earthen Vials, into one Vehicle, drinking it off at a Draught, and so I did with the rest. The Empress, and young Princes of the Blood, of both Sexes, attended by many Ladies, sat at some distance in their Chairs, but upon the Accident that happened to the Emperor's Horse, they alighted, and came near the Person

Person, which I am now going to describe. He is taller by almost the breadth of my Nail, than any of his Court, which alone is enough to strike an Awe into the Beholders. His Features are strong and masculine, with an *Austrian* Lip and arched Nose, his Complexion olive, his Countenance erect, his Body and Limbs well proportioned, all his Motions graceful, and his Deportment majestick. He was then past his Prime, being twenty-eight years and three quarters old, of which he had reigned about seven, in great felicity, and generally victorious. For the better convenience of beholding him, I lay on my Side, so that my Face was parallel to his, and he stood but three yards off: However, I have had him since many times in my Hand, and therefore cannot be deceived in the Description. His Dress was very plain and simple, and the Fashion of it between the Asiatick and the *European*: but he had on his Head a light Helmet of Gold, adorned with Jewels, and a Plume on the Crest.

He

He held his Sword drawn in his hand, to defend himself, if I should happen to break loose; it was almost three Inches long, the Hilt and Scabbard were Gold enriched with Diamonds. His Voice was shrill, but very clear and articulate, and I could distinctly hear it when I stood up. The Ladies and Courtiers were all most magnificently clad, so that the spot they stood upon seem'd to resemble a Petticoat spread on the Ground, embroidered with figures of Gold and Silver. His Imperial Majesty spoke often to me, and I returned Answers, but neither of us could understand a Syllable. There were several of his Priests and Lawyrs present, (as I conjectured by their habits) who were commanded to address themselves to me, and I spoke to them in as many Languages as I had the least smattering of, which were *High and Low Dutch, Latin, French, Spanish, Italian, and Lingua Franca;* but all to no purpose. After about two Hours the Court retired, and I was left with a strong Guard, to prevent the Impertinence,

pertinence, and probably the Malice of the Rabble, who were very impatient to croud about me as near as they durst, and some of them had the Impudence to shoot their Arrows at me as I sat on the Ground by the door of my House, whereof one very narrowly miss'd my left Eye. But the Colonel ordered six of the Ring-leaders to be seized, and thought no Punishment so proper as to deliver them bound into my Hands, which some of his Soldiers accordingly did, pushing them forwards with the But-ends of their Pikes into my reach; I took them all in my right Hand, put five of them into my Coat-pocket, and as to the sixth, I made a Countenance as if I would eat him alive. The poor Man squalled terribly, and the Colonel and his Officers were in much Pain, especially when they saw me take out my Penknife: But I soon put them out of fear; for, looking mildly and immediately cutting the strings he was bound with, I set him gently on the Ground, and away he ran; I treated the
rest

rest in the same manner, taking them one by one out of my Pocket, and I observed both the Soldiers and People were highly obliged at this Mark of my Clemency, which was represented very much to my Advantage at Court.

TOWARDS Night I got with some difficulty into my House, where I lay on the Ground, and continued to do so about a Fortnight; during which time the Emperor gave orders to have a Bed prepared for me. Six hundred Beds of the common Measure, were brought in Carriages and worked up in my House, an hundred and fifty of their Beds sown together made up the Breadth and Length, and these were four double, which however kept me but very indifferently from the Hardness of the Floor, that was of smooth Stone. By the same Computation they provided me with Sheets, Blankets, and Coverlets, tolerable enough for one who had been so long inured to Hardships as I.

As

As the News of my Arrival spread through the Kingdom, it brought prodigious Numbers of rich, idle, and curious People to see me; so that the Villages were almost emptied, and great Neglect of Tillage and Household Affairs must have ensued, if his Imperial Majesty had not provided, by several Proclamations and Orders of State, against this Inconveniency. He directed, that those who had already beheld me should return home, and not presume to come within fifty yards of my House, without licence from Court; whereby the Secretaries of State got considerable Fees.

In the mean time, the Emperor held frequent Councils to debate what course should be taken with me; and I was afterwards assured by a particular Friend, a Person of great Quality, who was looked upon to be as much in the Secret as any, that the Court was under many Difficulties concerning me. They apprehended

prehended my breaking loose, that my Diet would be very expensive, and might cause a Famine. Sometimes they determined to starve me, or at least to shoot me in the Face and Hands with poisoned Arrows, which would soon dispatch me; but again they consider'd, that the Stench of so large a Carcase might produce a Plague in the Metropolis, and probably spread through the whole Kingdom. In the midst of these Consultations, several Officers of the Army went to the Door of the great Council Chamber; and two of them being admitted, gave an account of my Behaviour to the six Criminals above-mention'd, which made so favourable an Impression in the Breast of his Majesty and the whole Board in my behalf, that an Imperial Commission was issued out, obliging all the Villages nine hundred yards round the City, to deliver in every Morning six Beeves, forty Sheep, and other Victuals for my Sustenance; together with a proportionable Quantity of Bread, and Wine and other Liquors; for

for the due Payment of which, his Majesty gave Assignments upon his Treasury. For this Prince lives chiefly upon his own Demefnes, feldom, except upon great occasions, raising any Subsidies upon his Subjects, who are bound to attend him in his Wars at their own Expence. An Establishment was also made of six hundred Persons to be my Domesticks, who had Board wages allowed for their Maintenance, and Tents built for them very conveniently on each side of my Door. It was likewise ordered, that three hundred Taylors should make me a Suit of Cloaths after the fashion of the Country: That six of his Majesty's greatest Scholars should be employ'd to instruct me in their Language: And, lastly, that the Emperor's Horses, and those of the Nobility, and Troops of Guards, should be frequently exercised in my sight, to accustom themselves to me. All these Orders were duly put in execution, and in about three Weeks I made a great Progress in learning their Language; during which

which time, the Emperor frequently honoured me with his Visits, and was pleased to assist my Masters in teaching me. We began already to converse together in some sort; and the first words I learnt were to express my desire that he would please to give me my liberty, which I every day repeated on my Knees. His Answer, as I could apprehend it, was, that this must be a Work of Time, not to be thought on without the Advice of Council, and that first I must *Lumos Kelmin pesso desmar lon Emposo*; that is, swear a Peace with him and his Kingdom. However, that I should be used with all Kindness; and he advised me to acquire, by my Patience and discreet Behaviour, the good Opinion of himself and his Subjects. He desired I would not take it ill if he gave Orders to certain proper Officers to search me; for probably I might carry about me several Weapons, which must needs be dangerous things, if they answered the Bulk of so prodigious a Person. I said, his Majesty should

should be satisfied, for I was ready to
 strip myself, and turn up my Pockets be-
 fore him. This I delivered part in Words,
 and part in Signs. He replied, that by
 the Laws of the Kingdom I must be
 searched by two of his Officers; that he
 knew this could not be done without
 my Consent and Assistance; that he had
 so good an Opinion of my Generosity
 and Justice, as to trust their Persons in
 my Hands: That whatever they took
 from me should be returned when I left
 the Country, or paid for at the Rate
 which I would set upon them. I took
 up the two Officers in my Hands, put
 them first into my Coat-Pockets, and
 then into every other Pocket about me,
 except my two Fobs, and another se-
 cret Pocket I had no mind should be
 searched, wherein I had some little Ne-
 cessaries that were of no consequence to
 any but myself. In one of my Fobs
 there was a silver Watch, and in the o-
 ther a small quantity of Gold in a Purse.
 These Gentlemen, having Pen, Ink and
 Paper

Paper about them, made an exact Inventory of every thing they saw; and when they had done, desired I would set them down, that they might deliver it to the Emperor. This Inventory I afterward translated into *English*, and is word for word as follows.

IMPRIMIS, In the right Coat-Pocket of the *Great Man-Mountain* (for so interpret the Words *Quinbus Flestris* after the strictest search, we found only one great Piece of coarse Cloth, large enough to be a Foot-Cloth for your Majesty's chief Room of State. In the left Pocket, we saw a huge Silver Chest, with a Cover of the same Metal, which the Searchers were not able to lift. We desired it should be opened, and one of us stepping into it, found himself up to the mid Leg in a sort of Dust, some part whereof flying up to our Faces, set us both a sneezing for several times together. In his right Wastecoat-Pocket, we found a prodigious Bundle of white

Substance

Substances, folded one over another, about the Bigness of three Men, tied with a strong Cable, and marked with black Figures; which we humbly conceive to be Writings, every Letter almost half as large as the Palm of our Hands. In the left there was a sort of Engine, from the Back of which were extended twenty long Poles, resembling the Palifado's before your Majesty's Court; wherewith we conjecture the *Man-Mountain* combs his Head, for we did not always trouble him with Questions, because we found it a great Difficulty to make him understand us. In the large Pocket on the right side of his middle Cover, (so I translate the Word *Ranfu-Lo*, by which they meant my Breeches) we saw a hollow Pillar of Iron, about the length of a Man, fastened to a strong piece of Timber, larger than the Pillar; and upon one side of the Pillar were huge pieces of Iron sticking out, cut into strange Figures, which we know not what to make of. In the left Pocket, another Engine

of the same kind. In the smaller Pocket on the right side, were several round Pieces of white and red Metal, of different Bulk; some of the white, which seemed to be Silver, were so large and heavy, that my Comrade and I could hardly lift them. In the left Pocket were two black Pillars irregularly shaped: we could not, without Difficulty, reach the top of them as we stood at the bottom of his Pocket. One of them was covered, and seemed all of a piece: But the upper end of the other, there appeared a white round Substance, about twice the bigness of our Heads. We in each of these was inclosed a precious Plate of Steel; which, by our Order we obliged him to shew us, because we apprehended they might be dangerous Engines. He took them out of their Cases, and told us, that in his own Country his Practice was to shave his Head with one of these, and to cut his Beard with the other. There were two Pockets which we could not enter: These

called his Fobs; they were two large Slits cut into the top of his middle Cover, but Squeez'd close by the pressure of his Belly. Out of the right Fob hung a great silver Chain, with a wonderful kind of Engine at the bottom. We directed him to draw out whatever was fastened to that Chain; which appeared to be a Globe, half Silver, and half of some transparent Metal: For on the transparent side we saw certain strange Figures circularly drawn, and thought we could touch them, till we found our Fingers stopped by that lucid Substance. He put this Engine to our Ears, which made an incessant Noise like that of a Water-Mill. And we conjecture it is either some unknown Animal, or the God that he worships: But we are more inclined to the latter Opinion, because he assured us, (if we understood him right, for he expressed himself very imperfectly) that he seldom did any Thing without consulting it. He called it his Oracle, and said it pointed out the Time for every Ac-

tion of his Life. From the left Fob he took out a Net almost large enough for a Fisherman, but contrived to open and shut like a Purse, and served him for the same use: We found therein several massy Pieces of yellow Metal, which they be real Gold, must be of imminent Value.

HAVING thus, in obedience to your Majesty's Commands, diligently searched all his Pockets, we observed a Girdle about his Waste made of the Hide of some prodigious Animal, from which, on the left Side, hung a Sword of the length of five Men; and on the right, a Bag or Pouch divided into two Cells, each capable of holding three of your Majesty's Subjects. In one of these Cells were several Globes or Balls of a most ponderous Metal, about the bigness of our Heads, and required a strong Hand to lift them. The other Cell contained a Heap of certain black Grains, but of no great

or Weight, for we could hold above fifty of them in the Palms of our Hands.

THIS is an exact Inventory of what we found about the Body of the *Man-Mountain*, who used us with great Civility, and due Respect to your Majesty's Commission. Signed and sealed on the fourth Day of the eighty ninth Moon of your Majesty's auspicious Reign,

Clefrin Frelock, Marfi Frelock.

WHEN this Inventory was read over to the Emperor, he directed me, although in very gentle Terms, to deliver up the several Particulars. He first called for my Scymiter, which I took out, Scabbard and all. In the mean time he ordered three thousand of his choicest Troops (who then attended him) to surround me at a distance, with their Bows and Arrows just ready to discharge: but I did not observe it, for mine Eyes were wholly fixed upon his Majesty. He then desired me to draw my Scymiter, which,

although it had got some Rust by the Sea Water, was in most parts exceeding bright, I did so, and immediately all the Troops gave a Shout between Terror and Surprize; for the Sun shone clear, and the Reflexion dazled their Eyes as I waved the Scymiter to and fro in my Hand. His Majesty, who is a most magnanimous Prince, was less daunted than I could expect; he ordered me to return it into the Scabbard, and cast it on the Ground gently as I could, about six foot from the end of my Chain. The next thing he demanded, was one of the hollow Iron Pillars, by which he meant my Pocket Pistols. I drew it out, and at his desire as well as I could, expressed to him the Use of it; and charging it only with Powder, which by the closeness of the Pouch happened to escape wetting in the Sea, (an Inconvenience against which prudent Mariners take special care to provide) I first cautioned the Emperor not to be afraid, and then I let it off in the Air. The Astonishment here was much greater than

than at the sight of my Scymiter. Hundreds fell down as if they had been struck dead; and even the Emperor, although he stood his Ground, could not recover himself in some time. I delivered up both my Pistols in the same Manner, as I had done my Scymiter, and then my Pouch of Powder and Bullets; begging him that the former might be kept from the Fire, for it would kindle with the smallest Spark, and blow up his Imperial Palace into the Air. I likewise delivered up my Watch, which the Emperor was very curious to see, and commanded two of his tallest Yeomen of the Guards to bear it on a Pole upon their Shoulders, as Dray-Men in *England* do a Barrel of Ale. He was amazed at the continual Noise it made, and the Motion of the Minute-Hand, which he could easily discern; for their Sight is much more acute than ours: and asked the Opinions of his learned Men about him, which were various and remote, as the Reader may well imagine without my repeating; although indeed I could

I could not very perfectly understand them. I then gave up my Silver and Copper Money, my Purse with nine large Pieces of Gold, and some smaller ones; my Knife and Razor, my Comb and Silver Snuff-Box, my Handkerchief and Journal Book. My Scymiter, Pistols, and Pouch, were conveyed in Carriages to his Majesty's Stores; but the rest of my Goods were returned me.

I had, as I before observed, one private Pocket which escaped their Search, wherein there was a pair of Spectacles, (which I sometimes use for the weakness of mine Eyes) a Pocket Perspective, and several other little Conveniences; which being of no consequence to the Emperor, I did not think my self bound in Honour to discover, and I apprehended they might be lost or spoiled if I ventured them out of my Possession.

C H A P.

I



C H A P III.

The Author diverts the Emperor and his Nobility of both Sexes in a very uncommon manner. The Diversions of the Court of Lilliput described. The Author has his Liberty granted him upon certain Conditions.



MY Gentleness and good Behaviour had gained so far on the Emperor and his Court, and indeed upon the Army and People in general, that I began to conceive Hopes of getting my Liberty in a short time. I took all possible Methods to cultivate this favourable Disposition. The Natives came by degrees to be less apprehensive of any Danger from me. I would sometimes lie down, and let five or
 six

six of them dance on my Hand. And at last the Boys and Girls would venture to come and play at Hide and Seek in my Hair. I had now made a good Progress in understanding and speaking their Language. The Emperor had a mind one day to entertain me with several of the Country Shows, wherein they exceed all Nations I have known, both for Dexterity and Magnificence. I was diverted with none so much as that of the Rope-Dancers, performed upon a slender white Thread, extended about two Foot, and twelve Inches from the Ground. Upon which I shall desire liberty, with the Reader's Patience, to enlarge a little.

THIS Diversion is only practised by those Persons who are Candidates for great Employments, and high Favour, at Court. They are trained in this Art from their Youth, and are not always of noble Birth, or liberal Education. When a great Office is vacant either by Death or Disgrace (which often happens) five or

or

or six of those Candidates petition the Emperor to entertain his Majesty and the Court with a Dance on the Rope, and whoever jumps the highest without falling, succeeds in the Office. Very often the Chief Ministers themselves are commanded to shew their Skill, and to convince the Emperor that they have not lost their Faculty. *Flimnap*, the Treasurer, is allowed to cut a Caper on the strait Rope, at least an Inch higher than any other Lord in the whole Empire. I have seen him do the Summerset several times together upon a Trencher fixed on the Rope, which is no thicker than a common Packthread in *England*. My Friend *Reldresal*, principal Secretary for private Affairs, is, in my opinion, if I am not partial, the second after the Treasurer; the rest of the great Officers are much upon a Par.

THESE Diversions are often attended with fatal Accidents, whereof great Numbers are on Record. I my self have seen two or three Candidates break a Limb.

But

But the Danger is much greater when the Ministers themselves are commanded to shew their Dexterity; for by contending to excel themselves and their Fellows, they strain so far, that there is hardly one of them who hath not received a Fall, and some of them two or three. I was assured that a Year or two before my Arrival, *Flimnap* would have infallibly broke his Neck, if one of the King's Cushions, that accidentally lay on the Ground, had not weakened the Force of his Fall.

THERE is likewise another Diversion which is only shewn before the Emperor and Empress, and first Minister, upon particular Occasions. The Emperor lays on a Table three fine silken Threads of six Inches long. One is Purple, the other Yellow, and the third White. These Threads are proposed as Prizes for those Persons whom the Emperor hath a mind to distinguish by a peculiar Mark of his Favour. The Ceremony is performed in his Majesty's great Chamber of State,

where

where the Candidates are to undergo a Tryal of Dexterity very different from the former, and such as I have not observed the least Resemblance of in any other Country of the old or the new World. The Emperor holds a Stick in his Hands, both ends parallel to the Horizon, while the Candidates advancing one by one, sometimes leap over the Stick, sometimes creep under it backwards and forwards several times, according as the Stick is advanced or depressed. Sometimes the Emperor holds one end of the Stick, and his first Minister the other; sometimes the Minister has it entirely to himself. Whoever performs his Part with most Agility, and holds out the longest in leaping and creeping, is rewarded with the Purple coloured Silk; the Yellow is given to the next, and the White to the third, which they all wear girt twice round about the middle; and you see few great Persons about this Court, who are not adorned with one of these Girdles.

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THE Horses of the Army, and those of the royal Stables, having been dailied before me, were no longer shy, but would come up to my very Feet without starting. The Riders would leap there over my Hand as I held it on the Ground and one of the Emperor's Huntsmen, upon a large Courser, took my Foot Shoe and all; which was indeed a prodigious Leap. I had the good fortune to divert the Emperor one Day after a very extraordinary manner. I desired he would order several Sticks of two Foot high and the thickness of an ordinary Cane, to be brought me; whereupon his Majesty commanded the Master of his Woods to give Directions accordingly, and the next Morning six Wood-men arrived with many Carriages, drawn by eight Horses to each. I took nine of these Sticks fixing them firmly in the Ground in a quadrangular Figure, two foot and a half Square. I took four other Sticks, and tied them parallel at each Corner, about

two foot from the Ground; then I fastned my Handkerchief to the nine Sticks that stood erect, and extended it on all sides till it was as tight as the top of a Drum; and the four parallel Sticks rising about five Inches higher than the Handkerchief, served as Ledges on each side. When I had finished my Work, I desired the Emperor to let a Troop of his best Horse, twenty four in number, come and exercise upon this Plain. His Majesty approved of the Proposal, and I took them up one by one in my hands, ready mounted and armed, with the proper Officers to exercise them. As soon as they got into order they divided into two Parries, performed mock Skirmishes, discharged blunt Arrows, drew their Swords, fled and pursued, attacked and retired, and in short discovered the best military Discipline I ever beheld. The parallel Sticks secured them and their Horses from falling over the Stage; and the Emperor was so much delighted, that he ordered this Entertainment to be re-

peated several days, and once was pleased to be lifted up, and give the word of Command; and, with great difficulty persuaded even the Empress her self to let me hold her in her close Chair within two yards of the Stage, from whence she was able to take a full View of the whole Performance. It was my good fortune that no ill Accident happened in the Entertainments, only once a fiery Horse that belonged to one of the Captains pawing with his Hoof struck a hole in my Handkerchief, and his Foot slipping he overthrew his Rider and himself; but I immediately relieved them both; and covering the hole with one Hand, I laid down the Troop with the other, in the same manner as I took them up. The Horse that fell was strained in the Shoulder, but the Rider got no hurt, and I repaired my Handkerchief as well as I could; however, I would not trust to the Strength of it any more in such dangerous Enterprizes.

ABOUT two or three days before I was set at liberty, as I was entertaining the Court with these kind of Feats, there arrived an Express to inform his Majesty, that some of his Subjects riding near the Place where I was first taken up, had seen a great black Substance lying on the Ground very odly shaped, extended its Edges round as wide as his Majesty's Bed-chamber, and rising up in the middle as high as a Man; that it was no living Creature, as they at first apprehended, for it lay on the Grass without Motion; and some of them had walked round it several times: That by mounting upon each other's Shoulders, they had got to the top, which was flat and even, and stamping upon it they found it was hollow within; that they humbly conceived it might be something belonging to the *Mountain*; and if his Majesty pleased, they would undertake to bring it with only five Horses. I presently knew what they meant, and was glad at heart to re-

ceive this Intelligence. It seems upon my first reaching the Shore after our Shipwreck, I was in such confusion, that before I came to the place where I went to sleep, my Hat which I had fastned with a String to my Head while I was rowing and had stuck on all the time I was swimming, fell off after I came to Land; the String, as I conjecture, breaking by some Accident which I never observed, but thought my Hat had been lost at Sea. I intreated his Imperial Majesty to give Orders it might be brought to me as soon as possible, describing to him the Use and the Nature of it: And the next Day the Waggoners arrived with it, but not in very good condition; they had bored two Holes in the Brim, within an Inch and half of the Edge, and fastned two Hooks in the Holes; these Hooks were tyed by a long Cord to the Harness, and thus my Hat was dragged along for above half an *English* Mile: but the Ground in that Country being extremely smooth and level, it receiv'd less Damage than I expected.

Two Days after this Adventure, the Emperor having ordered that Part of his Army which quarters in and about his Metropolis to be in a readiness, took a fancy of diverting himself in a very singular manner. He desired I would stand like a *Colossus*, with my Legs as far asunder as I conveniently could. He then commanded his General, (who was an old experienced Leader, and a great Patron of mine) to draw up the Troops in close Order, and march them under me; the Foot by twenty-four in a Breast, and the Horse by sixteen, with Drums beating, Colours flying, and Pikes advanced. This Body consisted of three thousand Foot, and a thousand Horse. His Majesty gave Orders, upon pain of Death, that every Soldier in his March should observe the strictest Decency, with regard to my Person; which, however, could not prevent some of the younger Officers from turning up their Eyes as they passed under me. And, to confess the Truth,

my Breeches were at that time in so ill Condition, that they afforded some Opportunities for Laughter and Admirati

I had sent so many Memorials and Petitions for my Liberty, that his Majesty at length mentioned the Matter first to the Cabinet, and then in a full Council where it was opposed by none, except *Skyresh Bolgolam*, who was pleased, without any Provocation, to be my mortal Enemy. But it was carried against me by the whole Board, and confirmed by the Emperor. That Minister was Governor or Admiral of the Realm, very much in his Master's Confidence, and a Person well versed in Affairs, but of a morose and sour Complexion. However, he was at length persuaded to comply; so prevailed that the Articles and Conditions upon which I should be set, and to which I must swear, should be drawn up by himself. These Articles were brought to me by *Skyresh Bolgolam* in Person, attended by two Under-S

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taries, and several Persons of Distinction. After they were read, I was demanded to swear to the Performance of them; first in the manner of my own Country, and afterwards in the method prescribed by their Laws: which was to hold my right Foot in my left Hand, to place the middle Finger of my right Hand on the Crown of my Head, and my Thumb on the Tip of my right Ear. But because the Reader may perhaps be curious to have some idea of the Style and manner of Expression peculiar to that People, as well as to know the Articles upon which I recovered my Liberty, I have made a translation of the whole Instrument word for word, as near as I was able, which I here offer to the Publick.

GOLBASTO MOMAREN EVLAME GUR-
DILO SHEFIN MULLY ULLY GUE, most
Mighty Emperor of *Lilliput*, Delight and
Terror of the Universe, whose Domi-
nions extend five thousand *Blustrugs*, (a-
bout twelve Miles in Circumference) to
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the Extremities of the Globe; Monarch of all Monarchs, taller than the Sons of Men; whose Feet press down to the Center, and whose Head strikes against the Sun: At whose Nod the Princes of the Earth shake their Knees; pleasant as the Spring, comfortable as the Summer, fruitful as Autumn, dreadful as Winter. His most sublime Majesty proposeth to the *Man-Mountain*, lately arrived to our Celestial Dominions, the following Article which by a solemn Oath he shall be oblig'd to perform.

FIRST, The *Man-Mountain* shall not depart from our Dominions, without our Licence under our Great Seal.

2^d, He shall not presume to come to our Metropolis, without our express Order; at which time the Inhabitants shall have two hours warning to keep within their doors.

3^d, The

3^d, T H E said *Man-Mountain* shall confine his Walks to our principal high Roads, and not offer to walk or lie down in a Meadow or Field of Corn.

4th, A s he walks the said Roads, he shall take the utmost care not to trample upon the Bodies of any of our loving Subjects, their Horses, or Carriages, nor take any of our said Subjects into his hands, without their own Consent.

5th, I F an Express requires extraordinary Dispatch, the *Man-Mountain* shall be obliged to carry in his Pocket the Messenger and Horse a Six Days Journey once in every Moon, and return the said Messenger back (if so required) safe to our Imperial Presence.

6th, H E shall be our Ally against our Enemies in the Island of *Blefuscu*, and do his utmost to destroy their Fleet, which is now preparing to invade us.

7th, T H A T

7th, THAT the said *Man-Mountain* shall, at his times of leisure, be aiding and assisting to our Workmen, in helping to raise certain great Stones, towards covering the Wall of the principal Park, and other our Royal Buildings.

8th, THAT the said *Man-Mountain* shall, in two Moons time, deliver in an exact Survey of the Circumference of our Dominions by a Computation of his own Paces round the Coast.

LASTLY, That upon his solemn Oath to observe all the above Articles, the said *Man-Mountain* shall have a daily Allowance of Meat and Drink sufficient for the Support of 1728 of our Subjects with free Access to our Royal Person and other Marks of our Favour. Given at our Palace at *Belfaborac* the twelfth day of the ninety-first Moon of our Reign.

I swor

I swore and subscribed to these Articles with great Chearfulness and Content, although some of them were not so honourable as I could have wished; which proceeded wholly from the Malice of *Skyresh Bolgolam* the High-Admiral: whereupon my Chains were immediately unlocked, and I was at full liberty; the Emperor himself in Person did me the Honour to be by at the whole Ceremony. I made my Acknowledgments by prostrating myself at his Majesty's Feet: But he commanded me to rise; and after many gracious Expressions, which, to avoid the Censure of Vanity, I shall not repeat, he added, that he hoped I should prove a useful Servant, and well deserve all the Favours he had already conferred upon me, or might do for the future.

THE Reader may please to observe, that in the last Article for the Recovery of my Liberty, the Emperor stipulates

to

to allow me a Quantity of Meat and Drink sufficient for the Support of 1728 *Lilliputians*. Some time after, asking a Friend at Court how they came to fix on that determinate Number; he told me, that his Majesty's Mathematicians, having taken the height of my Body by the help of a *Quadrant*, and finding it to exceed theirs in the Proportion of twelve to one, they concluded from the Similarity of their Bodies, that mine must contain at least 1728 of theirs, and consequently would require as much Food as was necessary to support that number of *Lilliputians*. By which, the Reader may conceive an Idea of the Ingenuity of that People, as well as the prudent and exact Oeconomy of so great a Prince.





CHAP. IV.

Mildendo, the Metropolis of Lilliput, described, together with the Emperor's Palace. A Conversation between the Author and a Principal Secretary concerning the Affairs of that Empire: The Author's Offers to serve the Emperor in his Wars.

THE first Request I made after I had obtained my Liberty, was, that I might have licence to see *Mildendo*, the Metropolis; which the Emperor easily granted me, but with a special Charge to do no hurt, either to the Inhabitants, or their Houses. The People had notice by Proclamation of my design to visit the Town. The Wall which encompassed it, is two foot and an half high,

AP.

high, and at least eleven Inches broad, so that a Coach and Horses may be driven very safely round it; and it is flanked with strong Towers at ten foot distance. I stept over the great Western Gate, and passed very gently, and sideling through the two principal Streets, only in my short Wastecoat, for fear of damaging the Roofs and Eves of the Houses with the Skirts of my Coat. I walked with the utmost Circumspection, to avoid treading on any Stragglers, that might remain in the Streets, although the Orders were very strict, that all People should keep in their Houses, at their own peril. The Garret-windows and tops of Houses were so crowded with Spectators, that I thought in all my Travels I had not seen a more populous Place. The City is an exact Square, each side of the Wall being five hundred foot long. The two great Streets which run cross and divide it into four Quarters, are five foot wide. The Lanes and Alleys which I could not enter, but only viewed them as I passed, are from
twelve

twelve to eighteen Inches. The Town is capable of holding five hundred thousand Souls. The Houses are from three to five Stories. The Shops and Markets well provided.

THE Emperor's Palace is in the Center of the City, where the two great Streets meet. It is inclosed by a Wall of two foot high, and twenty foot distant from the Buildings. I had his Majesty's Permission to step over this Wall; and the Space being so wide between that and the Palace, I could easily view it on every side. The outward Court is a Square of forty foot, and includes two other Courts: In the inmost are the Royal Apartments, which I was very desirous to see, but found it extremely difficult; for the great Gates, from one Square into another, were but eighteen inches high, and seven inches wide. Now the Buildings of the outer Court were at least five foot high, and it was impossible for me to stride over them, with-

out infinite Damage to the Pile, though the Walls were strongly built of hewn Stone, and four Inches thick. At the same time the Emperor had a great desire to see the Magnificence of his Palace; but this I was not able to do till three Days after, which I spent in cutting down with my Knife some of the largest Trees in the Royal Park, about an hundred Yards distant from the City. Of these Trees I made two Stools each about three foot high, and strong enough to bear my Weight. The People having received notice a second time I went again through the City to the Palace, with my two Stools in my Hand. When I came to the side of the outer Court, I stood upon one Stool, and took the other in my hand: This I lifted over the Roof, and gently set it down on the Space between the first and second Court which was eight foot wide. I then stepped over the Buildings very conveniently from one Stool to the other, and drew up the first after me with a hooked Stick

By this Contrivance I got into the inmost Court; and lying down upon my Side, I applied my Face to the Windows of the middle Stories, which were left open on purpose, and discovered the most splendid Apartments that can be imagined. There I saw the Empress, and the young Princes in their several Lodgings, with their chief Attendants about them. Her Imperial Majesty was pleased to smile very graciously upon me, and gave me out of the Window her hand to kiss.

BUT I shall not anticipate the Reader with farther Descriptions of this kind, because I reserve them for a greater Work, which is now almost ready for the Press, containing a general Description of this Empire, from its first Erection, through a long Series of Princes, with a particular account of their Wars and Politicks, Laws, Learning, and Religion: their Plants and Animals, their peculiar Manners and Customs, with other Matters very curious and useful; my chief design

at present being only to relate such Events and Transactions as happened to the Publick, or to myself, during a Residence of about nine Months in the Empire.

ONE Morning, about a Fortnight after I had obtain'd my Liberty, *Keldre* principal Secretary (as they style him of private Affairs, came to my House attended only by one Servant. He desired his Coach to wait at a distance, desired I would give him an Hour's audience; which I readily consented to on account of his Quality and personal Merits, as well as the many good offices he had done me during my Solicitations in Court. I offered to lie down, that he might the more conveniently reach my Ear; but he chose rather to let me hold him in my Hand during our Conversation. He began with Compliments on my Liberty, said he might pretend to some Merit in it: but, however, added that if it had not been for the present

Situation of things at Court, perhaps I might not have obtained it so soon. For, said he, as flourishing a Condition as we may appear to be in to Foreigners, we labour under two mighty Evils; a violent Faction at home, and the Danger of an Invasion by a most potent Enemy from abroad. As to the first, you are to understand, that for above seventy Moons past, there have been two struggling Parties in this Empire, under the Names of *Tramecksan*, and *Slamecksan*, from the high and low Heels on their Shoes, by which they distinguish themselves. It is alledged indeed, that the high Heels are most agreeable to our ancient Constitution: But however this be, his Majesty hath determined to make use of only low Heels in the Administration of the Government; and all Offices in the Gift of the Crown, as you cannot but observe; and particularly, that his Majesty's Imperial Heels are lower at least by a *Drurr* than any of his Court; (*Drurr* a Measure about the fourteenth Part

of an Inch.) The Animofities between these two Parties run fo high, that they will neither eat nor drink, nor talk with each other. We compute the *Trampan*, or High-Heels, to exceed us in number; but the Power is wholly on our fide. We apprehend his Imperial Highnefs, the Heir to the Crown, to have fome tendency towards the High-Heels; at leaft, we can plainly discover one of his Heels higher than the other, which gives him a hobble in his Gait. In the midft of thefe intestine Difquifitions we are threatned with an Invaſion of the Iſland of *Blefufcu*, which is the other great Empire of the Univerſe, moſt as large and powerful as this of his Majesty. For as to what we have heard you affirm, that there are other Kingdoms and States in the World, inhabited by human Creatures as large as you, our Philoſophers are in much doubt; they would rather conjecture that you come from the Moon, or one of the Stars, becauſe it is certain, that an hundred

tals of your Bulk wou'd, in a short time, destroy all the Fruits and Cattle of his Majesty's Dominions. Besides, our Histories of six thousand Moons make no mention of any other Regions, than the two great Empires of *Lilliput* and *Blefuscu*. Which two mighty Powers have, as I was going to tell you, been engaged in a most obstinate War for six and thirty Moons past. It began upon the following Occasion. It is allowed on all hands, that the primitive way of breaking Eggs before we eat them, was upon the larger End: But his present Majesty's Grandfather, while he was a Boy, going to eat an Egg, and breaking it according to the ancient practice, happened to cut one of his Fingers. Whereupon the Emperor his Father published an Edict, commanding all his Subjects, upon great Penalties, to break the smaller End of their Eggs. The People so highly resented this Law, that our Histories tell us there have been six Rebellions raised on that account; wherein one Emperor lost his Life, and

another his Crown. These civil Comotions were constantly fomented by the Monarchs of *Blesfusen*; and when they were quelled, the Exiles always fled for refuge to that Empire. It is computed that eleven thousand Persons have, several times, suffered death, rather than submit to break their Eggs at the small End. Many hundred large Volumes have been published upon this Controversy. But the Books of the *Big-Endians* have been long forbidden, and the whole Nation rendered incapable by Law of holding any Employments. During the Course of these Troubles, the Emperors of *Blesfusen* did frequently expostulate by their Embassadors, accusing us of making a Schism in Religion, by offending against a fundamental Doctrine of our great Prophet *Lustrog*, in the fifty-fourth Chapter of the *Blundecral*, (which is their *Aloran*.) This, however, is thought to be a meer strain upon the Text: For the words are these; *That all true Believers shall break their Eggs at the convenient*

End: and which is the convenient End, seems, in my humble Opinion, to be left to every Man's Conscience, or at least in the power of the chief Magistrate to determine. Now, the *Big-Indian* Exiles have found so much Credit in the Emperor of *Blefuscu's* Court, and so much private Assistance and Encouragement from their Party here at home, that a bloody War hath been carried on between the two Empires for six and thirty Moons with various Success; during which time we have lost forty capital Ships, and a much greater number of smaller Vessels, together with thirty thousand of our best Seamen and Soldiers; and the Damage received by the Enemy is reckon'd to be somewhat greater than ours. However, they have now equipped a numerous Fleet, and are just preparing to make a Descent upon us; and his Imperial Majesty placing great confidence in your Valour and Strength, hath commanded me to lay this account of his Affairs before you.

I desired the Secretary to present my humble Duty to the Emperor, and let him know, that I thought it would not become me, who was a Foreigner, to interfere with Parties; but I was ready with the hazard of my Life, to defend any Person and State against all Invaders.



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C H A P. V.

The Author by an extraordinary Stratagem prevents an Invasion. A high Title of Honour is conferred upon him. Embassadors arrive from the Emperor of Blefuscu, and sue for Peace. The Empress's Apartment on fire by an Accident; the Author instrumental in saving the rest of the Palace.

THE Empire of *Blefuscu* is an Island, situated to the North North-East side of *Lilliput*, from whence it is parted only by a Channel of eight hundred Yards wide. I had not yet seen it, and upon this notice of an intended Invasion, I avoided appearing on that side of the Coast, for fear of being discovered by some of the Enemy's Ships, who

who had received no intelligence of me, all intercourse between the two Empires having been strictly forbidden during the War, upon pain of Death, and an Embargo laid by our Emperor upon all Vessels whatsoever. I communicated to his Majesty a Project I had formed of seizing the Enemy's whole Fleet: which, as our Scouts assured us, lay at Anchor in the Harbour ready to sail with the first fair Wind. I consulted the most experienced Seamen, upon the Depth of the Channel, which they had often plummed, who told me, that in the middle at High-water it was seventy *Glumgluffs* deep, which is about six foot of *European* Measure; and the rest of it fifty *Glumgluffs* at most. I walked towards the North-East Coast over against *Blefuscu*; and lying down behind a Hillock, took out my small Pocket Perspective-Glass, and viewed the Enemy's Fleet at Anchor, consisting of about fifty Men of War, and a great Number of Transports: I then came back to my House, and gave Order

(for which I had a Warrant) for a great quantity of the strongest Cable and Bars of Iron. The Cable was about as thick as Packthread, and the Bars of the length and size of a Knitting-needle. I trebled the Cable to make it stronger, and for the same reason I twisted three of the Iron-Bars together, binding the Extremities into a Hook. Having thus fixed fifty Hooks to as many Cables, I went back to the North-East Coast, and putting off my Coat, Shoes, and Stockins, walked into the Sea in my leathern Jerkin, about half an hour before high Water. I waded with what haste I could, and swam in the middle about thirty yards till I felt ground; I arrived to the Fleet in less than half an hour. The Enemy was so frightened when they saw me, that they leaped out of their Ships, and swam to shore, where there could not be fewer than thirty thousand Souls. I then took my Tackling, and fastning a Hook to the hole at the Prow of each, I tyed all the Cords together at the end. While I was thus employed

employed, the Enemy discharged several thousand Arrows, many of which stuck in my Hands and Face; and besides the excessive smart, gave me much disturbance in my Work. My greatest apprehension was for mine Eyes, which I should have infallibly lost, if I had not suddenly thought of an Expedient. I kept among other little Necessaries a pair of Spectacles in a private Pocket, which, as I observed before, had scaped the Emperor's Searchers. These I took out and fastned as strongly as I could upon my Nose, and thus armed went on boldly with my work in spite of the Enemy's Arrows, many of which struck against the Glasses of my Spectacles, but without any other Effect, further than a little to discompose them. I had now fastned all the Hooks, and taking the Knot in my hand, began to pull; but not a Ship would stir, for they were all too fast held by their Anchors, so that the bold part of my Enterprize remained. I therefore let go the Cord, and leaving the Hooks fixed to the Ships, I resolutely
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cut with my Knife the Cables that fastened the Anchors, receiving above two hundred Shots in my Face and Hands; then I took up the knotted End of the Cables to which my Hooks were tyed, and with great ease drew fifty of the Enemy's largest Men of War after me.

THE *Blefuscudians*, who had not the least Imagination of what I intended, were at first confounded with Astonishment. They had seen me cut the Cables, and thought my design was only to let the Ships run a-drift, or fall foul on each other: but when they perceived the whole Fleet moving in Order, and saw me pulling at the End, they set up such a scream of Grief and Despair, that it is almost impossible to describe or conceive. When I had got out of danger, I stopt a while to pick out the Arrows that stuck in my Hands and Face; and rubbed on some of the same Ointment that was given me at my first arrival, as I have formerly mentioned. I then took off my Spectacles,

cles, and waiting about an hour till the Tide was a little fallen, I waded through the middle with my Cargo, and arrived safe at the Royal Port of *Lilliput*.

THE Emperor and his whole Court stood on the Shore expecting the Issue of this great Adventure. They saw the Ships move forward in a large Half-Moon, but could not discern me, who was up to my Breast in Water. When I advanced to the middle of the Channel, they were yet in more Pain, because I was under Water to my Neck. The Emperor concluded me to be drowned, and that the Enemy's Fleet was approaching in a hostile manner: But he was soon eased of his Fears, for the Channel growing shallower every step I made, I came in a short time within hearing, and holding up the end of the Cable by which the Fleet was fastned, I cried in a loud Voice, *Long live the most puissant Emperor of Lilliput!* This great Prince received me at my landing with all possible Encomiums,

miums, and created me a *Nardac* upon the spot, which is the highest Title of Honour among them.

HIS Majesty desired I would take some other Opportunity of bringing all the rest of his Enemy's Ships into his Ports. And so unmeasurable is the Ambition of Princes, that he seemed to think of nothing less than reducing the whole Empire of *Blefuscu* into a Province, and governing it by a Vice-Roy; of destroying the *Big-Indian* Exiles, and compelling that People to break the smaller end of their Eggs, by which he would remain the sole Monarch of the whole World. But I endeavour'd to divert him from his Design, by many Arguments drawn from the Topicks of Policy as well as Justice: And I plainly protested, that I would never be an Instrument of bringing a free and brave People into Slavery. And when the matter was debated in Council, the wisest part of the Ministry were of my Opinion.

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THIS open bold declaration of mine, was so opposite to the Schemes and Politicks of his Imperial Majesty, that he could never forgive it; he mentioned it in a very artful manner at Council, where I was told that some of the wisest appeared, at least, by their silence, to be of my Opinion; but others, who were my secret Enemies, could not forbear some Expressions, which by a side-wind reflected on me. And from this time began an Intrigue between his Majesty, and a Junto of Ministers maliciously bent against me, which broke out in less than two Months, and had like to have ended in my utter Destruction. Of so little weight are the greatest services to Princes, when put into the Ballance with a Refusal to gratify their Passions.

ABOUT three Weeks after this Exploit, there arrived a solemn Embassy from *Blesfusu*, with humble Offers of a Peace, which was soon concluded upon Conditions

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tions very advantageous to our Emperor, wherewith I shall not trouble the Reader. There were six Ambassadors, with a Train of about five hundred Persons, and their Entry was very magnificent, suitable to the Grandeur of their Master, and the Importance of their Business. When their Treaty was finished, wherein I did them several good offices by the Credit I now had, or at least appeared to have at Court, their Excellencies, who were privately told how much I had been their Friend, made me a visit in Form. They began with many Compliments upon my Valour and Generosity, invited me to that Kingdom in the Emperor their Master's Name, and desired me to shew them some Proofs of my prodigious Strength, of which they had heard so many Wonders; wherein I readily obliged them, but shall not trouble the Reader with the particulars.

WHEN I had for some time entertained their Excellencies to their infinite satisfaction and surprize, I desired they

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would do me the Honour to present my most humble Respects to the Emperor their Master, the Renown of whose Virtues had so justly filled the whole World with Admiration, and whose Royal Person I resolv'd to attend before I return'd to my own Country: accordingly, the next time I had the Honour to see our Emperor, I desired his general Licence to wait on the *Blefuscudian* Monarch, which he was pleas'd to grant me, as I could plainly perceive, in a very cold manner; but I could not guess the Reason, till I had a Whisper from a certain Person, that *Flinnap* and *Bolgolam* had represent'd my Intercourse with those Ambassadors as a mark of Disaffection, from which I assure my Heart was wholly free. And this was the first time I began to conceive some imperfect Idea of Courts and Ministers.

It is to be observed, that these Ambassadors spoke to me by an Interpreter, the Languages of both Empires differing as much from each other as any two

blow

Europe

Europe, and each Nation priding itself upon the Antiquity, Beauty, and Energy of their own Tongues, with an avowed Contempt for that of their Neighbour; yet our Emperor standing upon the advantage he had got by the seizure of their Fleet, obliged them to deliver their Credentials, and make their Speech in the *Lilliputian* Tongue. And it must be confessed, that from the great Intercourse of Trade and Commerce between both Realms, from the continual Reception of Exiles, which is mutual among them, and from the Custom in each Empire to send their young Nobility and richer Gentry to the other, in order to polish themselves by seeing the World, and understanding Men and Manners; there are few Persons of Distinction, or Merchants, or Seamen, who dwell in the maritime Parts, but what can hold Conversation in both Tongues; as I found some Weeks after, when I went to pay my respects to the Emperor of *Blefuscu*, which in the midst of great Misfortunes, through the malice of

my enemies, proved a very happy Adventure to me, as I shall relate in its proper place.

THE Reader may remember, that when I signed those Articles upon which I recovered my Liberty, there were some which I disliked upon account of their being too servile, neither could any thing but an extreme necessity have forced me to submit. But being now a *Nardac*, of the highest Rank in that Empire, such Offices were looked upon as below my Dignity, and the Emperor (to do him Justice) never once mentioned them to me. However, it was not long before I had an Opportunity of doing his Majesty, at least, as I then thought, a most signal Service. I was alarmed at Midnight with the cries of many hundred People at my Door; by which being suddenly awaked, I was in some kind of Terror. I heard the word *Burglum* repeated incessantly: several of the Emperor's Court making their way through the Croud, intreated me

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me to come immediately to the Palace, where her imperial Majesty's Apartment was on fire, by the carelessness of a Maid of Honour, who fell asleep while she was reading a Romance. I got up in an instant; and Orders being given to clear the way before me, and it being likewise a Moon-shine Night, I made a shift to get to the Palace without trampling on any of the People. I found they had already applied Ladders to the Walls of the Apartment, and were well provided with Buckers, but the Water was at some distance. These Buckets were about the size of a large Thimble, and the poor People supplied me with them as fast as they could; but the Flame was so violent that they did little good. I might easily have stifled it with my Coat, which I unfortunately left behind me for haste, and came away only in my leathern Jerkin. The Case seemed wholly desperate and deplorable, and this magnificent Palace would have infallibly been burnt down to the ground, if, by a presence
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of Mind, unusual to me, I had not suddenly thought of an expedient. I had the Evening before drank plentifully of a most delicious Wine, called *Glimigrim*, (the *Blefuscudians* call it *Flunec*, but ours is esteemed the better sort) which is very diuretick. By the luckiest chance in the World I had not discharged myself of any part of it. The Heat I had contracted by coming very near the Flames, and by my labouring to quench them, made the Wine begin to operate by Urine; which I voided in such a Quantity, and applied so well to the proper Places, that in three Minutes the Fire was wholly extinguished, and the rest of that noble Pile, which had cost so many Ages in erecting, preserved from Destruction.

It was now Day-light, and I returned to my House, without waiting to congratulate with the Emperor; because, although I had done a very eminent piece of Service, yet I could not tell how his Ma-

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jefty might resent the manner by which I had performed it: For, by the fundamental Laws of the Realm, it is Capital in any Person, of what Quality soever, to make water within the Precincts of the Palace. But I was a little comforted by a Message from his Majesty, that he would give orders to the grand Justiciary for passing my Pardon in form; which, however, I could not obtain. And I was privately assured, the Empress conceiving the greatest Abhorrence of what I had done, removed to the most distant side of the Court, firmly resolved that those Buildings should never be repaired for her Use; and, in the presence of her chief Confidants, could not forbear vowing Revenge.



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C H A P. VI.

Of the Inhabitants of Lilliput; their Learning, Laws, and Customs, the Manner of Educating their Children. The Author's way of living in that Country. His Vindication of a great Lady.



Although I intend to leave the Description of this Empire to a particular Treatise, yet in the meantime I am content to gratify the curious Reader with some general Ideas. As the common size of the Natives is somewhat under six Inches high, so there is an exact Proportion in all other Animals, as well as Plants and Trees: For instance, the tallest Horses and Oxen are between four and five Inches

ches in height, the Sheep an Inch and a half, more or less; their Geese about the bigness of a Sparrow, and so the several gradations downwards, till you come to the smallest, which, to my sight were almost invisible; but Nature hath adapted the Eyes of the *Lilliputians* to all Objects proper for their view: They see with great exactness but at no great distance. And to shew the sharpness of their sight toward Objects that are near, I have been much pleased observing a Cook pulling a Lark, which was not so large as a common Fly; and a young Girl threading an invisible Needle with invisible Silk. Their tallest Trees are about seven foot high: I mean some of those in the great Royal Park, the tops whereof I could but just reach with my Fist clinched. The other Vegetables are in the same proportion; but this I leave to the Reader's imagination.

I shall say but little at present of their Learning, which for many Ages hath flourished

flourished in all its Branches among them: But their manner of writing is very peculiar, being neither from the left to the right, like the *Europeans*; nor from the right to the left, like the *Arabians*; nor from up to down, like the *Chinese*; nor from down to up, like the *Cascagians*; but aslant from one Corner of the Paper to the other, like Ladies in *England*.

THEY bury their Dead with their Heads directly downwards, because they hold an Opinion, that in eleven thousand Moons they are all to rise again, in which Period the Earth (which they conceive to be flat) will turn upside down, and by this means they shall, at their Resurrection, be found ready standing on their Feet. The Learned among them confess the Absurdity of this Doctrine, but the Practice still continues, in compliance to the Vulgar.

THERE are some Laws and Customs in this Empire very peculiar; and if they were

were not so directly contrary to those of my own dear Country, I should be tempted to say a little in their justification. It is only to be wished, that they were as well executed. The first I shall mention, relates to Informers. All Crimes against the State are punished here with the utmost Severity; but if the Person accused maketh his Innocence plainly to appear upon his Trial, the Accuser is immediately put to an ignominious Death; and out of his Goods or Lands, the innocent Person is quadruply recompensed for the loss of his Time, for the Danger he underwent, for the hardship of his Imprisonment, and for all the Charges he hath been at in making his Defence. Or, if that Fund be deficient, it is largely supplied by the Crown. The Emperor does also confer on him some publick Mark of his Favour, and Proclamation is made of his Innocence through the whole City.

THEY look upon Fraud as a greater Crime and Theft, and therefore seldom fail

fail to punish it with Death; for they alledge, that care and vigilance, with a very common Understanding, may preserve a Man's Goods from Theives, but Honesty has no fence against superior Cunning; and since it is necessary that there should be a perpetual Intercourse of buying and selling, and dealing upon Credit, where Fraud is permitted or connived at, or hath no Law to punish it, the honest Dealer is always undone, and the Knave gets the advantage. I remember when I was once interceding with the King for a Criminal who had wronged his Master of a great sum of Money, which he had received by order, and ran away with; and happening to tell his Majesty, by way of extenuation, that it was only a Breach of Trust; the Emperor thought it monstrous in me to offer, as a Defence, the greatest Aggravation of the Crime; And truly I had little to say in return, farther than the common answer, that different Nations had different Customs; for, I confess, I was heartily ashamed.

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ALTHOUGH we usually call Reward and Punishment the two Hinges upon which all Government turns, yet I could never observe this Maxim to be put in practice by any Nation except that of *Lilliput*. Whoever can there bring sufficient Proof that he hath strictly observed the Laws of his Country for seventy three Moons, had a claim to certain Privileges, according to his quality and condition of Life, with a proportionable Sum of Money out of a Fund appropriated for that Use: He likewise acquires the Title of *Snilpall*, or *Legal*, which is added to his Name, but does not descend to his Posterity. And these People thought it a prodigious defect of Policy among us, when I told them that our Laws were enforced only by Penalties without any mention of Reward. It is upon this account that the Image of Justice, in their Courts of Judicature, is formed with six Eyes, two before, as many behind, and on each side one, to signify Circumspection;

spection ? with a Bag of Gold open in her right Hand, and a Sword sheathed in her left, to shew she is more disposed to reward than to punish.

IN chusing Persons for all Employments, they have more regard to good Morals than to great Abilities ; for, since Government is necessary to Mankind, they believe that the common size of human Understandings is fitted to some Station or other, and that Providence never intended to make the Management of publick Affairs a Mystery, to be comprehended only by a few Persons of sublime Genius, of which there seldom are three born in an Age : but they suppose Truth, Justice, Temperance, and the like, to be in every Man's power ; the Practice of which Virtues, assisted by Experience and a good Intention, would qualify any Man for the service of his Country, except where a course of Study is required. But they thought the want of moral Virtues was so far from being supplied by su-

perior Endowments of the Mind, that Employments could never be put into such dangerous Hands as those of Persons so qualify'd; and at least, that the Mistakes committed by Ignorance in a virtuous Disposition, would never be of such fatal Consequence to the Publick Weal, as the Practices of a Man whose Inclinations led him to be corrupt, and had great Abilities to manage and multiply, and defend his Corruptions.

IN like manner, the Disbelief of a Divine Providence renders a Man incapable of holding any publick Station; for since Kings avow themselves to be the Deputies of Providence, the *Lilliputians* think nothing can be more absurd than for a Prince to employ such Men as disown the Authority under which he acts.

IN relating these and the following Laws, I would only be understood to mean the original Institutions, and not the most scandalous Corruptions into which

which these People are fallen by the degenerate Nature of Man. For as to that infamous Practice of acquiring great Employments by dancing on the Ropes, or Badges of Favour and Distinction by leaping over Sticks, and creeping under them, the Reader is to observe, that they were first introduced by the Grand-father of the Emperor now reigning, and grew to the present height, by the gradual increase of Party and Faction.

INGRATITUDE is among them a capital Crime, as we read it to have been in some other Countries; for they reason thus, that whoever makes ill returns to his Benefactor, must needs be a common Enemy to the rest of Mankind, from whom he hath received no Obligation, and therefore such a Man is not fit to live.

THEIR Notions relating to the Duties of Parents and Children differ extremely from ours. For, since the Conjunction of Male and Female is founded upon

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upon the great Law of Nature, in order to propagate and continue the Species, the *Lilliputians* will needs have it, that Men and Women are joined together like other Animals, by the motives of Concupiscence; and that their Tenderness towards their Young proceeds from the like natural Principle: for which reason they will never allow, that a Child is under any obligation to his Father for begetting him, or his Mother for bringing him into the World, which, considering the miseries of human Life, was neither a Benefit in it self, or intended so by his Parents, whose thoughts in their Love-Encounters were otherwise employ'd. Upon these, and the like Reasonings, their Opinion is, that Parents are the last of all others to be trusted with the Education of their own Children: and therefore they have in every Town publick Nurseries, where all Parents, except Cottagers and Labourers, are obliged to send their Infants of both Sexes to be reared and educated when they come to the Age of

twenty Moons, at which time they are supposed to have some rudiments of Docility. These Schools are of several kinds, suited to different qualities, and to both Sexes. They have certain Professors well skilled in preparing Children for such a condition of Life as befits the rank of their Parents, and their own Capacities as well as Inclinations. I shall first say something of the male Nurseries, and then of the Female.

THE Nurseries for Males of noble or eminent Birth, are provided with grave and learned Professors, and their several Deputies. The clothes and food of the Children are plain and simple. They are bred up in the Principles of Honour, Justice, Courage, Modesty, Clemency, Religion, and Love of their Country: they are always employed in some business, except in the times of eating and sleeping, which are very short, and two hours for Diversions, consisting of bodily Exercises. They are dressed by Men

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till four Years of Age, and then are obliged to dress themselves, although their Quality be ever so great; and the Women Attendants, who are aged proportionably to ours at fifty, perform only the most menial Offices. They are never suffered to converse with Servants, but go together in small or greater numbers to take their Diversions, and always in the presence of a Professor, or one of his Deputies; whereby they avoid those early bad impressions of Folly and Vice to which our Children are subject. Their Parents are suffered to see them only twice a Year; the Visit is to last but an hour. They are allowed to kiss the Child at meeting and parting; but a Professor, who always stands by on those occasions, will not suffer them to whisper, or use any fondling Expressions, or bring any presents of Toys, Sweet-meats, and the like.

THE Pension from each Family for the Education and Entertainment of a
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Child, upon failure of due payment, is levied by the Emperor's Officers.

THE Nurseries for Children of ordinary Gentlemen, Merchants, Traders, and Handicrafts, are managed proportionably after the same manner; only those designed for Trades, are put out Apprentices at eleven Years old, whereas those of Persons of Quality continue in their Nurseries till fifteen, which answers to one and twenty with us: but the Confinement is gradually lessened for the last three Years.

IN the female Nurseries, the young Girls of Quality are educated much like the Males, only they are dressed by orderly Servants of their own Sex; but always in the presence of a Professor or Deputy, till they come to dress themselves, which is at five Years old. And it be found that these Nurses ever presume to entertain the Girls with frightful or foolish Stories, or the common Follies practis'd

practis'd

practised by Chamber-Maids among us, they are publickly whipped thrice about the City, imprisoned for a Year, and banished for Life to the most desolate part of the Country. Thus the young Ladies there are as much ashamed of being Cowards and Fools, as the Men, and despise all personal Ornaments beyond Decency and Cleanliness: Neither did I perceive any Difference in their Education, made by their difference of Sex, only that the Exercises of the Females were not altogether so robust; and that some Rules were given them relating to domestick Life, and a smaller compass of Learning was enjoined them: For the Maxim is, that among People of Quality, a Wife should be always a reasonable and agreeable Companion, because she cannot always be young. When the Girls are twelve Years old, which among them is the marriageable Age, their Parents or Guardians take them home, with great Expressions of Gratitude to the Professors, and seldom without Tears.

of the young Lady and her Companions.

IN the Nurseries of Females of the meaner sort the Children are instructed in all kinds of Works proper for their Sex, and their several degrees: Those intended for Apprentices, are dismissed at nine Years old, the rest are kept to thirteen.

THE meaner Families, who have Children at these Nurseries, are obliged, besides their annual Pension, which is as low as possible, to return to the Steward of the Nursery a small monthly share of their gettings, to be a Portion for the Child; and therefore all Parents are limited in their Expences by the Law. For the *Lilliputians* think nothing can be more unjust, than for People, in subservience to their own Appetites, to bring Children into the World, and leave the Burthen of supporting them on the Publick. As to Persons of Quality, they give Security to appropriate a certain

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certain Sum for each Child, suitable to their Condition; and these Funds are always managed with good Husbandry and the most exact Justice.

THE Cottagers and Labourers keep their Children at home, their Business being only to till and cultivate the Earth, and therefore their Education is of little consequence to the Publick; but the Old and Diseased among them are supported by Hospitals: for Begging is a Trade unknown in this Kingdom.

AND here it may perhaps divert the curious Reader, to give some account of my domestick, and my manner of living in this Country, during a Residence of nine Months and thirteen Days. Having a Head mechanically turned, and being likewise forced by necessity, I had made for myself a Table and Chair convenient enough, out of the largest Trees in the Royal Park. Two hundred Sempstresses were employed to make me Shirts,

and Linen for Bed and Table, all of the strongest and coarsest kind they could get; which, however, they were forced to quilt together in several Folds, for the thickest was some degrees finer than Lawn. Their Linen is usually three Inches wide, and three Foot make a Piece. The Sempstresses took my Measure as I lay on the ground, one standing at my Neck, and another at my Mid-leg, with a strong Cord extended, that each held by the end, while the third measured the length of the Cord with a Rule of an Inch long. Then they measured my right Thumb, and desired no more; for by a mathematical Computation, that twice round the Thumb is once round the Wrist, and so on to the Neck and the Waste, and by the help of my old Shirt, which I displayed on the Ground before them for a Pattern, they fitted me exactly. Three hundred Taylors were employed in the same manner to make me Clothes; but they had another Contrivance for taking my Measure. I kneeled
down,

down, and they raised a Ladder from the Ground to my Neck; upon this Ladder one of them mounted, and let fall a Plum-Line from my Collar to the Floor, which just answered the length of my Coat; but my Waste and Arms I measured myself. When my Clothes were finished, which was done in my House, (for the largest of theirs would not be able to hold them) they looked like the Patch-Work made by the Ladies in *England*, only that mine were all of a Colour.

I had three hundred Cooks to dress my Victuals, in little convenient Huts built about my House, where they and their Families lived, and prepared me two Dishes a-piece. I took up twenty Waiters in my Hand, and placed them on the Table, an hundred more attended below on the Ground, some with Dishes of Meat, and some with Barrels of Wine, and other Liquors, slung on their Shoulders; all which the Waiters above drew up as I wanted, in a very ingenious manner,

ner, by certain Cords, as we draw the Bucket up a Well in *Europe*. A Dish of their Meat was a good Mouthful, and a Barrel of their Liquor a reasonable Draught. Their Mutton yields to ours, but their Beef is excellent. I have had a Sirloin so large, that I have been forced to make three Bits of it; but this is rare. My Servants were astonished to see me eat it Bones and all, as in our Country we do the Leg of a Lark. Their Geese and Turkeys I usually eat at a Mouthful, and I must confess they far exceed ours. Of their smaller Fowl I could take up twenty or thirty at the end of my Knife.

ONE day his Imperial Majesty being informed of my way of living, desired that himself and his Royal Consort, with the young Princes of the Blood of both Sexes, might have the Happiness (as he was pleased to call it) of dining with me. They came accordingly, and I placed 'em upon Chairs of State on my Table, just
over.

over-against me, with their Guards about them. *Flimnap* the Lord High Treasurer attended there likewise, with his white Staff; and I observed he often looked on me with a sour Countenance, which I would not seem to regard, but eat more than usual, in honour to my dear Country, as well as to fill the Court with Admiration. I have some private Reasons to believe, that this Visit from his Majesty gave *Flimnap* an opportunity of doing me ill Offices to his Master. That Minister had always been my secret Enemy, though he outwardly caressed me more than was usual to the Moroseness of his Nature. He represented to the Emperor the low condition of his Treasury; that he was forced to take up Money at great Discount; that Exchequer Bills would not circulate under nine *per Cent.* below Par; that in short I had cost his Majesty above a million and a half of *Sprugs*, (their greatest Gold Coin, about the bigness of a Spangle;) and upon the whole, that it would be adviseable in the
Emperor

Emperor to take the first fair Occasion of dismissing me.

I am here obliged to vindicate the Reputation of an excellent Lady, who was an innocent Sufferer upon my account. The Treasurer took a fancy to be jealous of his Wife, from the Malice of some evil Tongues, who informed him that her Grace had taken a violent Affection for my Person; and the Court-scandal ran for some time, that she once came privately to my Lodging. This I solemnly declare to be a most infamous Falshood, without any Grounds, farther than that her Grace was pleased to treat me with all innocent marks of Freedom and Friendship. I own she came often to my House, but always publicly, nor ever without three more in the Coach, who were usually her Sister and young Daughter, and some particular Acquaintance; but this was common to many other Ladies of the Court. And I still appeal to my Servants round, whether

they at any time saw a Coach at my Door without knowing what Persons were in it. On those occasions, when a Servant had given me notice, my custom was to go immediately to the Door: and, after paying my Respects, to take up the Coach and two Horses very carefully in my Hands, (for if there were six Horses, the Postillion always unharnessed four) and place them on a Table, where I had fixed a moveable Rim quite round, of five Inches high, to prevent accidents. And I have often had four Coaches and Horses at once on my Table full of Company, while I sat in my Chair, leaning my Face towards them; and when I was engaged with one Sett, the Coachmen would gently drive the others round my Table. I have passed many an afternoon very agreeably in these Conversations. But I defy the Treasurer, or his two Informers, (I will name them, and let 'em make their best of it) *Clustril* and *Drunlo*, to prove that any Person ever came to me *incognito*, except the Secretary *Redresal*,

FAHO

dresal,

dresal, who was sent by exprefs Command of his Imperial Majesty, as I have before related. I should not have dwelt so long upon this Particular, if it had not been a point wherein the Reputation of a great Lady is so nearly concerned, to say nothing of my own; though I had then the Honour to be a *Nardac*, which the Treasurer himself is not; for all the World knows he is only a *Glumglum*, a Title inferiour by one Degree, as that of a Marquis is to a Duke in *England*, although I allow he preceded me in right of his Post. These false Informations, which I afterwards came to the knowledge of, by an accident not proper to mention, made *Flimnap*, the Treasurer, shew his Lady for some time an ill Countenance, and me a worse; and although he were at last undeceived and reconciled to her, yet I lost all Credit with him, and found my Interest decline very fast with the Emperor himself, who was indeed too much governed by that Favourite.

C H A P.



C H A P. VII.

The Author being informed of a Design to accuse him of High-Treason, makes his Escape to Blefuscu. His Reception there.

BEFORE I proceed to give an account of my leaving this Kingdom, it may be proper to inform the Reader of a private Intrigue which had been for two Months forming against me.

I had been hitherto all my Life a stranger to Courts, for which I was unqualified by the meanness of my Condition. I had indeed heard and read enough of the Dispositions of great Princes and Ministers; but never expected to

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have

have found such terrible effects of them in so remote a Country, governed, as I thought, by very different Maxims from those in *Europe*.

WHEN I was just preparing to pay my attendance on the Emperor of *Ble-fusc*, a considerable Person at Court (to whom I had been very serviceable at a time when he lay under the highest Displeasure of his Imperial Majesty) came to my House very privately at Night in a close Chair, and, without sending his Name, desired admittance: The Chairmen were dismissed; I put the Chair, with his Lordship in it, into my Coat-Pocket; and giving orders to a trusty Servant to say I was indisposed and gone to sleep, I fastened the Door of my House, placed the Chair on the Table, according to my usual custom, and sat down by it. After the common Salutations were over, observing his Lordship's Countenance full of Concern; and enquiring into the reason, he desired I would hear
him

him with patience in a matter that highly concerned my Honour and my Life. His Speech was to the following effect, for I took Notes of it as soon as he left me.

You are to know, said he, that several Committees of Council have been lately called in the most private manner on your account: And it is but two days since his Majesty came to a full resolution.

You are very sensible that *Skyris Bolgolam* (Galbet, or high Admiral) hath been your mortal Enemy almost ever since your Arrival: His original Reasons I know not; but his Hatred is much increased since your great success against *Blefuscu*, by which his Glory, as Admiral, is obscured. This Lord, in conjunction with *Flimnap* the high Treasurer, whose Enmity against you is notorious on account of his Lady, *Limtoc* the General, *Lalcon* the Chamberlain, and *Balmuff* the grand Judiciary, have prepared Ar-

ticles of Impeachment against you, for
Treason, and other capital Crimes.

THIS Preface made me so impatient,
being conscious of my own Merits and
Innocence, that I was going to interrupt:
when he entreated me to be silent, and
thus proceeded.

OUT of Gratitude for the Favours
you have done me, I procured Infor-
mation of the whole Proceedings, and a
Copy of the Articles, wherein I venture
my Head for your service.

*Articles of Impeachment against Quintus
Flestrin (the Man-Mountain.)*

ARTICLE I.

WHEREAS, by a Statute made
in the Reign of his Imperial Majest-
ty *Calin Deffar Plune*, it is enacted, that
whoever shall make water within the
Precincts of the Royal Palace, shall be
liable to the Pains and Penalties of High
Treason

Treason

Treason: Notwithstanding the said *Quinbus Flestrin*, in open breach of the said Law, under colour of extinguishing the Fire kindled in the Apartment of his Majesty's dear Imperial Consort, did maliciously, traiterously, and devilishly, by discharge of his Urine, put out the said Fire kindled in the said Apartment, lying and being within the Precincts of the said Royal Palace, against the Statute in that case provided, &c. against the Duty, &c.

ARTICLE II.

THAT the said *Quinbus Flestrin* having brought the Imperial Fleet of *Blefuscu* into the Royal Port, and being afterwards commanded by his Imperial Majesty to seize all the other Ships of the said Empire of *Blefuscu*, and reduce that Empire to a Province, to be governed by a Vice-Roy from hence, and to destroy and put to death not only all the *Big-Endian Exiles*, but likewise all the People of that Empire, who would not immediately

mediately forsake the *Big-Endian* Heresy: He the said *Flestrin*, like a false Traitor against his most Auspicious, Serene, Imperial Majesty, did petition to be excused from the said Service upon pretence of unwillingness to force the Consciences, or destroy the Liberties and Lives of an innocent People.

ARTICLE III.

THAT, whereas certain Embassadors arrived from the Court of *Blefuscu*, to sue for Peace in his Majesty's Court: He the said *Flestrin* did, like a false Traitor, aid, abet, comfort, and divert the said Embassadors, although he knew them to be Servants to a Prince who was lately an open Enemy to his Imperial Majesty, and in open War against his said Majesty.

ARTICLE IV.

THAT the said *Quibus Flestrin*, contrary to the Duty of a faithful Subject, is now preparing to make a Voyage to the Court and Empire of *Blefuscu*, for which

he hath received only verbal Licence from his Imperial Majesty ; and under colour of the said Licence doth falsely and traitterously intend to take the said Voyage, and thereby to aid, comfort, and abet the Emperor of *Blefuscu*, so late an Enemy, and in open War with his Imperial Majesty aforesaid

THERE are some other Articles, but these are the most important, of which I have read you an Abstract.

IN the several Debates upon this Impeachment, it must be confessed that his Majesty gave many marks of his great Lenity, often urging the Services you had done him, and endeavouring to extenuate your Crimes. The Treasurer and Admiral insisted that you should be put to the most painful and ignominious Death, by setting fire on your House at Night, and the General was to attend with twenty thousand Men armed with poisoned Arrows to shoot you on the Face and Hands.

Some of your Servants were to have private orders to strew a poisonous Juice on your Shirts which would soon make you tear your own Flesh, and die in the utmost Torture. The General came into the same Opinion ; so that for a long time there was a majority against you. But his Majesty resolving, if possible, to spare your Life, at last brought off the Chamberlain.

UPON this Incident, *Reldresal*, Principal Secretary for private Affairs, who always approved himself your true Friend, was commanded by the Emperor to deliver his Opinion, which he accordingly did: and therein justify'd the good Thoughts you have of him. He allowed your Crimes to be great, but that still there was room for Mercy, the most commendable Virtue in a Prince, and for which his Majesty was so justly celebrated. He said, the Friendship between you and him was so well known to the World that perhaps the most honourable Board might

might think him partial: However, in obedience to the Command he had received, he would freely offer his Sentiments. That if his Majesty, in consideration of your Services, and pursuant to his own merciful Disposition, would please to spare your Life, and only give order to put out both your Eyes, he humbly conceived, that by this Expedient, Justice might in some measure be satisfied, and all the World would applaud the Lenity of the Emperor, as well as the fair and generous Proceedings of those who have the Honour to be his Counsellors. That the loss of your Eyes would be no impediment to your bodily Strength, by which you might still be useful to his Majesty. That Blindness is an addition to Courage, by concealing Dangers from us; that the fear you had for your Eyes, was the greatest Difficulty in bringing over the Enemy's Fleet, and it would be sufficient for you to see by the Eyes of the Ministers, since the greatest Princes do no more.

THIS Proposal was received with the utmost Disapprobation by the whole Board. *Bolgolam*, the Admiral, could not preserve his Temper; but rising up in Fury, said, he wondered how the Secretary durst presume to give his opinion for preserving the Life of a Traytor: That the Services you had performed, were, by all true Reasons of State, the great Aggravation of your Crimes; that you, who were able to extinguish the Fire, by discharge of Urine in her Majesty's Apartment (which he mentioned with horror) might, at another time, raise an Inundation by the same means, to drown the whole Palace; and the same Strength which enabled you to bring over the Enemy's Fleet, might serve, upon the first Discontent, to carry it back: That he had good Reasons to think you were a *Big-Indian* in your Heart; and as Treason begins in the Heart, before it appears in Overt-acts, so he accused you as a Traytor on that account, and therefore insisted you should be put to death.

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THE Treasurer was of the same opinion; he shewed to what streights his Majesty's Revenue was reduced by the charge of maintaining you, which would soon grow insupportable: That the Secretary's Expedient of putting out your Eyes was so far from being a Remedy against this Evil, it would probably encrease it, as it is manifest from the common practice of blinding some kind of Fowl, after which they fed the faster, and grew sooner fat: That his sacred Majesty, and the Council, who are your Judges, were in their own Consciences fully convinced of your Guilt, which was a sufficient Argument to condemn you to death, without the formal Proofs required by the strict letter of the Law.

BUT his Imperial Majesty fully determined against capital Punishment, was graciously pleased to say, that since the Council thought the loss of your Eyes too easy a Censure, some other may be inflicted

inflicted hereafter. And your Friend the Secretary humbly desiring to be heard again, in answer to what the Treasurer had objected concerning the great charge his Majesty was at in maintaining you, said, that his Excellency, who had the sole disposal of the Emperor's Revenue, might easily provide against that Evil, by gradually lessening your Establishment; by which, for want of sufficient Food, you would grow weak and faint, and lose your Appetite, and consequently decay and consume in a few Months; neither would the Stench of your Carcass be then so dangerous, when it should become more than half diminished; and immediately upon your Death, five or six thousand of his Majesty's Subjects might, in two or three days, cut your Flesh from your Bones, take it away by Cart-loads, and bury it in distant parts to prevent Infection, leaving the Skeleton as a Monument of Admiration to Posterity.

THUS

THUS by the great Friendship of the Secretary, the whole Affair was compromised. It was strictly enjoin'd, that the Project of starving you by degrees should be kept a Secret, but the Sentence of putting out your Eyes was entered on the Books; none dissenting except *Bolgolam* the Admiral, who being a Creature of the Empress, was perpetually instigated by her Majesty to insist upon your Death, she having born perpetual Malice against you, on account of that infamous and illegal Method you took to extinguish the fire in her Apartment.

IN three days your Friend the Secretary will be directed to come to your House, and read before you the Articles of Impeachment; and then to signify the great Lenity and Favour of his Majesty and Council, whereby you are only condemned to the loss of your Eyes, which his Majesty doth not question you will gratefully and humbly submit to; and

twenty of his Majesty's Surgeons will attend, in order to see the Operation well performed, by discharging very sharp-pointed Arrows into the Balls of your Eyes, as you lie on the Ground.

I leave to your Prudence what Measures you will take; and to avoid Suspicion, I must immediately return in as private a manner as I came.

His Lordship did so, and I remained alone, under many Doubts and Perplexities of Mind.

It was a Custom introduced by this Prince and his Ministry, (very different, as I have been assured, from the Practices of former Times) that after the Court had decreed any cruel Execution, either to gratify the Monarch's Resentment, or the Malice of a Favourite, the Emperor made a Speech to his whole Council, expressing his great Lenity and Tenderneſs, as qualities known and confessed by all the World.

World.

World. This Speech was immediately published through the Kingdom; nor did any thing terrify the People so much as those Encomiums on his Majesty's Mercy; because it was observed, that the more these Praises were enlarged and insisted on, the more inhuman was the Punishment, and the Sufferer more innocent. And as to my self, I must confess, having never been designed for a Courtier either by my Birth or Education, I was so ill a Judge of Things, that I could not discover the Lenity and Favour of this Sentence, but conceived it (perhaps erroneously) rather to be rigorous than gentle. I sometimes thought of standing my Tryal, for although I could not deny the Facts alledged in the several Articles, yet I hoped they would admit of some Extenuations. But having in my Life perused many State-Tryals, which I ever observed to terminate as the Judges thought fit to direct, I durst not rely on so dangerous a Decision, in so critical a Juncture, and against such powerful Enemies. Once I

I was

was strongly bent upon Resistance, for while I had liberty, the whole strength of that Empire could hardly subdue me, and I might easily with Stones pelt the Metropolis to pieces; but I soon rejected that Project with Horror, by remembering the Oath I had made to the Emperor, the Favours I received from him, and the high Title of *Nardac* he conferred upon me. Neither had I so soon learned the Gratitude of Courtiers, to persuade my self that his Majesty's present severities acquitted me of all past Obligations.

At last I fixed upon a Resolution, for which it is probable I may incur some Censure, and not unjustly; for I confess I owe the preserving mine Eyes, and consequently my Liberty, to my own great Rashness and want of Experience: because if I had then known the Nature of Princes and Ministers, which I have since observed in many other Courts, and their Methods of treating Criminals less obnoxious than my self, I should with great
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alacrity and readiness have submitted to so easy a punishment. But hurry'd on by the Precipitancy of Youth, and having his Imperial Majesty's Licence to pay my Attendance upon the Emperor of *Blefuscu*, I took this opportunity, before the three Days were elapsed, to send a Letter to my friend the Secretary, signifying my Resolution of setting out that Morning for *Blefuscu* pursuant to the leave I had got; and without waiting for an Answer, I went to that side of the Island where our Fleet lay. I seized a large Man of War, tyed a cable to the Prow, and lifting up the Anchors, I stript my self, put my Cloaths (together with my Coverlet, which I brought under my Arm) into the Vessel, and drawing it after me between wading and swimming, arrived at the royal Port of *Blefuscu*, where the People had long expected me; they lent me two Guides to direct me to the Capital City, which is of the same Name. I held them in my hands till I came within two hundred Yards of the Gate, and desired them to

signify

signify my Arrival to one of the Secretaries, and let him know, I there waited his Majesty's Command. I had an Answer in about an Hour, that his Majesty, attended by the Royal Family, and great Officers of the Court, was coming out to receive me. I advanced a hundred Yards. The Emperor, and his Train, alighted from their Horses, the Empress and Ladies from their Coaches, and I did not perceive they were in any Fright or Concern. I lay on the Ground to kiss his Majesty's and the Empress's Hand. I told his Majesty that I was come according to my promise, and with the Licence of the Emperor my Master, to have the Honour of seeing so mighty a Monarch, and to offer him any Service in my power, consistent with my Duty to my own Prince; not mentioning a word of my Disgrace, because I had hitherto no regular Information of it, and might suppose my self wholly ignorant of any such Design; neither could I reasonably conceive that the Emperor would discover the Secret
while

while I was out of his Power: wherein, however, it soon appeared I was deceived.

I shall not trouble the Reader with the particular Account of my Reception at this Court, which was suitable to the generosity of so great a Prince; nor of the Difficulties I was in for want of a House and Bed, being forced to lie on the Ground, wrapt up in my Coverlet.





C H A P. VIII.

The Author, by a lucky Accident, finds means to leave Blefuscu ; and, after some Difficulties, returns safe to his nativeCountry.

THREE Days after my Arrival, walking out of Curiosity to the North-East Coast of the Island, I observed, about half a League off, in the Sea; somewhat that looked like a Boat overturned. I pulled off my Shoes and Stockings, and wading two or three hundred Yards, I found the object to approach nearer by force of the Tide; and then plainly saw it to be a real Boat, which I supposed might, by some Tempest, have been driven from a Ship : whereupon I returned immediately towards the City, and
desired

desired his Imperial Majesty to lend me twenty of the tallest Vessels he had left after the loss of his Fleet, and three thousand Seamen under the Command of the Vice-Admiral. This Fleet sailed round, while I went back the shortest way to the Coast where I first discovered the Boat; I found the Tide had driven it still nearer. The Seamen were all provided with Cordage, which I had beforehand twisted to a sufficient strength. When the Ships came up, I stript my self, and waded till I came within an hundred Yards of the Boat, after which I was forced to swim till I got up to it. The Seamen threw me the end of the Cord, which I fastened to a Hole in the fore-part of the Boat, and the other end to a Man of War: But I found all my Labour to little purpose; for being out of my depth, I was not able to work. In this Necessity, I was forced to swim behind, and push the Boat forwards as often as I could, with one of my Hands; and the Tide favouring me, I advanced so far, that I could just hold up my Chin and feel the

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Ground.

Ground. I rested two or three Minutes, and then gave the Boat another Shove, and so on till the Sea was no higher than my Arm-pits; and now the most laborious part being over, I took out my other Cables, which were stowed in one of the Ships, and fastening them first to the Boat, and then to nine of the Vessels which attended me; the Wind being favourable the Sea-men towed, and I shoved till we arrived within forty Yards of the Shore, and waiting till the Tide was out, I got dry to the Boat, and by the assistance of two thousand Men, with Ropes and Engines, I made a shift to turn it on its Bottom, and found it was but little damaged.

I shall not trouble the Reader with the Difficulties I was under by the help of certain Paddles, which cost me ten days making, to get my Boat to the Royal Port of *Blefuscu*, where a mighty concourse of People appeared upon my arrival, full of Wonder at the sight of so
prodigious

prodigious a Vessel. I told the Emperor that my good Fortune had thrown this Boat in my way, to carry me to some place from whence I might return into my native Country, and begged his Majesty's Orders for getting Materials to fit it up, together with his Licence to depart; which, after some kind Expostulations, he was pleased to grant.

I did very much wonder, in all this time, not to have heard of any Exprets relating to me from our Emperor to the Court of *Blefuscu*. But I was afterwards given privately to understand, that his Imperial Majesty, never imagining I had the least notice of his Designs, believed I was only gone to *Blefuscu* in performance of my Promise, according to the Licence he had given me, which was well known at our Court, and would return in a few days when that Ceremony was ended. But he was at last in pain at my long absence; and, after consulting with the Treasurer, and the rest of that

Cabal, a Person of Quality was dispatched with the Copy of the Articles against me. This Envoy had Instructions to represent to the Monarch of *Blefuscu* the great Lenity of his Master, who was content to punish me no further than with the loss of mine Eyes; that I had fled from Justice, and if I did not return in two Hours, I should be deprived of my Title of *Nardac*, and declared a Traitor. The Envoy further added, that in order to maintain the Peace and Amity between both Empires, his Master expected, that his Brother of *Blefuscu* would give Orders to have me sent back to *Lilliput*, bound Hand and Foot, to be punished as a Traitor.

THE Emperor of *Blefuscu* having taken three Days to consult, returned an Answer, consisting of many Civilities and Excuses. He said, that as for sending me bound, his Brother knew it was impossible; that although I had deprived him of his Fleet, yet he owed great Obligations to me for many good Offices I had

had done him in making the Peace. That however both their Majesties would soon be made easy; for I had found a prodigious Vessel on the Shore, able to carry me on the Sea, which he had given order to fit up with my own Assistance and Direction; and he hoped in a few Weeks both Empires would be freed from so insupportable an Incumbrance.

WITH this Answer the Envoy returned to *Lilliput*, and the Monarch of *Blefuscu* related to me all that had past; offering me at the same time (but under the strictest Confidence) his gracious Protection, if I would continue in his Service; wherein although I believed him sincere, yet I resolved never more to put any Confidence in Princes or Ministers, where I could possibly avoid it; and therefore, with all due Acknowledgments for his favourable Intentions, I humbly begged to be excused. I told him, that since Fortune, whether good or evil, had thrown a Vessel in my way, I was re-

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solved

solved to venture myself in the Ocean, rather than be an occasion of difference between two such mighty Monarchs. Neither did I find the Emperor at all displeas'd; and I discover'd, by a certain Accident, that he was very glad of my Resolution, and so were most of his Ministers.

THESE Considerations mov'd me to hasten my Departure somewhat sooner than I intended; to which the Court, impatient to have me gone, very readily contributed. Five hundred Workmen were employ'd to make two Sails to my Boat, according to my Directions, by quilting thirteen fold of their strongest Linen together. I was at the pains of making Ropes and Cables, by twisting ten, twenty, or thirty of the thickest and strongest of theirs. A great Stone that I happen'd to find, after a long Search by the Sea shore, serv'd me for an Anchor. I had the Tallow of three hundred Cows for greasing my boat, and other Uses.

I was

I was at incredible pains in cutting down some of the largest Timber-Trees for Oars and Masts, wherein I was, however, much assisted by his Majesty's Ship-Carpenters, who helped me in smoothing them, after I had done the rough Work.

IN about a Month, when all was prepared, I sent to receive his Majesty's Commands, and to take my leave. The Emperor and Royal Family came out of the Palace; I lay down on my Face to kiss his Hand, which he very graciously gave me; so did the Empress, and young Princes of the Blood. His Majesty presented me with fifty Purses of two hundred *Sprugs* a-piece, together with his Picture at full length, which I put immediately into one of my Gloves, to keep it from being hurt. The Ceremonies at my Departure were too many to trouble the Reader with at this time.

I stored the Boat with the Carcasses of an hundred Oxen, and three hundred Sheep,

Sheep, with Bread and Drink proportionable, and as much Meat ready dressed as four hundred Cooks could provide. I took with me six Cows and two Bulls alive, with as many Ewes and Rams, intending to carry them into my own Country, and propagate the Breed. And to feed them on board, I had a good bundle of Hay, and a Bag of Corn. I would gladly have taken a Dozen of the Natives, but this was a thing the Emperor would by no means permit; and besides a diligent Search into my Pockets, his Majesty engaged my Honour not to carry away any of his Subjects, although with their own Consent and Desire.

HAVING thus prepared all things as well as I was able, I set sail on the twenty-fourth Day of *September* 1701, at six in the Morning; and when I had gone about four Leagues to the Northward, the Wind being at South-East, at six in the Evening, I descryed a small Island about half a League to the North-West. I advanced

vanced forward, and cast Anchor on the Lee-side of the Island, which seemed to be uninhabited. I then took some Refreshment, and went to my rest. I slept well, and I conjecture at least six Hours, for I found the Day broke in two Hours after I awaked. It was a clear Night. I eat my Breakfast before the Sun was up; and heaving Anchor, the Wind being favourable, I steered the same Course that I had done the Day before, wherein I was directed by my Pocket-compass. My Intention was to reach, if possible, one of those Islands, which I had reason to believe lay to the North-East of *Van Diemen's Land*. I discovered nothing all that Day; but upon the next, about three in the Afternoon, when I had by my Computation made twenty-four Leagues from *Blefuscu*, I descryed a Sail steering to the South-East; my Course was due East. I hailed her, but could get no Answer; yet I found I gained upon her, for the wind slackned. I made all the sail I could, and in half an hour she spyed me, then hung

hung out her Antient, and discharged a Gun. It is not easy to express the Joy I was in upon the unexpected hope of once more seeing my beloved Country, and the dear Pledges I left in it. The Ship slackned her Sails, and I came up with her between five and six in the Evening, *September 26*; but my Heart leapt within me to see her *English* Colours. I put my Cows and Sheep into my Coat-Pockets, and got on board with all my little Cargo of Provisions. The Vessel was an *English* Merchant-Man, returning from *Japan* by the *North* and *South-Seas*; the Captain, Mr. *John Biddel* of *Deptford*, a very civil Man, and an excellent Sailor. We were now in the Latitude of 30 Degrees South, there were about fifty Men in the Ship; and here I met an old Comrade of mine, one *Peter Williams*, who gave me a good Character to the Captain. This Gentleman treated me with Kindness, and desired I would let him know what place I came from last, and whither I was bound, which

which I did in few Words, but he thought I was raving, and that the Dangers I underwent had disturbed my Head; whereupon I took my black Cattle and Sheep out of my Pocket, which, after great Astonishment, clearly convinced him of my Veracity. I then shewed him the Gold given me by the Emperor of *Lilliput*, together with his Majesty's Picture at full length, and some other Rarities of that Country. I gave him two Purfes of two hundred *Sprugs* each, and promised, when we arrived in *England*, to make him a Present of a Cow and a Sheep big with young.

I shall not trouble the Reader with a particular account of this Voyage, which was very prosperous for the most part. We arrived in the *Downs* on the 13th of *April* 1702. I had only one Misfortune, that the Rats on board carried away one of my Sheep; I found her Bones in a Hole, picked clean from the
Flesh.

Flesh. The rest of my Cattle I got safe on shore, and set them a grazing in a Bowling-Green at *Greenwich*, where the fineness of the Grass made them feed very heartily, though I had always feared the contrary: neither could I possibly have preserved them in so long a Voyage, if the Captain had not allowed me some of his best Bisket, which rubbed to Powder, and mingled with Water, was their constant Food. The short time I continued in *England*, I made a considerable profit by shewing my Cattle to many Persons of Quality, and others: and before I began my second Voyage, I sold them for six hundred Pounds. Since my last return, I find the Breed is considerably increased, especially the Sheep; which I hope will prove much to the Advantage of the Woollen Manufacture, by the Fineness of the Fleeces.

H

I stayed

I stayed but two Months with my Wife and Family; for my insatiable Desire of seeing foreign Countries would suffer me to continue no longer. I left fifteen hundred Pounds with my Wife, and fixed her in a good House at *Redriff*. My remaining Stock I carried with me, part in Money, and part in Goods, in hopes to improve my Fortunes. My eldest Uncle *John* had left me an Estate in Land, near *Epping*, of about thirty Pounds a Year; and I had a long Lease of the *Black-Bull* in *Fetter-Lane*, which yielded me as much more: so that I was not in any danger of leaving my Family upon the Parish. My Son *Johnny*, named so after his Uncle, was at the Grammar School, and a towardly Child. My Daughter *Betty* (who is now well married, and has Children) was then at her Needle-Work. I took leave of my Wife, and Boy and Girl, with tears on both sides, and went
on

on board the *Adventure*, a Merchant-Ship of three hundred Tons, bound for *Surat*, Captain *John Nicholas* of *Liverpool* Commander. But my Account of this Voyage must be referred to the second Part of my Travels.

The End of the First Part.

