

DIVERS

voyages touching the discouerie of
America, and the Ilands adiacent

vnto the same, made first of all by our
Englshmen, and afterward by the French-
men and Britons:

And certaine notes of aduertisements for obserua-
tions, necessarie for such as shall heereafter
make the like attempt,

With two mappes annexed heereunto for the
plainer vnderstanding of the whole
matter.



Imprinted at Lon-
don for Thomas Woodcocke,
dwelling in paules Church-yard,
at the signe of the blacke beare,

1582.

The names of certaine late writers of Geographie, with the yeere wherein they wrote.

The yeere of our Lorde.

- 1300 **A** Belfada Ismael prince of Syria, Persia, and Assyria.
- 1320 John Mandeuill Englishman.
- 1500 Albertus Crantzius of Hamburge.
- 1520 Peter martyr Milanoyse.
- 1525 Gonfaluco Ouiedo Spaniarde.
- 1527 Robert Thorne English man.
- 1530 Hieronymus Fracastor Italian.
- 1539 Gemma Frisius.
- 1540 Antonie di Mendoza Spaniard.
- 1541 Gerardus Mercator Fleming.
- 1549 John Baptista Guicchardine Florentine.
- 1553 John Baptista Ramusius, hee gathered many notable things.
- 1554 Sebastian Munster Germane.
- 1554 Thomas Giunti Venetian.
- 1555 Clement Adams Englishman.
- 1555 Orontius Finæus Frenchman.
- 1564 Abraham Ortelius Fleming.
- 1574 Hierome Osorius Portingall.
- 1575 Andreas Theuet Frenchman.
- 1575 Francis Belforest Frenchman.
- 1576 Humfrey Gilbert knight, Englishman.
- 1577 Dionyse Settle Englishman.
- 1578 George Belle Englishman.
- 1580 Nicolas Chauncellor Englishman.

The

The names of certaine late traualers, both by sea and by lande, which also for the most part haue written of their owne traualyles and voyages.

The yeere of our Lorde.

- 1178 Benjamin Tudelensis a Iewe.
- 1270 Marcus Paulus a Venetian.
- 1300 Harton an Armenian.
- 1320 John Mandeuille knight, englishman.
- 1380 Nicolaus and Antonius Zeni, venetians.
- 1444 Nicolaus Conti venetian.
- 1492 Christopher Columbus a Genoway.
- 1497 Sebastian Gabot, an englishman the sonne of a venetian.
- 1497 M. Thorne and Hugh Eleot of Bristowe, englishmen.
- 1497 Vasques de Gama a portingale.
- 1500 Gasper Corterealis a portingale.
- 1516 Edoardus Barbosa a portingale.
- 1519 Fernandus Magalianes a portingale.
- 1530 John Barros a portingale.
- 1534 Iaques Cartier a Briton.
- 1540 Francis Vasques de Coronado Spaniarde.
- 1542 John Gaeran Spaniarde.
- 1549 Francis Xauier a portingale.
- 1553 Hugh Willowbie knight, & Richard Chauncellor Eng.
- 1554 Francis Galuano a portingale.
- 1556 Stenen and William Burros Englishmen.
- 1562 Antonie Ienkinson Englishman.
- 1562 John Ribault a Frenchman.
- 1565 Andrewe Theuet a Frenchman.
- 1576 Martin Frobisher Englishman.
- 1578 Francis Drake Englishman.
- 1580 Arthur Pet, and Charles Iackmā Englishmen.
- 1582 Edwarde Fenton, and Luke warde, Englishmen.
- 1582 Humfrey Gilbert knight, Edward Heyes, and Antonie Brigham Englishmen.

A verie late and great probabilitie
of a passage, by the Northwest
part of America in 58. degrees
of Northerly latitude.



An excellent learned man of
portingale, of singular grauity,
authoritie and experience tolde
mee very lately, that one *Anns*
Cortereal, captayne of the yle
of *Tercera* about the yeere
1574. which is not aboue eight
yeres past, sent a Shippe to dis-
couer the Northwest passage of
America, & that the same shippe

arriving on the coast of the saide America in fiftie eght
degrees of latitude, founde a great entrance exceeding deepe
and broad, without all impediment of ice, into whiche they
passed aboue twentie leagues, and found it alwaies to trende
sowarde the South, the lande lying lowe and plaine on ey-
ther side: And that they perswaded them selues verely, that
there was a way open into the south sea. But their victailles
fayling them, and being but one shippe, they returned backe
agayne with ioy. This place seemeth to lie in equal degrees
of latitude, with the first entrance of the sounde of Denmark
betweene Norway and the head land, called in latin *Cimbros-
rum promontorium*, and therefore like to bee open and nauig-
able a great part of the yeere. And this report may bee well
annexed vnto the other eight reasons mentioned in my epi-
stle dedicatorie, for prooffe of the likelihood of this passage by
the Northwest.



To the right worshipfull and
most vertuous Gentleman master
Phillip Sydney Esquire,



Maruaile not a little (right wor-
shipfull) that since the first disco-
uerie of America (which is nowe
full fourescore and tenne yeeres)
after so great conquests and plan-
tings of the Spaniards and Por-
tingales there, that wee of Eng-
lande could neuer haue the grace
to set fast footing in such fer-
till and temperate places, as are

left as yet vnpossessed of them, But againe when I consider
that there is a time for all men, and see the Portingales time to
be out of date, & that the nakednesse of the spaniards, and their
long hidden secretes are nowe at length espied, whereby they
went about to delude the worlde, I conceiue great hope, that
the time approcheth and nowe is, that we of England may share
and part stakes (if wee will our selues) both with the spaniards
and the Portingale in part of America, and other regions as yet
vndiscovered. And surely if there were in vs that desire to
aduance the honour of our Countrey which ought to bee in
every good man, wee woulde not all this while haue fore-
slovene the possessing of those landes, whiche of equitie
and right appertaine vnto vs, as by the discourfes that followe
shall appeare most plainely. Yea if wee woulde beholde with
the eye of pittie howe al our Prisons are pestered and filled with
able men to serue their Countrey, which for small roberies are
dayly hanged vp in great numbers euen twentie at a clappe out
of one iayle (as was seene at the last assises at Rochester) wee
woulde hasten and further every man to his power the deduc-
ting of some Colonies of our superfluous people into those tem-
perate and fertile partes of America, which being within sixe
weekes

The Epistle

weekes sayling of England are yet vnpossessed by any Christians; and seeme to offer themselues vnto vs, stretching neerer vnto her Maiesties Dominions, then to any other part of Europe. Wee reade that the Bees, when they grow to be too many in their own hiues at home, are wont to bee led out by their Captaines to swarme abroad, and seeke themselues a new dwelling place. If, the examples of the Grecians and Carthaginians of olde time, and the practise of our age may not moue vs, yet let vs learne wildome of these smal weake and vnreasonable creatures. It chanced very lately that vpon occasion I had great conference in matters of Cosmographie with an excellent learned man of Portingale, most priue to all the discoueries of his nation, who wondered that those blessed countries, from the point of Florida Northward, were all this while vnplanted by Christians, pro- telling with great affection and zeale, that if hee were nowe as young as I (for at this present hee is threescore yeeres of age) hee woulde sel all hee had, being a man of no small wealth and hon- our, to furnish a conuenient number of ships to sea for the in- habiting of those countries, and reducing those gentile people to christianitie. Moreover hee added that Iohn Barros their chiefe Cosmographer being moued with the like desire, was the cause that Bresilia was first inhabited by the Portingales: where they haue nine baronies or lordships, & thirtie engennies or sug- ger milles, two or three hundred slaves belonging to eche myll, with a Iudge, and other officers, & a Church: so that euery mill is as it were a little common wealth: and that the countrie was first planted by such men, as for small offences were saued from the rope. This hee spake not onely vnto mee and in my hearing, but also in the presence of a friend of mine, a man of great skill in the Mathematickes. If this mans desire might bee executed, wee might not only for the present time take possession of that good land, but also in short space by Gods grace finde out that shorte and easie passage by the Northwest, which we haue hether to so long desired, and whereof wee haue many good and more then probable coniectures: a fewe whereof I thinke it not amisse heere to set downe, although your worship knowe them as well

The speech of a learned Portingale.

Master Iohn Barros the cause of the inhabiting of Bresilia.

Dedicatorie,

well as my selfe, first therefore it is not to bee forgotten, that Se- bastian Gabot wrote to master Baptista Ramusius, that he very- ly beleued that all the North part of America is diuided into Is- landes. Secondly that master Iohn Verarzanus, which had been thrise on that coast, in an olde excellent mappe, which he gaue to king Henrie the eight, and is yet in the custodie of master Locke, doth so lay it out, as it is to bee seene in the mappe annexed to the end of this booke, being made according to Verarzanus plat. Thirdly the story of Gil Gonfalua recorded by Franciscus Lo- pes de Gomara, which is saide to haue sought a passage by the Northwest, seemeth to argue and proue the same. Fourthly, in the second relation of Iaqués Cartier the 12. Chapter the peo- ple of Saguinay doe testifie that vpon their coastes Westwarde there is a sea the ende whereof is vnknowne vnto them. Fifthly, in the end of that discourse is added this, as a special remem- brance, to wit, that they of Canada say that it is a monethes space to faile to a lande where cinamon and cloues are growing. Sixtly, the people of Florida signified vnto Iohn Ribault (as it is expressed in his discourse heere withall imprinted) that they might faile from the Riuier of May vnto Ceuola and the south sea through their countrie within twentie dayes. Seuenthy, the experience of captaine Frobisher on the hyther side, and Sir Fraunces Drake on the backe side of America, with the testimo- nie of Nicolaus and Anthonius Zeni, that Estotlanda is an Is- lande, doth yeelde no small hope thereof. Lastly, the iudge- ment of the excellent Geographer Gerardus Mercator, which his sonne Rumold Mercator my friende shewed mee in his letters, & drewe out for mee in writing, is not of wise men lightly to bee regarded. His words are these. *Magna tametsi pauca de noua Frobisberi nauigatione scribis, quam miror ante multos annos non fuisse attentatam. Non enim dubium est, quin recta & bre- uis via pateat in occidentem Cathaium vsq; . In quod regnum, si recte nauigationem instituant, nobilissimas totius mundi merces colligent, & multis Gentibus adhuc idololatriis Christi nomen communicabunt.* You write (saith hee to his sonne) great matters though very briefly of the newe discouerie

The iudgement of Gerardus Mercator of a passage by the Northwest.

The Epistle

of Frobisher, which I wonder was neuer these many yeeres heeretofore attempted. For there is no doubt, but that there is a straight and short way open into the West euen vnto Cathay. Into which kingdome, if they take their course aright, they shall gather the most noble merchandise of all the worlde, and shall make the name of Christe to bee knowne vnto many idolatrous and Heathen people. And heere to conclude and shut vp this matter, I haue heard my selfe of Merchants of credite that haue liued long in Spaine, that King Phillip hath made a lawe of late that none of his subiectes shall discouer to the Northwardes of fise and fortie degrees of America: whiche may bee thought to proceede chiefly of two causes, the one, least passing farther to the North they should discouer the open passage from the south sea to our north sea: the other because they haue not people enough to possesse and keepe that passage, but rather thereby shoulde open a gappe for other nations to passe that way. Certes if hetherto in our owne discoueries we had not beene led with a preposterous desire of seeking rather gaine then Gods glorie, I assure my selfe that our labours had taken farre better effecte. But wee forgotte, that Godlinesse is great riches, and that if we first seeke the kingdome of God, al other thinges will be giuen vnto vs, and that as the light accompanieth the Sunne, and the heate the fire, so lasting riches do waite vpon them that are zealous for the aduancement of the kingdome of Christ, and the enlargement of his glorious Gospel: as it is sayde, I will honour them that honour mee. I truste that nowe being taught by their manifolde losses our men will take a more godly course, and vse some part of their goods to his glorie: if not, he will turne euen their couetousnes to serue him, as he hath done the pride and auarice of the Spaniardes and Portugales, who pretending in glorious words that they made their discoueries chiefly to conuert Infidelles to our most holy faith, (as they say) in deed and truth sought not them, but their goods and riches. Whiche thing that our nation may more speedily & happily performe, there is no better meane in my simple iudgement then the increase of knowledge in the arte of navigation, &

brea

A lawe made of late by King Phillip.

Dedicatorie.

breeding of skilfulnesse in the sea men: whiche Charles the Emperour and the king of Spaine that nowe is wisely considering haue in their Contractation house in Siuill appointed a learned reader of the sayde art of Navigation, and ioyned with him certayne examiners, and haue distinguished the orders among the sea men, as the groomet whiche is the basest degree, the mariner which is the seconde, the master the thirde, and the pilote the fourth, vnto the which two last degrees none is admitted without hee haue heard the reader for a certaine space (which is commonly an excellent Mathematician, of which number weie Pedro di Medina which writte learnedly of the art of navigation, and Alonso di Chauz & Hieronimus di Chauz, whose works likewise I haue seene) and being founde fitte by him and his assistantes, which are to examine matters touching experience, they are admitted with as great solemnitie and giuing of presents to the ancient masters and Pilots, and the reader and examiners, as the great doctors in the Vniuersities, or our great Sergeantes at the law when they proceed, and so are admitted to take charge for the Indies. And that your worshippe may knowe that this is true, Master Steuen Borrows, nowe one of the foure masters of the Queenes nauie, tolde me that newly after his returne from the discouery of Moscouie by the North, in Queene Marias daies, the Spaniards, hauing intelligence that he was master in that discouerie, tooke him into their cōtractation house at their making and admitting of masters and pilots, giuing him great honour, & presented him with a payre of perfumed gloues woorth fise or sixe Ducates. I speake all this to this ende, that the like order of erecting such a Lecture here in London or about Rātcliffe in some conuenient place, were a matter of great consequence and importance, for the sauing of many mens liues and goods, which nowe through grosse ignorance are dayly in great hazerd, to the no small detrimēt of the whole realme. For whiche cause I haue dealt with the right worshipfull sir Frances Drake, that seeing God hath blessed him so wonderfully, he woulde do this honour to him selfe and benefite to his countrey, to bee at the cost to erecte such a lecture: Whereunto in molt bountifull maner

The cōtractatio house at Siuill.

M. Steuen Borrows.

A lecture of the art of navigation necessarie for to be erected in London.

The Epistle

The bountyfull offer of Sir Francis Drake toward furthering the art of Navigation.

at the verie first he answered, that he liked so well of the motion, that he would giue twentie poundes by the yeere standing, and twentie poundes more before hand to a learned man to furnish him with instruments and maps, that would take this thing vpon him: yea so readie he was that he earnestly requested mee to helpe him to the notice of a fitte man for that purpose, which I, for the zeale I bare to this good actiō, did presently, & brought him one, who came vnto him & conferred with him thereupon: but in fine he would not vndertake the lecture, vnlesse he might haue fourtie pounde a yeere standing, and so the matter ceased for that time: howbeit the worthie and good Knight remaineth still constant, and will be, as he told me very lately, as good as his word. Nowe if God should put into the head of any noble man to contribute other twentie pounde, to make this lecture a competent liuing for a learned man, the whole realme no doubt might reape no small benefite thereby. To leave this matter & to drawe to an ende, I haue heere right worshipfull in this hastie worke first put downe the title which we haue to that part of America which is from Florida to 67. degrees northwarde, by the letters patentes graunted to Iohn Gabote and his three sonnes, Lewes, Sebastian, and Santius, with Sebastians owne Certificate to Baptista Ramusius of his discouerie of America, and the testimonie of Fabian our own Chronicler. Next I haue caused to be added the letters of M. Robert Thorne to King Henrie the eight, and his discourse to his Ambassadour doctōr Ley in Spaine of the like argument, with the kings setting out of two ships for discouerie in the 19. yeere of his raigne. The I haue translated the voyage of Iohn Verazanus from thirtie degrees to Cape Briton, (& the last yeere at my charges, and other of my friendes by my exhortation, I caused Iaques Cartiers two voyages of discouering the grand Bay, and Canada, Saguinay, and Hochelaga to be translated out of my Volumes, which are to be annexed to this present translation). Moreouer following the order of the map, and not the course of time, I haue put downe the discourse of Nicholaus and Antonius Zenic. The last treatise of Iohn Ribault, is a thing that hath been already printed, but not nowe to

Iohn Gabote and his three sonnes.

be

Dedicatorie.

be had, vnlesse I had caused it to be printed againe. The mappe is master Michael Lockes, a man, for his knowledge in diuers languages and especially in Cosmographie, able to doe his countrey good, and worthie in my iudgement, for the manifolde good partes in him, of good reputation and better fortune. This curious pamphlet I am ouer bold to present vnto your worshippe: but I had rather want a litle discretion, then to bee founde vnthankful to him, which hath been alwaies so readie to pleasure me and all my name.

Heere I cease, crauing pardon for my ouer boldnesse, trusting also that your worshippe will continue & increase your accustomed fauour toward these godly and honourable discoueries.

Your worshippes humble alwayes
to commaunde, R. H.

30 4

**A latine copie of the letters patentes
of King Henrie the seuenth, graunted
vnto Iohn Gabote and his three sonnes, Lewes,
Sebastian, and Santius for the discouering of
newe and vnknown
landes.**



*Henricus dei gratia rex Anglie
& Francia, & dominus hibernia,
omnibus ad quos presentes lites
re nostra peruenierint salutem.
Notum sit & manifestum quod
dedimus & concessimus, ac per
presentes damus & concedimus
pro nobis & heredibus nostris
dilectis nobis Iohanni Gaboto ci-
ui Veneciarum, Lodouico, Se-
bastiano, & Santio filiis dicti Iohannis, & eorum & cuiuslibet e-
orum heredibus & deputatis plenam ac liberam auctoritate,
facultatem & potestatem nauigandi ad omnes partes, regiones
& sinus maris orientalis, occidentalis, & septentrionalis sub
banneris, vexillis, & insignis nostris, cum quinque nauibus sine
nauigijs, cuiuscunque portitura & qualitatis existant, & cum
tot et tantis nauis & hominibus, quot & quantos in dictis nau-
ibus secum ducere voluerint, suis & eorum propriis sumpti-
bus & expensis, ad inueniendum, discoperiendum, & iusti-
gandum quascunque insulas, patrias, regiones sine prouincias
gentium & infidelium quoruncunque in quacunque parte
mundi positas, que Christianis omnibus ante hac tempor a sueo-
rint incognita. Concessimus etiam eisdem & eorum cuiuslibet,
eorumque & cuiuslibet eorum heredibus & deputatis ac licen-
tiam dedimus ad affigendum predictas banneras nostras & insi-
gnia in quacunque villa, oppido, castro, insula seu terra firma
a se noniter inuentis. Et quod prænominatus Iohannes & filii
eiusdem*

eiusdem seu heredes & eorumdem deputati, quascunq; huiusmodi villas, castra, oppida & insulas a se inuentas, quae subiugari, occupari, possideri possint, subiugare, occupare, possidere valeant, tanquam vassalli nostri, & gubernatores, loca tenentes & deputati, eorumdem dominium, titulum, & iurisdictionem earundem villarum, castrorum, oppidorum, insularum, ac terrarum firmarum inuentorum nobis acquirendo. Ita tamen ut ex omnibus fructibus, proficuis, emolumentis, commodis, lucris, & obuentibus ex huiusmodi navigatione prouenientibus praefatus Ioannes & filij ac heredes, & eorum deputati teneantur & sint obligati nobis pro omni viagio suo, toties quoties ad portum nostrum Bristoliae applicuerint (ad quem omnino applicare teneantur, & sint stricti) deductis omnibus sumptibus & impensis necessariis per eosdem factis, quintam partem capitalis lucris facti, siue in mercibus siue in pecuniis persolvere. Dantes nos & concedentes eis de suisq; heredibus & deputatis, ut ab omni solutione censurarum omnium & singulorum bonorum ac mercium, quas secum reportarint ab illis locis sic noniter inuentis, liberi sint & immunes. Et insuper dedimus & concessimus eidem ac suis heredibus & deputatis, quod terra omnes firmae, insulae, villae, oppida, castra, & loca quaecunq; a se inuenta, quaequid ab eis inueniri contigerit, non possint ab aliis quibusuis nostris subditis frequentari seu visitari, absq; licentia praedictorum Ioannis & eius filiorum suorumq; deputatorum, sub pena amissionis tantae nauis, quam bonorum omnium quorumcumq; ad ea loca sic inuenta nauigare praesentium. Volentes & strictissime mandantes omnibus & singulis nostris subditis tam in terra quam in mari constitutis, ut praefato Ioanni & eius filiis, ac deputatis bona assistentiam faciant, & tam in armandis nauibus seu nauibus, quam in prouisione quietatus & victualium pro sua pecunia emendorum, atq; aliarum omnium rerum sibi prouidentiarum pro dicta navigatione sumenda, suos omnes fauores & auxilia impertiant. In cuius rei testimonium has literas nostras quinto die Martii, anno regni nostri undecimo.

3 Martii, 1495

The

The same letters patents in english.



Enrie by the grace of GOD king of England, and France, and Lorde of Irelande, to all, to whom these presentes shall come, greeting. We it knowen that wee haue giuen and granted, and by these presentes doe giue and grant for vs and our heires, to our well beloved John Cabore citizen of Ve-

nice, to Lewes, Sebastian, and Santius, sonnes of the saide John, and to the heires of them and euery of them, and their deputies, full and free authoritie, leaue, and power to saile to all partes, countreys and seas of the East, of the West, and of the North vnder our banners and ensignes, with five ships, of what burden or quantitie soeuer they be: and as many mariners or men as they will haue with them in the saide ships, vpon their owne proper costes and charges to seeke out, discover and finde whatsoeuer iles, countreys, regions, or prouinces, of the heathen and infidelles whatsoeuer they be, and in what part of the worlde soeuer they be, whiche before this time haue been vnknewen to all Christians. We haue granted to them also and to euery of them, the heires of them, and euery of them and their deputies, & haue giuen them licence to see by our banners and ensignes in euery village, towne, castel, yle, or maine lande of them newly founde. And that the foresaid John and his sonnes or their heires and assignes may subdue, occupie, and possesse all such townes, cities, castles and yles of them founde, which they can subdue, occupie, and possesse, as our vassalles and licutenantes, getting vnto vs the rule, title, and iurisdiction of the same villages, townes, castles, and firme lande so founde.

Licence granted to John Cabore, his sonnes and heires, to discover vnknewen lands vnder the kings banner.

To subdue and possesse those landes as the kings vassalles.

A 2

Per

Per so that the foresaide John and his sonnes and betres, and their Deputies bee holden and bounden, of all the frutes, profites, gaires & commodities growing of such navigation, for euery their voyage as often as they shall arriue at our port of Bristoll, (at the which port they shall be bounde and holden onely to arriue) all manner of necessarie costes and charges by them made being deducted, to pay vnto vs in wares or money the fifth part of the Capitall gaine so gotten. Wee giuing and graunting vnto them and to their heires and Deputies, that they shall bee free from all paying of customes of all and singular such merchandize, as they shall bring with them from those places so newly founde.

The fifth of all goods to be paid to the king.

Freedom from all customes.

And moreover wee haue giuen and graunted to them, their heires and Deputies, that all the firme landes, Isles, Villages, Townes, Castles and places whatsoever they be, that they shall chauce to finde, may not of any other of our subiectes bee frequented or visited without the licence of the foresaid John, his sonnes and their deputies vnder paine of forfayture as well of their shippes, as of all and singular goods of all them that shall presume to sayle to those places so founde. Willing and most straightly commaunding all and singular our subiectes as well on lande as on sea appointed officers, to giue good assistance to the foresaid John and his sonnes and deputies, and that as well in arming and furnishing their ships or vessels, as in prouision of quietnesse, and in buying of victualles for their money and all other things by them to be prouided necessarie for the saide navigation, they doe giue them all their helpe and fauour. In witness whereof wee haue caused to bee made these our letters patentes. Witnessse our selfe at Westminster the fift day of March in the xi. yeere of our reigne.

None but they & their assignes may trauaile thither.

The 5. of march 1594.

A

A note of Sebastian Gabotes voyage of discoverie, taken out of an old

Chronicle written by Robert Fabian sometime Alderman of London, which is in the custodie of Iohn Stowe Citizen, a diligent searcher and preferuer of Antiquities,



THIS yeere the King, (by means of a Venetian which made himselfe very expert and cunning in knoweledge of the circuite of the worlde and Ilandes of the same, as by a Carde and other demonstrati- ons reasonable hee shewed) caused to man and victuall a shippe at Bristowe, to searche

In the 13. yeere of king Henrie the viii. 1498.

for an Ilande, which hee saide hee knewe well, was riche and replenished with riche commodities. Which ship thus manned and victualed at the kinges cost, diuers merchants of London ventured in her small stockes, being in her as chiefe Patrone the saide Venetian. And in the companie of the saide shippe sayled also out of Bristowe three or foure small ships fraught with sleight and grosse merchandizes, as course cloth, Caps, Laces, points and other trifles, and so departed from Bristowe in the beginning of May: of whome in this Maiors time returned no tidings.

Note.

Bristowe.

William Bur- chas Maior of London.

Of three sauage men which hee brought home, and presented vnto the king in the xvii. yeere of his raigne.

THIS yeere also were brought vnto the king three men taken in the new founde Iland, that before I spake of

These sauage men brought into England.

A 3

Note. See
De Witts King.

In William Purchas time being *Paloz*. These were clothed in beastes skinnes, and ate rawe fleshe, and spake such speech that no man coulde understand them, and in their demeanour like to hyute beastes, whom the king kept a tyme after. Of the which upon two yeeres past after I saw two apparelled after the maner of Englishe men in Westminster pallee, which at that tyme I coulde not discerne from Englishe men, till I was learned what they were. But as for speech I heard none of them utter one worde.

John Baptista Ramusius in his Preface to the thirde volume of the navigations, writeth thus of Sebastian Gabot.

In the latter part of this volume are put certaine relations of John de Uerazana a Florentine, and of a great Captaine a Frenchman, and the two voyages of Jaques Cartier a Briton, who sailed unto the lande set in fiftie degrees of latitude to the north, which is called *New France*: of the which landes hitherto it is not thoroughly knowne whether they doe toyne with the firme lande of *Florida* and *nova Hispania*, or whether they be separated & divided all by the Sea as Islands: and whether that by that way one may goe by Sea unto the countrie of *Cathai*: as many yeeres past it was writen unto me by Sebastian Gaboto our countrie man Venetian, a man of great experience & very rare in the art of Navigation, and the knowledge of Cosmographie: who sayled along and beyonde this land of *New France* at the charges of king Henrie the seventh king of Englands: And hee tolde mee that hauing sayled a long tyme West and by North beyonde these landes unto the latitude of 67. degrees and an halfe vnder the North Pole, and at the 11. day of June finding still the open Sea without any maner of impediment, hee thought verily by that way to haue passed on still the way to *Cathai*, which is in the East, and woulde haue done it, if the mutinie of the Shipmaster

Sebastian Gabots letters to Ramusius.

Note.

Hee calleth them Islands.

Sebastian Gabot might haue sailed to Cathai.

Shipmaster and mariners had not rebelled and made him so returne homewarves from that place. But it seemeth that God doth yet still reserue this great enterprife for some great Prince, to discover this voyage of *Cathai* by this way: which for the byping of the spiceries from *India* into *Europe* were the most easie and shortest of all other wayes hetherto founde out. And surely this enterprife woulde bee the most glorious and of most importance of all other that can be imagined, to make his name great, & fame immortall to all ages to come, farre more then can bee done by any of all these great troubles and warres, which dayly are vled in *Europe* among the miserable Christian people.

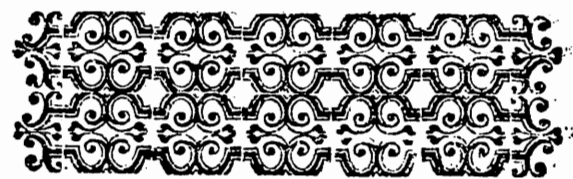
This voyage to Cathay reserved by God for some great Prince.

This way the shortest of all others.

This discovery were a most glorious enterprife.

This much concerning Sebastian Gabotes discoverie may suffice for a present tyme: but shortly, God willing, shall come out in print all his owne mappes & discourtes drawne and written by himselfe, which are in the custodie of the worshipfull master *William Worthington* one of her Maesties Pensioners, who (because so worthe monumentes shoulde not be buried in perpetuall oblivion) is very willing to suffer them to be overseene and published in as good order as may bee, to the encouragement and benefite of our Countreimen.

William Worthington Pensioner.



A declaration of the Indies and landes

discovered, and subdued vnto the Emperour, and the king of Portugale. And also of other partes of the Indies and rich Countries to bee discovered, which the worshipfull master Robert Thorne merchant of London (who dwelt long in the City of Siudia Spaine) exhorted king Henrie the eight to take in hande.

MOST EXCELLENT PRINCE,



Experience poueth that naturally all Princes bee desirous to extend and enlarge their dominions and kingdomes. Wherefore it is not to bee maruelled, to see them euery day procure & same, not regarding any cost, perill, and labour, that may thereby chaunce, but rather it is to bee maruelled, if there be any prince content to liue quiet with his owne dominions. For surely the people would thinke he lacketh the noble courage and spirit of all other. The worlde knoweth that the desires of Princes haue beene so feruent to obtaine their purpose, that they haue adventured and proued things to mans conceiture impossible, the which they haue made possible, and also things difficult haue made facil, and thus to obtaine their purpose haue in maner turned vp and downe the whole worlde so many times, that the people inhabiting in the farthest regio of the occident haue pursued with great desires, labours and perils, to penetrate and enter into the farthest regions of the Orient: And in likewise those people of the said partes of the Orient haue had no lesse labour and desire to enter and penetrate into the farthest land of the Occident, and so following their purchase haue not ceased untill they
B could

could passe no farther by reason of the great Seas. This naturall inclination is cause, that scarcely it may bee saide there is any kingdome stable, nor king quiet, but that his owne imagination, or other Princes his neighbours doe trouble him. God and nature hath provided to your Grace, and to your Gracious progenitors this Realme of Englande, and set it in so fruitefull a place, and within suche limites, that it shoulde seeme to bee a place quiet and aparted from all the foresaide desires. One speciall cause is, for that it is compassed with the Sea : by reason thereof it seemes, this notwithstanding, their desires and noble courages haue been most commonly like vnto others; and with maruellous great labours, costes and perilles, they haue trauelled and passed the Seas making warre not onely with kings and dominions nigh neighbours, but also with them of farre countries, and so hath wonne and conquered many riche and faire Dominions, and amplified this your Graces Realme with great victorie and gloyp. And also nowe of late your Grace hauing like courage and desire, & not without iust cause, to enlarge this your kingdome and demand your limites and tribute of the french king, which at that present hee restrained your Grace in person passed with a great power into France, putting your Graces person to great paine and labour, and without doubt victoriously you had conquered the saide Realme of Fraunce, as yee began; if your aduersarie had not reconciled him, and knowledged your Graces right and title: and so promised truely to pay the tribute then due, and fulfill your request in all thinges; and also desired your Grace for peace, the which of your clemencie you could not refuse.

Nowe I considering this your noble courage and desire, & also perceiuing that your Grace may at your pleasure, to your greater gloyp, by a godly meane, with little cost, perill, or labour to your Grace or any of your Subiectes, amplifye and enrich this your saide Realme, I knowe it is my bounde dutie to manifest this secreete vnto your Grace, which

which hitherto as I suppose hath bene hid : which is that ^{Note.} with a small number of shippes there may bee discovered diuers newe landes and kingdomes, in the whiche without doubt your Grace shall winne perpetuall gloyp and your Subiects infinite profite. To which places there is left one way to discover, which is into the North: For that of the foure parts of the worlde it seemeth threepartes are discovered by other Princes. For out of Spaine they haue discovered all the Indies and Seas Occidental, and out of Portugale all the Indies and Seas Oriental: So that by this part of the Orient and Occident, they haue compassed the worlde. For the one of them departing toward the Orient, and the other toward the Occident, met againe in the course or way of the middelt of the day, and so then was discovered a great part of the same Seas and coastes by the Spaniards. So that nowe rest to bee discovered the saide North partes, the which it seemeth to mee, is onely your charge and duettie. Because the situation of this your Realme is thereunto neereft and aptest of all other: and also for that you haue already taken ^{Note.} it in hande: And in mine opinion, it will not seeme well to leaue so great and profitable an enterpryse, seeing it may so easily and with so little coste, labour, and daunger, bee followed and obtained: Though heeretofore your Grace hath made thereof a prooffe, and founde not the commoditie thereby as you trusted, at this time it shall bee no impediment. For there may bee nowe provided remedies for thinges, then lacked, and the inconueniences and lettes remooued that then were cause your Graces desire tooke no full effect, which is, the courses to be changed, and followe the foresaid new courses. And concerning the mariners, shippes, and prouision, an order may be deuised and taken meete and conuenient much better then hetherto. By reason whereof, and by Gods grace, no doubt your purpose shall take effect. Surely the reste herein will bee nothing, in comparison to the great profite.

The labour is much lesse, yea nothing at all, where so great honour and glory is hoped for: and considering well the courses, truly the danger & way is shorter to vs, then to Spaine or Portugall, as by euident reasons appeareth. And nowe to declare some thing of the commoditie and vtilitie of this Nauigation and discovering, it is very cleere and certaine, that the Seas that commonly men say, that without great danger, difficultie and perill, yea rather it is impossible to passe, those same Seas bee nauigable and without any such daunger, but that shippes may passe and haue in them perpetuall cleerenesse of the day without any darknesse of the night: which thing is a great commoditie for the nauigants, to see at all times rounde about them, as well the safegardes as daungers, and howe great difference it is betweene the commoditie and perilles of other which lease the most parte of euery foure and twentie houres the saide light, and goe in darknesse groping their way, I thincke there is none so ignozant but perceiue this more plainely, then it can bee expressed: yea what a vantage shall your Graces Subiects haue also by this light to discover the strange landes, countries, and coastes, for if they that bee discovered to sayle by them in darknesse is with great danger, muche more then the coastes not discovered be dangerous to trauell by night or in darknesse. Yet these dangers or darknesse hath not letted the Spaniards and Portugals and other, to discover many vnknown realmes to their great perill, which considered (and that your Graces Subiectes maye haue the saide lighte) it will seme your Graces subiects to bee without actiuitie or courage, in leauing to doe this glorious and noble enterprise. For they being past this little way which they named so dangerous, which may bee ii, or iii. leagues before they come to the Pole, and as much more after they passe the Pole, it is cleere that from thence forth the Seas and landes are as temperat as in these partes, & that then it may be at the will and pleasure of the marriners, to choos whether they will saile by the coastes

coastes that bee colde, temperate, or hot. For they being past the pole, it is plaine they maye decline to what parte they list. If they will goe towarde the Orient they shall intop the regions of all the Tartarians that extende towarde the midday, and from thence they may goe and proceede to the lande of the Chinas, & from thence to the lande of Cathaio orientall, which is of all the mayne lande most orientall that can bee reckoned from our habitation. And if from thence they doe continue their nauigation, following the coaste that returns towarde the occident, they shall fall in Melassa, and so in all the Indies which we call orientall, and following that way may returne hither by the Cape of Bona Speranza: and thus they shall compasse the whole worlde. And if they will take their course after they be past the pole, towarde the occident, they shall goe in the backe side of the new found lande, which of late was discovered by your Graces subiectes, vntill they come to the backside and South seas of the Indies occidentalls. And so continuing their viage they may returne thowre the straite of Magallanas to this countrey, and so they compasse also the worlde by that way, and if they goe this thirde way, and after they bee past the pole, goe right towarde the pole Antartike, and then decline toward the lands and Islands situated betweene the Tropikes, and vnder the Equinoctial, without doubt they shall find there the richest lands and Islands of the worlde of Golde, precious stones, balmes, spices, and other thinges that wee here esteeme most: which come out of strang countreys, & may returne the same way. By this it appeareth your Grace haue not onely a great aduantage of the riches, but also your subiectes shall not trauell halfe of the way that other doe, which goe rounde about as aforesaide.

*The booke made by the right worship-
full Master Robert Thorne in the yere 1527. in Si-
bill to Doctour ley, Lorde ambassadour for King Hen-
rie the eight to Charles the Emperour, being an
information of the parts of the world, disco-
uered by him and the King of Portin-
gale: And also of the way to the
Moluccaes by the
north,*



*R*ight noble & reuerende in x^e.
I receiued your letters, & haue
procured and sent to knowe of
your seruant, who your Lordes
ship wrote shoulde bee sicke in
Merchena. I can not there of
els where heare of him, whou
he be returned to you, or gone
to S. Lucar & thipt. I can not
iudge but that of some contagio

ous sicknes he died, so that the owner of the house for defa-
ming his house woulde bury him secretly, and not be known
of it. For such things haue oftentimes happened in this coun-
tre.

Also to write to your Lordshippe of the newe trade
of spicerie of the Emperour, there is no doubt but that the I-
landes are fertile of cloues, nutmegs, mace, and cinnamon:
And that the saide Ilandes, with other there about, abounde
in gold, Rubies, Diamonds, Balalles, Granates, iacincts &
other stones & pearles, as al other lāds, that are vnder & nere
y equinoctial. For we see, where nature giueth any thing, she
is no nigarde. For as with vs and other, that are apated
from the sayde equinoctial, our mettalles be lead, rynnne, and
pyon, so theirs be golde, siluer, and copper. And as our
frutes and graines be aples, nuttes, and come, so theirs bee
bates, nutmegges, pepper, cloues, and other spices. And as
wee

wee haue icete, amber, cristall, iasper, and other like stones,
so haue they rubies, diamonds, balalles, saphires, Iacincts,
and other like. And though some say that of such p^{re}ciou
mettals, graines or kind of spices, and p^{re}ciou stones, the a-
boundance and quantitie is nothing so great, as our mettals,
frutes or stones aboue rehearsed: yet if it be well considered,
how the quantitie of the earth vnder the equinoctial to both
the tropicall lines, (in which space is founde the said golde,
spices and p^{re}ciou stones) to be as much in quantitie, as al-
most all the earth from the tropickes to both the poles: it can
not be denied but there is more quantitie of the said mettels,
frutes, spices, and p^{re}ciou stones, then there is of the other
mettels and other thinges before rehearsed. And I see
that the p^{re}ciounesse of these thinges is measured after the
distance that is betweene vs, and the thinges that we haue ap-
petite vnto. For in this nauigation of the spicerie was disco-
uered, that these Ilandes nothing set by golde, but set more
by a kniue and a nayle of pyon, then by his quantitie of Golde:
and with reason, as the thing more necessarie for mans ser-
uice. And I doubt not but to them shoulde bee as p^{re}ciou
our corne and seedes, if they might haue them, as to vs
their spices: and likewise the p^{re}ces of glasse that heare wee
haue counterfayted are as p^{re}ciou to them, as to vs their
stones: which by experience is scene daylie by them that
haue trade thither. This of the riches of those countries is
sufficient.

Touching that your Lordship wrote, whether it may be
profitable to the Emperour or no, it may be without doubt
of great profit: if as the king of Portingall doth, he woulde
become a marchant, and prouide shippes and their lading,
and trade thither alone, and defende the trade of these Ilands
for himselfe. But other greater busines withholdeth him
from this. But still, as nowe it is begunne to bee occupied, it
woulde come to much. For the shippes comming in safetie, there
woulde thither many euery yere, of whiche to the Empe-
rou is due of all the wares and Iuelles that come from
thence.

thence the fifth part for his custome cleare without any cost. And besides this he putteth in every flote a certayn quantitie of money, of whiche hee enioyeth of the gaines pounce and poundes like as other aduencurers doe. In a flote of three shippes and a carauell that went from this cite armed by the marchauntes of it, which departed in Aprill last past, I and my partener haue 1400. Ducates that we employed in the sayde fleete, principally for that two Englishmen friends of mine, which are somewhat learned in Cosinographie, shoulde goe in the same shippes, to bring mee certaine relation of the situation of the country, and to bee experte in the Nauigation of those seas, and there to haue informations of many other things, and aduise that I desire to know especially. Seeing in these quarters are shippes, and marriners of that country, and cardes by which they sayle, though much unlike ours: that they shoulde procure to haue the said Cards, and learne howe they vnderstande them, and especially to know what Nauigation they haue for those Ilandes Northwardes, and Northeastward.

For if from the sayde Ilandes the Sea do extende, without interposition of lande, to sayle from the North poynt to the Northeast poynt 1700. or 1800. leagues, they shoulde come to the Newe founde Ilandes that wee discovered, and so wee shoulde bee neerer to the sayde Spicerie by almost 2000. leagues then the Emperour, or the king of Portugall are. And to aduise your Lordshippe whether of these Spiceries of the King of Portugall or the Emperours is neerer, and also of the titles that eyther of them hath, and howe our Newe founde landes are parted from it, (for that by writing without some demonstration, it were harde to giue any declaration of it,) I haue caused that your Lordshippe shall receyue herewith a little Mappe or Carde of the worlde: the whiche, I feare mee, shall put your Lordshippe to more labour to vnderstande, then mee to make it, only for that it is made in so little roome that it cannot be but obscurely set out, & is desired to be seene in it, & also for I am in this science litle expert: Yet to remedy in part this

difficultie, it is necessary to declare to your Lordshippe my intent, with which I trust you shall perceiue in this card part of your desire, if for that I cannot expresse mine intent, with my declaratiō I doe not make it more obscure.

First, your Lordship knoweth that the Cosmographers haue deuided the earth by 360. degrees in latitude, and as many in longitude, vnder the which is comprehended all the roundnesse of the earth: the latitude being deuided into 4. quarters, ninetie degrees amount to euerie quarter, which they measure by the altitude of the poles, that is the North and South starres, being from the line equinoctiall till they come right vnder the North starre the sayde ninetie degrees: and asmuche from the sayde line equinoctiall to the South starre bee other ninetie degrees. And asmuche more is also from eyther of the sayde starres agayne to the equinoctiall. Which imagined to be rounde, is soone perceiued thus, 360. degrees of latitude to be consumed in the said foure quarters, of ninetie degrees a quarter, so that this latitude is the measure of the worlde from North to South, and from South to North. And the longitude, in which are also counted other 360. is counted from West to East, or from East to West, as in the card is set. The said latitude your Lordship may see marked and deuided in the end of this carde on the left haude. So that if you woulde knowe in what degrees of latitude any region or coast standeth, take a compasse and set the one foote of the same in the equinoctiall line right against the said region, and apply the other foote of the compasse to the sayde region or coast, and then set the sayd compasse at the ende of the carde, where the degrees are deuided, And the one foote of the compasse standing in the line equinoctiall, the other will shewe in the scale the degrees of altitude or latitude that the sayd region is in. Also the longitude of the worlde I haue set out in the nether part of the carde, contayning also 360. degrees: which begin to be cosited after Ptolome and other Cosmographers from an head land called *Capo verde*, which is set against a little crosse made in the part occidentall, where

To knowe the latitudes.