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Francis Bacon Edited with an Excursus on Bacon's Grammar, by G. C. Moore
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NEW ATLANTIS.

WE sayled from Peru, (wher wee had continued by the space of one whole yeare,) for China and Iapan, by the South Sea; taking with us Victuals for twelve Moneths; And had good Windes from the East, though soft and weake, for five Moneths space, and more. But 5 then the Winde came about, and setled in the West for many dayes, so as we could make little or no way, and were sometimes in purpose to turne back. But then againe ther arose Strong and Great Windes from the South, with a Point East; which carried us up, (for all that we could doe) 10 towards the North: By which time our Victualls failed us, though we had made good spare of them. So that finding our selves, in the Midst of the greatest Wildernesse of Waters in the World, without Victuall, we gave our Selves for lost Men, and prepared for Death. Yet we did lift up our Harts 15 and Voices to God above, who *sheweth his Wonders in the Deepe*; Beseeching him of his Mercy, that as in the Beginning He discovered the Face of the Deepe, and brought forth Dry-Land; So he would now discover Land to us, that we mought not perish. 20

And it came to passe, that the next Day about Evening, we saw within a Kenning before us, towards the North, as

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it were thick Cloudes, which did put us in some hope of Land ; Knowing how that part of the South Sea was utterly unknowne ; And might have Islands, or Continents, that hithertoo were not come to light. Wherefore we bent our
 5 Course thither, wher we saw the Appearance of Land, all that night ; And in the Dawning of the next Day, we might plainly discerne that it was a Land ; Flatt to our sight, and full of Boscage ; which made it shew the more Darke. And after an Houre and a halfs Sayling, we entred into a good
 10 Haven, being the Port of a faire City ; Not great indeed, but well built, and that gave a pleasant view from the Sea : And we thinking every Minute long, till we were on Land, came close to the Shore, and offred to land. But straightwayes we saw divers of the People, with Bastons in their
 15 Hands, (as it were) forbidding us to land ; Yet without any Cries or Fiercenesse, but onely as warning us off, by Signes that they made. Whereupon being not a little discomforted, we were advising with our selves, what we should doe.

During which time, ther made forth to us a small Boate,
 20 with about eight Persons in it ; wherof One of them had in his Hand a Tipstaffe of a yellow Cane, tipped at both ends with Blew, who came aboard our Shipp, without any shew of Distrust at all. And when he saw one of our Number, present himselfe somewhat afore the rest, he drew forth a
 25 little Scroule of Parchment, (somewhat yellower then our Parchment, and shining like the Leaves of Writing Tables, but otherwise soft and flexible,) and delivered it to our foremost Man. In which Scroule were written in Ancient Hebrew, and in Ancient Greeke, and in good Latine of the
 30 Schoole, and in Spanish, these words ; *Land yee not, none of you ; And provide to be gone, from this Coast, within sixteene daies, except you have further time given you. Meanewhile, if you want Fresh Water, or Victuall, or helpe for your Sick,*

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THEY APPROACH LAND.

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or that your Ship needeth repaire, write downe your wants, and you shall have that, which belongeth to Mercy. This Scroule was Signed with a Stampe of Cherubins Wings, not spred, but hanging downwards; And by them a Crosse. This being delivered, the Officer returned, and left onely a 5
Servant with us to receyve our Answere.

Consulting hereupon amongst our Selves, we were much perplexed. The Deniall of Landing, & Hasty Warning us away, troubled us much; On the other side, to finde that the People had Languages, and were so full of Humanity, 10
did comfort us not a little. And above all, the Signe of the Crosse to that Instrument, was to us a great Reioycing, and as it were a certaine Presage of Good. Our Answer was in the Spanish tongue; *That for our Shipp, it was well; For we had rather mett with Calmes, and contrary windes, then 15
any Tempests. For our Sick, they were many, and in very ill Case; So that if they were not permitted to Land, they ran danger of their Lives.* Our other Wants we sett downe in particular, adding; *That we had some little store of Merchandize, which if it pleased them to deale for, it might 20
supply our Wants, without being chargeable unto them.* We offred some Reward in Pistoletts unto the Servant, and a peece of Crimson Velvett to be presented to the Officer: But the Servant tooke them not, nor would scarce looke upon them; And so left us, and went back in another little 25
Boate, which was sent for him.

About three Houres after we had dispatched our Answear, ther came towards us, a Person (as it seemed) of place. He had on him a Gowne with wide Sleeves, of a kinde of Water Chamolett, of an excellent Azure Colour, farre more 30
glossy then ours: His under Apparell was Green; And so was his Hatt, being in the forme of a Turban, daintely made, and not so huge as the Turkish Turbans; And the

Lockes of his Haire came downe below the Brimms of it.
 A Reverend Man was he to behold. Hee came in a Boate,
 gilt in some part of it, with foure Persons more onely in
 that Boate; And was followed by another Boate, wherein
 5 were some Twenty. When he was come within a Flight-
 shott of our Shipp, Signes were made to us, that we should
 send forth some to meet him upon the Water; which we
 presently did in our Shipp-Boate, sending the principall Man
 amongst us save one, and foure of our Number with him.
 10 When we were come within sixe yards of their Boate,
 they called to us to stay, and not to approach further; which
 we did. And therupon the Man, whom I before described,
 stood up, and with a loud voice, in Spanish, asked; Are
 yee Christians? We answered; We were; fearing the lesse,
 15 because of the Crosse we had seen in the Subscription. At
 which Answer the said Person lift up his Right Hand
 towards Heaven, and drew it softly to his Mouth, (which is
 the Gesture they use, when they thank God;) And then
 said: If yee will sweare, (all of you,) by the Meritts of the
 20 Saviour, that yee are no Pirates; Nor have shed blood,
 lawfully, nor unlawfully, within fourtie daies past; you may
 have License to come on Land. Wee said; Wee were all
 ready to take that Oath. Wherupon one of those that were
 with him, being (as it seemed) a Notary, made an Entry of
 25 this Act. Which done, another of the Attendants of the
 Great Person, which was with him in the same Boate, after
 his Lord had spoken a little to him, said aloud; My Lord
 would have you know, that it is not of Pride, or Greatnes,
 that he commeth not aboard your Shipp; But for that, in
 30 your Answer, you declare, that you have many Sick
 amongst you, he was warned by the Conservatour of Health
 of the Citty that he should keepe a distance. We bowed
 our selves towards him, and answ[er]ed; Wee were his

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THEY ARE BROUGHT ASHORE.

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humble Servants; And accounted for great Honour, and singular Humanity towards us, that which was allready done; But hoped well, that the Nature of the Sicknes of our Men was not infectious. So he returned; And a while after came the Notary to us aboard our Ship; 5 Holding in his hand a Fruit of that Cuntry, like an Orenge, but of colour between Orenge-tawney and Scarlett; which cast a most excellent Odour. He used it (as it seemeth) for a Preservative against Infection. He gave us our Oath; *By the Name of Iesus, and his Merits*: And after told us, 10 that the next day, by sixe of the Clocke, in the Morning, we should be sent to, and brought to the Strangers House, (so he called it,) wher we should be accommodated of things, both for our Whole, and for our Sick. So he left us; And when we offred him some Pistoletts, he smiling 15 said; He must not be twice paid for one Labour: Meaning (as I take it) that he had Salary sufficient of the State for his Service. For (as I after learned) they call an Officer, that taketh Rewards, Twice-paid.

The next Morning earely, ther came to us the same 20 Officer, that came to us at first with his Cane, and told us; He came to conduct us to the Strangers House; And that hee had prevented the Houre, because we might have the whole day before us, for our Businesse. For (said he) If you will follow my Advice, ther shall first goe with me some 25 few of you, and see the place, and how it may be made convenient for you; And then you may send for your Sick, and the rest of your Number, which yee will bring on Land. We thanked him, and said; That this Care, which he tooke of desolate Strangers, God would reward. And so sixe of 30 us went on Land with him: And when we were on Land, he went before us, and turned to us, and said; He was but our Servant, and our Guide. Hee ledd us through three

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NEW ATLANTIS.

faire Streets ; And all the way we went, ther were gathered
 some People on both sides, standing in a Rowe ; But in so
 civill a fashion, as if it had beene, not to wonder at us, but
 to welcome us : And divers of them, as we passed by them,
 5 put their Armes a little abroad ; which is their Gesture,
 when they bid any welcome.

The Strangers House is a faire and spacious House,
 built of Brick, of somewhat a blewer Colour then our Brick ;
 And with handsome windowes, some of Glasse, some of a
 10 kinde of Cambrick oyl'd. He brought us first into a faire
 Parlour above staires, and then asked us ; What Number of
 Persons we were ? And how many sick ? We answered, We
 were in all, (sick and whole,) one and fifty Persons, whereof
 our sick were seventeene. He desired us to have patience
 15 a little, and to stay till he came back to us ; which was
 about an Houre after ; And then hee led us to see the
 Chambers, which were provided for us, being in number
 nineteene. They having cast it (as it seemeth) that foure
 of those Chambers, which were better then the rest, might
 20 receive foure of the principall Men of our Company ; And
 lodge them alone by themselves ; And the other 15
 Chambers were to lodge us two and two together. The
 Chambers were handsome and cheerefull Chambers, and
 furnished civilly. Then he ledd us to a long Gallery, like a
 25 Dorture, where hee shewed us all along the one side (for the
 other side was but Wall and Window,) seventeene Cells,
 very neat ones, having partitions of Cedar wood. Which
 Gallery, and Cells, being in all fourty, (many more then we
 needed,) were instituted as an Infirmary for sick Persons.
 30 And he told us withall, that as any of our Sick waxed well,
 he might be removed from his Cell, to a Chamber : For
 which purpose, there were sett forth ten spare Chambers,
 besides the Number we spake of before. This done, he

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IN THE STRANGERS' HOUSE.

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brought us back to the Parlour, and lifting up his Cane a little, (as they doe when they give any Charge or Commaund) said to us ; Yee are to know, that the Custome of the Land requireth, that after this day, and too morrow, (which we give you for removing of your people from your Ship,) you 5 are to keepe within dores for three daies. But lett it not trouble you, nor doe not think your selves restrained, but rather left to your Rest and Ease. You shall want nothing, and there are sixe of our People appointed to attend you, for any Busines you may have abroad. Wee gave him 10 thanks, with all Affection and Respect, and said ; God surely is manifested in this Land. Wee offred him also twenty Pistoletts ; But he smiled, and onely saide ; What? twice paid ! And so he left us.

Soone after our Dinner was served in ; Which was right 15 good Viands, both for Bread and Meate : Better then any Collegiate Diett, that I have knowne in Europe. We had also Drinke of three sorts, all wholesome and good ; Wine of the Grape ; A Drink of Graine, such as is with us our Ale, but more cleare : And a kinde of Sider made of a Fruit 20 of that Cuntry ; A wonderfull pleasing and Refreshing Drink. Besides, ther were brought in to us, great store of those Scarlett Orenge, for our Sick ; which (they said) were an assured Remedy for sicknes taken at Sea. Ther was given us also, a Boxe of small gray, or whitish Pills, which 25 they wished our Sicke should take, one of the Pills, every night before sleepe ; which (they said) would hasten their Recovery.

The next day, after that our Trouble of Carriage, and Removing of our Men and Goods out of our Shipp, was 30 somewhat settled and quiett, I thought good to call our Company together, and when they were assembled, said unto them ; My deare Friends ; Let us know our selves, and

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how it standeth with us. We are Men cast on Land, as
 Ionas was, out of the Whales Belly, when we were as buried
 in the Deepe: And now we are on Land, wee are but
 between Death and Life; For we are beyond, both the Old
 5 World, and the New; And whether ever wee shall see
 Europe, God onely knoweth. It is a kinde of Miracle hath
 brought us hither: And it must bee little lesse, that shall
 bring us hence. Therefore in regard of our Deliverance
 past, and our danger present, and to come, let us looke up
 10 to God, and every man reforme his owne wayes. Besides
 we are come here amongst a Christian People, full of Piety
 and Humanity: Let us not bring that Confusion of face
 upon our selves, as to shew our vices, or unworthinesse
 before them. Yet there is more. For they have by Com-
 15 mandement, (though in forme of Courtesie) Cloistered us
 within these Walls, for three dayes: Who knoweth, whether
 it be not, to take some tast of our manners and conditions?
 And if they finde them bad, to banish us straight-wayes; If
 good, to give us further time. For these Men, that they
 20 have given us for Attendance, may withall have an eye upon
 us. Therefore for Gods love, and as we love the weale of
 our Soules and Bodies, let us so behave our selves, as wee
 may be at peace with God, and may finde grace in the Eyes
 of this People. Our Company with one voice thanked me
 25 for my good Admonition, and promised me to live soberly
 and civilly, and without giving any the least occasion of
 Offence. So we spent our three dayes ioyfully, and without
 care, in expectation what would be done with us, when they
 were expired. During which time, we had every houre ioy
 30 of the Amendment of our Sick; who thought themselves
 cast into some Dvine Poole of Healing; They mended so
 kindly, and so fast.

The Morrow after our three dayes were past, ther came

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THEY HAVE LEAVE TO STAY SIX WEEKS. 9

to us a new Man, that we had not seen before, clothed in
 Blew as the former was, save that his Turban was white,
 with a small red Crosse on the Topp. He had also a
 Tippet of fine Linnen. At his Comming in, he did bend
 to us a little, and put his Armes abroad. Wee of our parts 5
 saluted him in a very lowly and submissive manner; As
 looking that from him, wee should receyve Sentence of Life,
 or Death: He desired to speak with some few of us:
 Wherupon sixe of us onely staid, and the rest avoyded the
 Roome. He said; I am by Office Governer of this House 10
 of Strangers, and by Vocation I am a Christian Priest; And
 therfore am come to you, to offer you my service, both as
 Strangers, and chiefly as Christians. Some things I may
 tell you, which I thinke you will not be unwilling to heare.
 The State hath given you Licence to stay on Land, for the 15
 space of sixe weekes: And let it not trouble you, if your
 occasions aske further time, for the Law in this point is not
 precise; And I doe not doubt, but my selfe shall be able,
 to obtaine for you such further time, as may be convenient.
 Yee shall also understand, that the Strangers House is at 20
 this time Rich, and much aforehand; For it hath layd up
 Revenew these 37 yeares: For so long it is, since any
 Stranger arrived in this part: And therfore take yee no
 care; The State will defray you all the time you stay:
 Neither shall you stay one day the lesse for that. As for 25
 any Merchandize yee have brought, yee shall be well used,
 and have your returne, either in Merchandize, or in Gold
 and Silver: For to us it is all one. And if you have any
 other Request to make, hide it not. For yee shall finde,
 we will not make your Countenance to fall, by the Answer 30
 ye shall receive. Onely this I must tell you, that none of
 you must goe above a Karan, (that is with them a Mile and an
 halfe) from the walles of the Citty, without especial leave.

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NEW ATLANTIS.

We answered, after we had looked awhile one upon another, admiring this gracious and parent-like usage; That we could not tell what to say: For wee wanted words to expresse our Thankes; And his Noble free Offers left us
 5 nothing to aske. It seemed to us, that we had before us a picture of our Salvation in Heaven: For wee that were a while since in the Iawes of Death, were now brought into a place, where we found nothing but Consolations. For the Commandement laid upon us, we would not faile to
 10 obey it, though it was impossible, but our Hearts should be enflamed to tread further upon this Happy and Holy Ground. Wee added; That our Tongues should first cleave to the Roofes of our Mouthes, ere we should forget, either his Reverend Person, or this whole Nation, in our
 15 Prayers. Wee also most humbly besought him, to accept of us as his true servants, by as iust a Right, as ever Men on Earth were bounden; laying and presenting, both our Persons, and all we had, at his feete. He said; He was a Priest, and looked for a Priests reward; which was our
 20 Brotherly love, and the Good of our Soules and Bodies. So he went from us, not without teares of Tendernesse in his Eyes; And left us also confused with Ioy and Kindnesse, saying amongst our selves; That wee were come into a Land of Angells, which did appeare to us dayly, and prevent
 25 us with Comforts, which we thought not of, much lesse expected.

The next day about 10. of the Clocke, the Governour came to us againe, and after Salutations, said familiarly; That he was come to visit us; And called for a Chaire, and
 30 satt him downe; And we, being some 10 of us, (the rest were of the meaner Sort; or else gone abroad;) sate down with him. And when we were sett, he began thus. Wee of this Island of Bensalem (for so they call it in their