CAMBRIDGE LIBRARY COLLECTION

Books of enduring scholarly value

Travel and exploration

The history of travel writing dates back to the Bible, Caesar, the Vikings and the Crusaders, and its many themes include war, trade, science and recreation. Explorers from Columbus to Cook charted lands not previously visited by Western travellers, and were followed by merchants, missionaries, and colonists, who wrote accounts of their experiences. The development of steam power in the nineteenth century provided opportunities for increasing numbers of 'ordinary' people to travel further, more economically, and more safely, and resulted in great enthusiasm for travel writing among the reading public. Works included in this series range from first-hand descriptions of previously unrecorded places, to literary accounts of the strange habits of foreigners, to examples of the burgeoning numbers of guidebooks produced to satisfy the needs of a new kind of traveller - the tourist.

The History of Maritime and Inland Discovery

William Desborough Cooley (1795–1883) was a geographer and historian, the author of a collection of influential texts on the development of geographical study, and a key founding member of the Hakluyt Society. First published as a complete set in 1831 as part of Dionysius Lardner's *Cabinet Cyclopaedia*, this is the history in three volumes of the development of the geographical sciences through travel and exploration. Each volume is divided chronologically by historical era, tracing the pursuit of geographical discovery by both land and sea from the Roman Empire to the Himalayan expeditions of the early nineteenth century. Featuring a comprehensive index, this expertly compiled reference text will aid any study of the history of travel and exploration. This first volume covers the period spanning the ancient Greeks to the Middle Ages. Highlights include sections on the development of cartography and the relationship between geography and commerce.

CAMBRIDGE

Cambridge University Press 978-1-108-01166-2 - The History of Maritime and Inland Discovery, Volume 1 William Desborough Cooley Frontmatter <u>More information</u>

> Cambridge University Press has long been a pioneer in the reissuing of out-of-print titles from its own backlist, producing digital reprints of books that are still sought after by scholars and students but could not be reprinted economically using traditional technology. The Cambridge Library Collection extends this activity to a wider range of books which are still of importance to researchers and professionals, either for the source material they contain, or as landmarks in the history of their academic discipline.

Drawing from the world-renowned collections in the Cambridge University Library, and guided by the advice of experts in each subject area, Cambridge University Press is using state-of-the-art scanning machines in its own Printing House to capture the content of each book selected for inclusion. The files are processed to give a consistently clear, crisp image, and the books finished to the high quality standard for which the Press is recognised around the world. The latest print-on-demand technology ensures that the books will remain available indefinitely, and that orders for single or multiple copies can quickly be supplied.

The Cambridge Library Collection will bring back to life books of enduring scholarly value (including out-of-copyright works originally issued by other publishers) across a wide range of disciplines in the humanities and social sciences and in science and technology.

The History of Maritime and Inland Discovery

VOLUME 1

WILLIAM DESBOROUGH COOLEY



CAMBRIDGE UNIVERSITY PRESS

Cambridge, New York, Melbourne, Madrid, Cape Town, Singapore, São Paolo, Delhi, Dubai, Tokyo

Published in the United States of America by Cambridge University Press, New York

www.cambridge.org Information on this title: www.cambridge.org/9781108011662

© in this compilation Cambridge University Press 2010

This edition first published 1830 This digitally printed version 2010

ISBN 978-1-108-01166-2 Paperback

This book reproduces the text of the original edition. The content and language reflect the beliefs, practices and terminology of their time, and have not been updated.

Cambridge University Press wishes to make clear that the book, unless originally published by Cambridge, is not being republished by, in association or collaboration with, or with the endorsement or approval of, the original publisher or its successors in title.



H.inrbould delt

E.Finden faulpt

THE DISCOVERY OF AMERICA. Columbus and his crew returning thanks to 60 d Fase 303

London:

PRINTED FOR LONGMAN, REES, ORME, BROWN & GREEN, PATERNOSTER ROW AND JOHN TAYLOR, UPPER GOWER STREET.

1830.

© in this web service Cambridge University Press

THE

CABINET CYCLOPÆDIA.

CONDUCTED BY THE

REV. DIONYSIUS LARDNER, LL.D. F.R.S. L.&E

M.R.I.A. F.L.S. F.Z.S. Hon. F.C.P.S. M.Ast.S. &c. &c.

ASSISTED BY

EMINENT LITERARY AND SCIENTIFIC MEN.

Geography.

THE HISTORY

OF

MARITIME AND INLAND DISCOVERY.

VOL. I.

LONDON;

printed for LONGMAN, REES, ORME, BROWN, AND GREEN, paternoster-row; AND JOHN TAYLOR, upper gower street. 1830.

CONTENTS.

BOOK I.

GEOGRAPHY OF THE ANCIENTS.

CHAP. J.

Introduction. — Wandering Propensity of primitive Man. — Slow Growth of Geography. — The Hebrews. — The Mosaic Genesis. — Simple Cosmology. — The Phœnicians. — Antiquity of their Navigations. — Their Obscurity. — Page 1

CHAP. II.

THE GREEKS. --- HOMERIC AGE.

The first Navigators Pirates. — Slave Trade in Antiquity. — Homer's Knowledge of Greece. — Of the Scythians. — Of Egypt and the Æthiopians. — The Ships of the Homeric Age. — The Mythic Regions of the West. — Voyage of Ulysses. — The Cyclops. — Isles of Circe and of Æolus. — Ends of the Ocean and Land of Darkness. — The wandering Isles. — Scylla, Charybdis, and the Sirens. — Siculi and Sicani. — Trinacria. — Homer actually ignorant of the West. — Hesiod. — King Latinus. — The Eridanus. — Argonautic Expedition. — Its Authenticity. — The Euxine known early to the Pelasgians. — The Golden Fleece. — Return of Jason variously related. — The Orphic Account. — Iernis mentioned. — The Cimmerians of the West. — Explanation of the Mythology. — Elysium and Happy Islands of the West. — Summary. — 10

CHAP. III.

GREEKS CONTINUED. - HISTORIC AGE.

Systems of early Greek Philosophers. — Herodotus. — His literary Ardour and Success. — His Travels. — Describes the Scythians. — Received Intelligence respecting the Arimasps and Griffons. — In vain sought the Hyperboreans. — Effect of Climate on the Growth of Horns. — Extent of the Knowledge he acquired from the Scythians. — The Cimmerians of the Bosphorus. — Their Origin conjectured. — The Caspian Sea. — Herodotus acquainted with the Bactrians, and with India. — Eastern Æthiopians. — The great Ants of India which guard the Gold. — Egypt. — The Automoles or Exiles. — Route up the Nile, and to Bornou. — Journey of the Nasamones to the Niger. — Alleged Circumnavigation of Africa under King Nechos. — Voyage of Sataspes. — Herodotus ignorant of the Wést.

A 3

vi

CONTENTS.

- The River Eridanus and the Riphæan Mountains. - Commercial Enterprise of the Greeks. - Summary. - Page 26

CHAP. IV.

THE GREEKS CONTINUED.

CHAP. V.

GREEKS CONTINUED.

Expedition of Alexander. - Policy of that Conqueror. - Enters India. -Resolves to explore the Persian Gulf. - The March down the Indus. -Næarchus embarks. - Suffers great Hardships. - Imagines himself at the Equator. - The Greeks dismayed at the Appearance of a Whale. -Famished in the midst of Turtle. - Successful Termination of the Voyage. - Preparations made to explore the Coasts of Arabia. - Arrested by the Death of Alexander. - Grand Views of that Prince. - Remarks of the Macedonians in India. - Division of the People into Castes. -Honey made without Bees. - Elephants. - Use of Umbrellas. - The Banyan Trees. - The Faquirs. - Self-devotion to the Flames. - City of Palibothra. -- Its Situation. -- Indian Fables. -- Respect paid to Monkeys. - The Greeks distorted foreign Names. - Voyage of Jambolo to Ceylon. - His Remarks on the People. - Taprobane or Ceylon variously described. - Accounts of the Ancients reconciled. - The Names of that Island. - Commerce between Egypt and the East. - Geography flourished in the commercial City of Alexandria. - Eratosthenes mentions Thinæ. - Agatharchides. - Describes Abyssinia. - Wealth of the Sabæans. - Eudoxus of Cyzicus. - Sails to India. - Driven to the Coast of Africa. - Finds the supposed Wreck of a Ship from Gades. - Banished from Egypt. - Resolves to reach India by the Ocean. - Sails from Gades. - His Misfortunes. - Repeats the Attempt. - His Fate and Character. 57

CHAP. VI.

THE GREEKS CONTINUED.

The Roman Conquests. - Strabo. - His Knowledge of the West. - The Turdetani in Spain. - Anthropophagi in Ireland. - The Sarmatians. -

CONTENTS.

vii

The Sinds or Indians on the Bosphorus. — The Sigyni. — The Gipsies. — Indians in Lycia. — Nations of the Caucasus. — The Caspian Sea supposed to join the Ocean. — Expeditions of Ælius Gallus into Arabia and Æthiopia. — Habitable and uninhabitable Zones. — Obstinate Incredulity of Strabo. — Britain visited by Cæsar. — Its Population. — The Romans reach the Baltic. — The Cimbri. — Scandinavia and Norway mentioned by Pliny. — Tacitus names the Swedes. — The Arimphæi. — Grand Characteristics of the Northern Nations. — March of Cornelius Balbus into the Interior of Africa. — And of Suetonius Paulinus across Mount Atlas. — King Juba's Account of the Nile and Niger. — The Fortunate Isles.— Various Statements reconciled. — Page 78

CHAP. VII.

DISCOVERY OF THE MONSOONS.

Hippalus. — Increased Trade with India. — Course pursued. — Periplus of Arrian. — His accurate Account of the Indian Peninsula. - 100

CHAP. VIII.

PTOLEMY.

Increased Intercourse of Nations under the Romans. — Advantages enjoyed by Ptolemy. — Applies the Measures of Longitude and Latitude. — His Errors. — Displays an Acquaintance with the Caspian Steppes. — Progress Westward of the Scythian Nations. —Their Origin. — Towns on the River Niger. — Ptolemy's Acquaintance with the East. — His frequent Repetitions.—Supposed the Continents of Asia and Africa to unite in the Southern Ocean. — The Sinæ and the Seres must have been the Chinese. — The Silk Trade. — Allusion to the Tatars. —The Stone Tower in the Belurtag: — Testimonies of the Chinese Writers. — Roman Embassy to China. — The Name of Silk. — Of China. — Antiquity of the Trade with China. — Merits of Ptolemy. — Conclusion. _ _ _ _ 105

CHAP. IX.

ON THE COMMERCE OF THE ANCIENTS.

Connection between Commerce and Geography. — Trade with India in the Hands of the Arabians. — Their Wealth and Luxury. — Cinnamon. — Ignorance as to the Country which produced it. — Known to Moses. — Supposed to grow in Arabia and in Africa. — Pliny's Account. — Antiquity of Trade in the Eastern Seas. — Pirate Nations of the East. — Productions of the Moluccas mentioned by Plautus. — Early Commerce of the Phœnicians examined. — Tin brought to Egypt from India. — The Cassiterides — Never known. — Direct Trade between Phœnicia and the West improbable. — Carthage. — Never aimed at a distant carrying Trade. — Amber. — Brought to Greece from the Adriatic. — Mythical Connection of the Eridanus and Amber. — Trade in Europe. — Conclusion. 123

CHAP. X.

MYTHIC GEOGRAPHY OF THE HINDOOS, AND ITS CONNECTION WITH GRECIAN MYTHS.

Mount Meru. — The Seven Dwipas or Islands. — The Quarters of the Heavens, how named. — The White Island of the West: its triple

viii

CONTENTS.

Nature. — Gold, Silver, and Iron Mountains. — The Country of the Sun and Moon. — Auspicious Epithets. — Wide Diffusion of this Belief. — Numerous White Seas. — White Islands of the Greeks. — Trinacrias and Islands of the Happy. — Hecate and triple Divinities of the West. — Hesperia. — The Hyperboreans. — Known generally among the Indo-Teutonic Nations. — Tradition of an Atlantis or Western Island. — Hindoo Geography of the East. — Lands of Gold, Silver, and Brass : misled Ptolemy. — Panchæa. — These Legends still preserved in India and in the West. — Their Influence. — Page 138

BOOK II.

GEOGRAPHY OF THE MIDDLE AGES.

CHAP. I.

THE ARABIANS.

Itineraries of the Romans. — Peutingerian Table. — Cosmas Indicopleustes. — The Words Sint and Hindoo. — The Tsinitzæ. — The Arabians. — Their Conquests — and Commerce. — Early Travellers into China. — Education of the Chinese. — Regulations of their Ports. — First Mention made of Tea. — Chinese eat human Flesh. — Strangers in China. — Canfu. — Uses of the Cocoa-nut Tree. — Kings of India. — The Unicorn. — Sogdiana. — The Alans. — Khazars. — The Fossil Ivory of Bulgar. — Commerce of the Arabians with the North of Europe. — The Interior of Africa colonised by Arabians. — Kingdoms of Ghana and Tocrur. — Lamlam. — The Zinges and Wacwac. — The Perpetual Islands. — Other Islands in the Sea of Darkness. — Voyage of the Almegrurim. — 154

CHAP. II.

TRAVELS OF IBN BATUTA.

Ibn Batuta sets out on the Pilgrimage. — Ascends the Nile. — Returns to Gaza. — The Baths of Tiberias. — The Mosque of the Foot. — Miracles at Meshid Ali. — Shiraz. — Bagdad. — Mecca. — Visits Yemen — and Abyssinia. — The Berbers. — The Zunuj. — Zafar. — The Frankincense Tree. — Ormuz. — Fars. — Second Pilgrimage. — Goes through Upper Egypt to Cairo — Jerusalem — Anatolia. — The Turkomans. — Society called the Brotherhood. — Erzerum. — Fall of Aërolites. — Showers of Fishes. — The Ottoman Princes. — Ibn Batuta goes to Crim. — Desert of Kipjak. — Tatar Camp. — City of Bulgar. — Shortness of the Nights. — Siberian Travelling. — Singular Mode of Traffic. — The Russians. — Ibn Batuta accompanies a Greek Princess to Constantinople. — The Procession. — His Reception. — Account of that City. —Historical Difficulties. —Greek Customs imitated by the Turks. — Pious Wish of El Harawi. 174

CHAP. III.

TRAVELS OF IBN BATUTA CONTINUED.

Ibn Batuta returns to Tatary. — Proceeds to Chorasm. — Singular Custom. — Bokhara. — Its Mosque. — Balkh. — Hindoo Cush. — The Father of

CONTENTS.

the Saints. - The Afghans. - Sind. - Ruins near Lahari. - Mode of levying Troops. - Dehli. - Character of the Emperor. - Ibn Batuta appointed Judge. - Expedient to raise Money. - Narrowly escapes being put to Death. - Turns Faquir. - Chosen Ambassador to China. - Negotiations between the Courts of Pekin and Dehli. - The Embassage sets out. - Attacked by Robbers. - Ibn Batuta taken Prisoner. - His Sufferings and Escape. - City of Barun infested by Yogees. - The Goftars. -Ordeals in India. - Journey to Calicut. - Chinese Junks. - Imperial Treasures lost by Shipwreck. - Ibn Batuta goes to the Maldives. - Is made Judge. - Marries three Wives. - Proceeds to Ceylon. - Ascends Adam's Peak. - King of the Monkeys. - Embarks at Coulan. - Captured by Pirates. - Returns to the Maldives. - Visits Bengal, Sumatra, Tawalisi, - Arrives in China. - Paper Money. - Gog and Magog. - El Khansa. - Tatar Funeral. - Returns to Persia. - Mecca. - Revisits Tangier. - Travels in Spain. - Proceeds to Soudan. - Thagari. - Abu Latin. - Mali. - The Niger. - Hippopotami. - Cannibals. - Timbuctoo. – Kakaw, – Bardama. – Nakda. – Returns, and takes up his Residence in Fez. -- Page 190

BOOK III.

PROGRESS OF GEOGRAPHY IN THE MIDDLE AGES.

CHAP. I.

DISCOVERIES OF THE NORTHMEN.

Antiquity of the Scandinavians. — The Fins. — Northern Crusades. — Turks, Saracens, and Amazons in the North. — Voyage of Other. — Whale Fishery. — Walsten describes the Funerals of the Russians. — The Northmen invade Ireland. — Occupy the Western Isles. — The Whiteman's Land. — Voyage of Madoc. — Welsh Indians. — Iceland discovered. — Relics found there. — Greenland discovered and colonised. — Journey of Hollar Geit. — Old Greenland lost. — Vinland. — Skrælingues or Esquimaux. — Map of the two Zeni. — Friesland. — Grolandia. — The warm Springs and Houses built of Lava. — Canoes of the Esquimaux.— Estotiland and Droceo. — The New World. — Cannibals. — The precious Metals. — 209

CHAP. II.

MAPS OF THE MIDDLE AGES.

General Ignorance. — Missionaries. — Pilgrims. — Adam of Bremen. — Giraldus Cambrensis. — Love of the Marvellous. — Icelandic Sagas. — Surveys. — Old Maps of the British Islands. — Effects of the feudal System. — Doomsday Book. — Maps of the Middle Ages. — Tables of Charlemagne. — Map preserved in Turin. — The Geographer of Ravenna. — Sanudo's Map. — Genoese Navigators. — Isle of Infierno. — The Madeira Islands and the Azores. — Bianco's Map. — Islands of Stokafixa, Antilia, and Man. — Satanaxio. — The Seven Cities. — Benjamin of Tudela. — Caravan Routes through Armenia and Bokhara. — 226

х

CONTENTS.

CHAP. III.

JOURNEY OF CARPINI INTO TATARY.

Rise of the Mongol Empire. — Zingis Khan. — Mongols invade Europe. — Over-run Hungary. — Thought to be Demons. — Their Threats. — Attack the Saracens. — Mission of Ascelin. — Its ill Success. — Letter to the Pope. — Mission of Carpini. — The Camp of Baatu. — Journey to the Residence of the Grand Khan. — Great Hungary. — The Country of the Alans. — The Kangittæ. — Bisermini. — Election of a Grand Khan. — The Ceremonies. — The golden Tent. — Appearance of the Emperor. — Reception of the Friars. — The Hardships they endured. — Description of the Mongols. — Their Character. — Superstitions. — Worship the Moon. — Tribes of the Mongols. — Climate of Mongolia. — Prodigious Showers of Hail. — Christianity among the Chinese. — Prester John. — Combustibles used in War. — Page 241

CHAP. IV.

TRAVELS OF RUBRUQUIS.

Rumoured Conversion of the Mongol Princes. — Letter from Erkaltay to St. Louis. — The King of France sends holy Relics to the Mongols. — Despatches Rubruquis to Sartach. — Germans dwelling on the Black Sea. — Tatar Encampments. — Journey to the Volga. — Desert of Kipjak. — The Akans.—Court of Sartach.—Houses on Carts. — Sartach not a Christian. — Friars sent forward to Baatu Khan. — Obliged to proceed to Caracorum. — The Land of Organum. — Description of the Yak. — Cannibalism in Thibet. — The Court of Mangu Khan. — Europeans in Caracorum. — The Fountain made by William Bouchier. — Christianity among the Uigurs. — Christian Ceremonies imitated in the East. — Chinese Writing. — Islands in the Eastern Sea. — Prester John. — Knowledge of Tatary. — Brigands in the Caucasus. — Journey Home. — Haitho the Armenian. — The Tarsæ, — Tribes of the Mongols. — 259

CHAP. V.

TRAVELS OF MARCO POLO.

The two Poli visit Bolgar. — Go to Bokhara. — Proceed to the Court of the Grand Khan. — Return Home. — Marco Polo travels to China. — His Success. — Favour at Court. — Embassage from Persia. — The Poli permitted to leave China. — Navigate the Indian Seas. — Pass through Armenia. — Their Arrival at Venice. — Expedient to display their Wealth. — War with Genoa. — Marco Polo taken Prisoner. — Writes his Narrative. — Released from Captivity. — Returns Home. — His Account of Asia. — Balkh. — Balaxia. — Cashmeer. — Sartam. — Desert of Lop. — Haunted by evil Spirits. — Their malicious Arts. — Tangut. — Manners of the Tatars. — Interment of the Khans. — The Yak. — Pavilion of the Khan. — His white Horses. — Splendour of his Court. — City of Cambalu. — Its Form and Size. — Palace of the Khan. — Its Parks and Gardens. — 276

CONTENTS.

CHAP. VI.

TRAVELS OF MARCO POLO CONTINUED.

Manji or Southern China. - King Fanfur. - His Overthrow. - Prediction fulfilled .- Marco Polo made Governor of a City. - Siege of Sa-yan-fu. -Services of the Poli. - Great Trade of Sin-gui. - The River Kiang. -City of Kin-sai. - Its Size. - Markets, Canals, and Bridges. - Population. - Police. - Sale of Children. - Port of Zaitun. - Manufacture of Porcelain. - Cannibals in China. - Thibet. - Method of frightening wild Beasts. - Sorcerers. - Salt used as Money. - Musk Gazelles. -Description of Crocodiles. - Superstition in Carazan. - Custom of gilding the Teeth. - Japan famous for its Wealth. - The Tatars fail to conquer it. - The Generals punished. - Country of Ciampa. - Greater Java. -Lesser Java. - The Rhinoceros. - Sago. - Ceylon. - The King's Ruby. - Manners of the Hindoos. - St. Thomas. - Arabian Ports. - Madagas. car. -- The Rokh. -- Abyssinia. -- The North of Europe. -- Merits of Marco Polo. — The Missionaries. — John de Montecorvino visits Persia and India. — Proceeds to China. — Thwarted by the Nestorians. — His Success. - Converts a Mongol Prince. - His great Labours. - Created - Page 293 Archbishop of Cambalu.

CHAP. VII.

ODERIC OF PORTENAU.

Itinerary of Pegoletti. — Caravan Journeys. — Gintarchan. — Sara. — Saracanco. — Organci. — Oltrarra. — Armalecco. — Camexu. —Gamalecco. — Oderic of Portenau. — Trebizond. — Mount Ararat. — Tower of Babel. — Chaldeans. — Martyrdom of four Friars. — Oderic collects their Bones. — Works Miracles. — Forest of Pepper. — Fair of Jaggernaut. — Voluntary Tortures. — Cannibals in Lamouri. — Wealth of Java. — Sago Trees. — Amulets found in Canes. — Shoals of Fish. — Characteristics of the Chinese. — Mode of fishing in China. — Feasts of the Idols. — Valley of the Dead. — The Grand Lama. — Sir John Mandeville. — His Travels fabulous. — Rivers of Rocks. — Islands of Giants. — Lambs of Tatary. — Growth of Diamonds. — Palace of Prester John. — 314

CHAP. VIII.

EMBASSY OF CLAVIJO.

Clavijo appointed Ambassador to the Court of Timur. — Journey through Armenia. — Calmarin. — Tebriz. — Destruction of the Palace. — Privileges of the Genoese. — Sultania. — Commercial Route. — Domghaun — Towers built of human Skulls. — Tatar Mode of posting. — Ambassadors introduced. — The Festivals at Court. — Samarcand. — How peopled. — Its Trade. — Departure of the Embassy. — Death of Timur. — Schildtberger taken Prisoner by the Turks, and subsequently by the Tatars. — His Wanderings. — Expedition to Issibur. — Shah Rokh sends Ambassadors to China. — Journey through the Desert. — Civilisation of the Chinese. — Telegraphs in China. — Turning Towers. — The Imperial Court. — Musical Skill. — Dismissal of the Embassy. — 331

xi

xii

CONTENTS.

CHAP. IX.

EARLY DISCOVERIES OF THE PORTUGUESE.

The Italian Republics. — Their naval Superiority in the Middle Ages. — Improvements in nautical Affairs. — Mariner's Compass discovered. — The Chinese supposed to have been acquainted with it. — And the Arabians. — First Mention of it by a European. — The Spaniards imbibe a Taste for the Luxuries of the East. — Their Wars with the Moors. — Motives to seek a Passage by Sea to India. — The Portuguese commence the Attempt. — Don Henry. — Discovery of Puerto Santo and Madeira. — Story of Macham. — The Canary Islands colonised. — Cape Bojador doubled. — Captives ransomed for Gold Dust. — Voyages of Cada Mosto. — The native Canarians. — The Moors of the Desert. — The Ships believed to be Spirits. — The Salt Trade of the Negroes. — The Senegal. — King Budomel. — His religious Opinions. — Description of the Country near Cape Verd. — Death of Don Henry. — His great Merits. Page 345

CHAP. X.

THE PASSAGE BY THE CAPE DISCOVERED.

The Portuguese erect a Fort on the Gold Coast. — Their Interview with the native Prince. — The Pope's Grant. — Voyage of Diego Cam. — Visits Congo. — Brings home Natives. — King of Congo favours the Christian Faith. — The King of Benin desires Missionaries. — Prince Ogane. — Prester John in Africa. — Origin of this Belief explained. — New Expeditions. — Bartholomew Diaz discovers the Cape of Good Hope. — Covilham and Payva despatched to India. — Covilham visits Sofala. — Ascertains the Practicability of the Passage. — Detained in Abyssinia. — Vasco de Gama. — Arrival at Mozambique. — Quiloa. — Melinda. — Indian Pilot. — Reaches Calicut. — The Zamorin. — Arts of the Moors. — Danger of Gama. — Escapes. — Arrives at Lisbon. — His Reception. 363

CHAP. XI.

COLUMBUS.

Parentage of Columbus. — His Education. — Early Voyages. — Settles in Lisbon. —Marries the Daughter of Perestrello. — Considers the Practicability of sailing to India by the West. — Opinions of his Age. — His Reasonings. — Becomes convinced. — Proposes his Plans to Genoa. — Seeks the Patronage of the King of Portugal. — Flies to Spain. — Applies to the Spanish Court. — Sends his Brother to the Court of England. — His Disappointments. — Despairs of Success. — Is favoured by Isabella. — The Expedition resolved on. — Sails from Palos. — Particulars of the Voyage. — Land discovered. — Fleet visits Cuba. — St. Domingo. — The Ship of Columbus wrecked. — Kindness of the Cacique. — A Fort erected. — The Fleet returns homewards. — Dreadful Storm. — Means taken by Columbus to preserve the Memory of his Discovery. — Arrives in Safety at the Azores. — Reaches Palos. — Received with Enthusiasm. — Proceeds to Court. — Honours conferred on him by Ferdinand. — 381