

V O Y A G E

TO THE

EAST-INDIES AND CHINA;

PERFORMED

BY ORDER OF LEWIS XV.

Between the Years 1774 and 1781.

CONTAINING

A DESCRIPTION OF THE MANNERS, RELIGION, ARTS,  
AND SCIENCES, OF THE INDIANS, CHINESE,  
PEGOUINS, AND OF THE ISLANDERS OF MADAGASCAR;

ALSO

OBSERVATIONS ON THE CAPE OF GOOD HOPE, THE ISLES  
OF FRANCE AND BOURBON, THE MALDIVIAS,  
CEYLON, MALACCA, THE PHILLIP-  
PINES, AND MOLUCCAS.

TRANSLATED FROM THE FRENCH OF

MONSIEUR SONNERAT,

Commissary of the Marine, &c. &c.

By FRANCIS MAGNUS.

VOLUME THE THIRD.

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with vines, on the same plan as the vines at Madeira. They yield a sweet, but indifferent white wine. The French call at the Cape for this wine, which they carry to the Isle of France; as what is exported from Europe to that island is not sufficient for their consumption.

The hill called Constantia, about two leagues from the town, produces a sweet wine, much sought after by all nations, but not so wholesome as pleasant to the palate: it weighs a degree heavier than salt water, which has been always thought the heaviest liquor.

The pearl mountain, at some leagues distance up the country, merits observation. It is one of the highest environs of the Cape, and composed of one single block of granite, split in several places. Near the summit, nature has formed several grottos and basins, where white and yellow rock crystal are to be found. The Cape has also its hot mineral waters. There are two streams, to which  
marvel-

marvellous properties are attributed. One runs thirty leagues, and the other sixty leagues distance from the town; the property of the first is to mark linen in a manner never to be got out, while at the same time it gives to withered herbs their original bloom; so that when they are taken out of the stream, they appear as if they had been fresh gathered. The other mineral, with the same property, has also that of whitening linen in a superior manner, without the use of soap.

The country abounds in a variety of healthy herbs and plants. The Protea argentea, or silver tree, is the only tree of natural growth in this country, and at the same time the only tree which nature has placed at least one hundred leagues inland; all those alleys of oaks, poplars, chestnut, and walnut tree which we so much admire, are the produce of Europe, degenerated at the Cape. The most scarce animals are also the produce of this place: we here find the Caméléopard, the mountain goat, zebras, and the rhinoceros  
with

with two horns; buffalos; also of the largest size; the buse of whose horns are of an enormous weight; lions, tigers, elephants, elks, wolves, wild goats, small goats, whose horns resembled the screw of a wine press; deer, antelopes, Hippopotames on river-horsts, sea-wolves, with a variety of birds of the most exquisite beauty, unnoticed by the major part of writers who have described this place.

The coast abounds with fish and shells, as well as marine plants.

The Hottentots, their neighbours, are grown familiar with the Dutch; their greatest wealth consists in rearing herds of cattle, of which they sell the Hollanders a part. Their principal food is mutton, broiled after the manner of the Buccaneers, which they eat as bread, with fresh meat; sometimes they substitute in its place a small mealy onion which when roasted has the taste of a chestnut; for which reason it is called Hottentot's bread. These