

# OBSERVATIONS

[ TOPOGRAPHICAL,  
MORAL, &  
PHYSIOLOGICAL;

Made in a

# JOURNEY

Through part of the

LOW-COUNTRIES,

*Germany, Italy, and France :*

WITH

A Catalogue of PLANTS not Native of  
*England*, found Spontaneously growing  
in those Parts, and their Virtues.

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By JOHN RAY, Fellow of the  
ROYAL SOCIETY.

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Whereunto is added

A brief Account of *Francis Willughby Esq;*  
his Voyage through a great part of *Spain*.

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L O N D O N:

Printed for John Martyn, Printer to the Royal Society,  
at the Bell in St. Paul's Church-yard, 1673.



of the same Metal in its hand, and in the posture of turning over a Leaf, of which in drollery the People say, that every time it hears the Clock strike, it turneth over a Leaf. The Citizens of *Rotterdam* exercise no Handicraft or Manufacture to trade withal, but all their Riches proceed from their Sea-Trade and Merchandise. They have a very good Port, Ships of great Burthen coming up in deep Channells into the very Town: where they lie secure from all danger, and lade and unlade their Commodities at the Merchants doors. The Government is by a President, four Burgomasters, and twenty four Magistrates or Senators, which they call the *Vroetschap*. These chuse all publick Officers out of their own number. Themselves continue in place during life, and when any one dies, the rest chuse out of the Citizens another into his room. So that the People have no interest or share at all in the Government. The form of Government is most what the same in all the other Cities and Towns of *Holland*, only the number of Counsellours or the *Vroetschap* is in some more, in some less.

Every hour of the day at the ringing of a Bell *Delft*. goes off a Passage-Boat, somewhat like our Pleasure-Barges on the *Thames*, to *Delft*. We took places in one of these, *May 25*. which in two hours time brought us to *Delft*, three *Dutch* miles. This is also a large City, fair and well-built, water runs through many of the Streets. The Stadthouse is a very handsom Structure. Here are two large Churches, the one called the old, the other the new Kirk. In the middle of the Quire of the new Kirk is a stately Monument erected to the Memory of Grave *William* of *Nassau*, Prince of *Orange* ( who was assassinated here ) with this Inscription:



quàm hic lapis capit sanè angustior, Et cui Schola  
 Oriens & Occidens, mare materia triumphorum,  
 universus Orbis theatrum gloriæ fuit: prædonum  
 certa pernicies, commercii felix assertor, familiari-  
 tate utilis non vilis, postquam nautas ac milites du-  
 rum genus paterno & cum efficacia benigno rexit  
 imperio, post L prælia quorum Dux fuit aut pars  
 magna, post insignes supra fidem victorias, post sum-  
 mos infra meritum honores, tandem bello Anglico  
 tantum non victor, certè invictus, x. Aug. Anno  
 Æræ Christianæ CIO IOC LIII. Æt. LVI. vi-  
 vere ac vincere desiit. Fæderati Belgii Patres Heroi  
 optimè merito M. P.

Over his Arms this written,

\* *Urbs Phæbi cineres jactat, sed currus \* honores*  
*Ingreditur quoties egrediturq; mari.*

\* i.e. Del-  
 phi.

\* Phœbi  
 nimirum  
 seu Solis.

One *Jean vander Mere* an Apothecary in this Town  
 hath a *Museum* well stored with natural and arti-  
 ficial Rarities, which we viewed, and therein ob-  
 served among many other things the following  
 particulars. *Zibetta* or the Civet Cat. *Dens Hip-  
 popotami*, as he pretended, though it be a Question  
 whether or no there be any such Animal as the *Hip-  
 popotamus*, *Dentes Phocæ*, *Cornu Gazellæ*, of these  
 we have since that seen in several Cabinets. *Costa  
 Sirenis dicta*, *Cornua hirci Bezoardici*, *Cornua & pe-  
 des Alcis*; This Animal in *English* we call an Elk,  
 I take it to be the same which in *New England* and  
*Virginia* they call a *Moose*, it is of the Deer-kind,  
 the biggest and tallest of that genus. The Horns  
 have no Brow-Antlets, but only a broad palm with  
 several Snags upon it. I have seen one of these  
 Horns at Mr. *Holney's* an Apothecary in *Lewis* that  
 weighed 25 pounds: The Skin of an Elk stufe we  
 saw in the *Great Duke's Gallery* at *Florence*. *Cornu  
 cervi*



*cervi Americani.* The Rattle-Snakes Skin. An Elephants Tail, a very small thing considering the bigness of the Animal. *Lacertus Indicus squamosus.* *Acus piscis* 4 species. A piece of a Rhinocerot's Skin. At the Anatomical Theatre we saw the whole Skin of a young Rhinocerot stuf. The Head of a Dolphin. A Giants tooth, *si credere fas sit.* The Head of a horned Hare. A Chamæleon. A Soland-Goose out of *Greenland.* A Tatou or Armadillo. *Os petrosum Balæne.* A young Whale. A Morfe or Seahorses Head. *Guaina*, a Fish from the Island *Mauritius.* *Petim-buaba* or the Tobacco-pipe Fish. *Orbis echinatus.* *Cancer Moluccanus ex novo Belgio*, which some call the Sea-Spider. *Corallium nigrum sive Antipathes.* *Spongia infundibuli specie.* *Mustela Africana.* Indian Habits, an Indian Saddle, several sorts of Indian Bread, Indian Dice, several antient Idols. The Cup Prince *William* of *Nassau* last drank out of. *Penecillum Sinense.* A Japan Letter written to the Dutch Governour, odly painted. *Passer Brasiliensis.* Several sorts of *Tominio's* or humming Birds. A Feather-Garment from the Streights of *Magellane.* *Siliqua arboris saccifera.* *Nidus avis ex Surat.* *Cancer Americanus.* Many sorts of Indian Tobacco-Pipes from New Belgium. A Dart from *Fretum Davis*, wherewith the Natives kill Fish. A Locust of that sort that *S. J. Baptist* ate in the Wilderness. *Onocrotali caput.* *Rostrum Rhinocerotis avis sive Corvi Indici cornuti* of *Bontius*, which is worth twelve Florens at *Amsterdam.* A Cassawaries or *Emeus* Egg. A Pelecans Skin and Bill. Many sorts of Indian Weapons from *Brasil.* Eggs of an Indian Goose. *Cor Veneris* [a Shell like a *Nerites.*] Star-Stones from *Compostella.* Several Indian and exotick Fruits and Seeds. *Putorius Africanus* with Hairs spotted like the Quills of a Porcupine.

In this City is a Chirurgical and Anatomical Theater, where Lectures are read every Wednesday, and several



several Rarities preserved, as the Skin of a young Rhinocerot stuf, before-mentioned. *Lacertus squamosus* of a different kind from what we had before seen. *Manucodiata seu avis Paradisi nova species*. A flying Squirrel. The Sceleton of a Dolphin. The Tail of an Indian Peacock. The Head of an Elephant. The Horns of a Hare. The Head of a *Babiroussa*; it hath two long Tusks on the lower Jaw, and on the upper two Horns that come out a little above the Teeth and turn up toward the Eyes. In the Entry below hangs a *Groenland* man in his Boat, of which we have seen in several places, particularly in the Trinity-House at *Hull*.

This Town is noted for good earthen Ware, as Stone-Jugs, Pots, &c. of which great Plenty is made here. The Government is by a Prætor, two Burgomasters, seven Eschevins, and forty Senators, which they call here as in other Towns of *Holland*, the *Vroetschap*.

May 28. we went by Boat in an hours time from *Delf* to the *Hague*, which though not walled about is rather a great City than a Village. It hath fair Streets, stately and beautiful Houses, especially about the Palace where the States sit. Near this Town is a large Grove full of pleasant Walks; where we first observed *Monophyllum* growing wild in great plenty. At *Scheveling* a Village by the Sea-Side, a mile from the *Hague*, we found a sort of *Spartum maritimum* much taller and larger than our *English* kind. *Hague.*

From the *Hague* we made an excursion to a Village called *Lausdun*, distant about an hour and halfs riding, famous for the Burial of the Countess of *Zealand* and her 365 Children. The two Brass Basins in which they are reported to have been baptized hang up still in this Church, and over them this Inscription, which contains the History. *Lausdun.*



*Iusta spatiorum dimensione  
Nobilem Urbem molitus,  
Vallo, fossa, muro clausit,  
Portam bonis civibus aperuit.  
Anno Domini MDCX.*

Heidel-  
berg.

July 22. From *Manheim* we rode to *Heidelberg*, just before we entered the Town passing a wooden Bridge over the *Neccar* covered over with a *tedum*, as are also many of the great Bridges in *Switzerland*, to preserve the Timber, as I conceive, from the injuries of the Weather. *Heidelberg*, though none of the greatest Cities, yet is the chief of the *Palatinate*, and for its bigness populous; which is much considering the Devastations made by the late Wars in this Countrey. The Houses are most of Timber, yet handsom and in good repair; which argues the Inhabitants to be industrious and in a thriving condition. It is situate on the right bank of the River *Neccar*, under Hills of considerable highth; by reason of which it cannot be made strong, though it be encompassed with a double Wall and Trench.

In this City are five Jurisdictions, (1.) *Aulica*, under which are all the Princes or Noblemen: of this Jurisdiction the Marshal of the House is President. (2.) *Cancellaria*, under which are all the Councils and other Officers as Advocates, Doctors of Law, &c. (3.) *Bellica*, or the Soldiery: the General is their President. (4.) *Academica*, in which the *Rector magnificus* presides, and (5.) *Civica*. The Members of each Jurisdiction may refuse to be judged by any but their own Judge, before whom the Plaintiff must implead them, according to the Maxim in Law, *Actor sequitur forum rei*. The City is divided into four Quarters, and governed by a *Prætor* and *Burgomasters*. It can raise two Companies of Foot and one of Horse. The *Lutherans* are per-

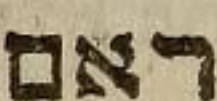


permitted the Exercise of their Religion here, and have lately built them a Church: There are also *Roman Catholics* who have a Church without the Walls.

About the middle of the ascent of the Hill called *Koningstball* stands the Castle where the Prince keeps his Court, a stately Pile and of great capacity, encompassed with a strong Wall and a deep Trench hewn out of the Rock, which upon occasion may be filled with Water. Over the Gate leading into the Palace is a *Dutch* Inscription, signifying the building of it by *Ludovicus V.* in the year 1519. It is not all of one Piece, but since the first Foundation several Buildings have been added by several Princes. One part is called the *English Building*.

Under one of the Towers stood the great Tun, which almost filled a Room. It held 132 Fudders, a Fudder (as we were informed) being equal to 4 *English* Hogsheads. The old Tun is taken in pieces, and there is a new one in building by the Princes Order, which is to contain 150 Fudders or 600 Hogsheads. Being invited by the Princes order we dined in the Palace, where we observed all things carried with little noise and great decency. After dinner his Highness was pleased to call us into his Closet, and shew us many Curiosities, among others (1.) a Purse made of *Alumen plumosum*, which we saw put into a Pan of burning Charcoal till it was thoroughly ignite, and yet when taken out and cool, we could not perceive that it had received any harm at all from the Fire. (2.) Two Unicorns horns each eight or ten foot long, wreathed and hollow to the top. By the way we may note, that these are the Horns of a Fish of the cetaceous kind, (two distinct species whereof you may find described and figured in the *History and Description of the Antilles or Caribee Islands* written in *French* by *R. F. of Tertre*, and the Head of one in *Wormius* his



*Musæum*) not the Horns of a Quadruped as is vulgarly but erroneously thought. Whatever the Antients have delivered, modern Voiages and Enquiries have discovered no other terrestrial Unicorn besides the *Rhinocerot*, which, its most likely, is signified by the word  used in Scripture, which the *Septuagint* render *Μονοκέρως*. (3.) The Imperial Crown and Globe of *Rupertus Imp.* who was of this Family, richly adorned with pretious Stones. (4.) An excellent and well-digested Collection of antient and modern Coins and Medals of all sorts, in which the Prince himself is very knowing. Among the rest we could not but take notice of a *Swedish* Doller of Copper, about the bigness and of the figure of a square Trencher, stamped at the four Corners with the Kings Image and Arms, of that weight, that if a man be to receive ten or twenty pound in such Coin, he must come with a Cart and Team of Horse, to carry it home. The Prince Palatines Name and Titles are *Carolus Ludovicus, Comes Palatinus Rheni, sacri Romani Imperii Elector, utriusq; Bavariæ Dux*. He speaks six Languages perfectly well, viz. *High-Dutch, Low-Dutch, English, French, Italian and Latine*, is greatly beloved of his Subjects of whom he hath a paternal Care, and whose Interest he makes his own.

In the great Church where the famous Library was kept, we observed many fair Monuments of Princes of this Family, some with *Dutch*, most with *Latine* Epitaphs or Inscriptions: Others in the *Franciscans* Church. In *S. Peter's* Church also a great number of Monuments of learned men of the University; which is of good account and one of the best in *Germany*. Three or four Colleges there are built and endowed chiefly for the maintenance and accommodation of poor Students.

The Government of this University is by a Senate, which consists only of 16 Professors. The number  
of



and pictures, of which there are a great number in this City and of excellent workmanship: only I cannot omit to mention two *Statuæ equestres* in brass, much greater than the life; one of *Cosmus I.*, upon the great Piazza: the other of *Ferdinand I.*, in the Piazza of the *Annunciata*, erected by *Ferdinand II.*

The Gallery of the Gr. Duke.

The *Great Dukes* Gallery is in the old Palace, a handsome pile of building. Under ground as it were in Cellars are the Stables: above them fair *Portico's* or *Cloysters* to walk in. Above the *Portico's* are shops for all manner of Artificers to work in for the *Great Duke*. The uppermost story is the *Gallery* properly so called; where in an open walk free for any man to come into stand many ancient and some also modern Statues. Round about on each side this walk hang the pictures of many Princes and other persons, who have been famous in the world for learning or valour. Among the rest we noted the Pictures of *Queen Elizabeth*, *King James*, *Oliver Cromwel* and *Joannes Acutus* before remembred.

The chief Rarities are lockt up in Closets of which we saw four. The things which in our transient view we took more especial notice of were, a huge terrestrial globe and a *Sphæra armillaris*, bigger then that. A brancht Candlestick including many little figures of ivory or white wax appearing through the transparent Amber: An Engine counterfeiting a perpetual motion, like those of *Septalius* at *Milan*. Several stone-tables so curiously inlaid with small pieces of precious stones of divers colours, as to compose figures of plants, fruits and flowers, birds, beasts, and insects, so natural and to the life, that scarce any picture drawn by the hand can excel them. One of these, the best and richest that we have any where seen, both for the excellency of the workmanship, and costliness of the materials, being set with many Rubines and Pearl, they valued at 100000

Florence



*Florence Scudi*, which is more than so many *English* crowns. Several rich Cabinets. That of the greatest value, which they rated at 500000 *Scudi*, was thick set with Gems of the first magnitude; a pearl of an enormous greatness, but not perfectly round; several Topazes almost as big as Walnuts, large Rubines and Emeralds, besides other stones of inferior note, studs of Amethyst, &c. Heer we also saw the nail pretended to be one continued body, half iron, half gold, part of the iron having been turned into gold by one *Thurnhausserus* an Alchymist of *Basil* before mentioned. To us it seem'd counterfeit and not neatly neither, the iron and the gold being but bunglingly joyned together. A large topaz as big as a pullets egg. An entire image made of one *Turchois* stone: Many ancient *Roman* idols of brass; old *Roman* lamps found in Sepulchres of several fashions: A press full of turn'd work of ivory very fine and subtil: Rhinocerot's horns, &c. I omit several pictures and statues wherewith the rooms were adorned, made by the best Masters, and much esteemed by those that have judgment in such things.

In the Armory we saw several remarkables, as the The Ar-  
 Armour of many great persons of *Europe*, among mory.  
 others of *Henry IV* King of *France* and *Charles V*  
 Emperour: *Hannibal's* head-piece (as they called  
 it) It had engraven on it many ancient *Moresco* cha-  
 racters: A suit of *Persian* Armour for a man on  
 horseback, made of little scales of iron. A Load-  
 stone having its poles at the greatest distance I ever  
 saw any: Several *Indian* Royal Vests, made of Fea-  
 thers. Five great Swords such as the Pope uses to  
 bless on *Christmas* day, and send to Princes. A King  
 of *China's* Armour made of Fish-bones, and a wood-  
 en Sword. This sure they mistook for an *Indian*  
 King's, the *Chinese* having of a long time had the  
 use both of iron and guns: *Japan* Arms and Swords  
 without point and broad at the top. Divers *Turkish*  
 scymi-