

BOOK OF THE KNOWLEDGE

*of All the Kingdoms, Lands, and Lordships that are in the World,
and of the Ensigns and Arms of each Country and Lordship,
and of the Kings and Lords who govern them*

A complete modern English rendering

Written by an anonymous Castilian in the fourteenth century
English base: Sir Clements Markham for the Hakluyt Society, 1912,
from the Castilian published by Marcos Jiménez de la Espada, 1877

Modernized sentence-for-sentence, full circuit restored,
including Africa, the Atlantic islands, India, Cathay, Russia, and the return to Seville

28 August 2026

Translator's note

This is a 1:1 modern English rendering of the whole surviving narrative, not a new six-chapter abridgment. The order of the source is kept. Archaic connective tissue (“thence,” “know that,” doubled capitals used as headings) is modernized. Markham’s footnotes, plate numbers, and the place-index are omitted. Where a place can be named securely in modern English, the modern form follows the source name in brackets. Where it cannot, the source form stands.

The original manuscripts paint a device at each sovereignty. Those paintings are not reproduced here; the verbal blazon is. The book begins with a seven-era birth lock and ends at Seville, the city from which the speaker first started.

*Base text: Markham 1912, itself from Jiménez’s Castilian of manuscript S, checked against the itinerary in Marino 1999.
This is not a collated edition of manuscript Z.*

The Book

In the name of God the Father and the Son and the Holy Ghost, three individual persons in one essence, I was born in the kingdom of Castile, in the reign of the most noble King Don Fernando, son of the most noble King Don Sancho, when the era of the world according to the Hebrews was 5065 years, and the era of the deluge 4407, and of Nebuchadnezzar of Chaldea 2502 years, and of Alexander the Great of Macedonia 1617, and of Caesar Emperor of Rome 1343, and of Christ 1304 years, and of the Arabs 706, on the 11th day of the month of September.

There are in the kingdom of the said King 28 cities and many other towns, castles, and villages. Three of the cities are Archbishoprics, namely Seville, Toledo, and Compostella, and 25 are Bishoprics, namely Algeciras, Cordova, Jaen, Murcia, Badajoz, Soria, Ciudad Rodrigo, Zamora, Salamanca, Plasencia, Avila, Segovia, Palencia, Cuenca, Osma, Astorga, Burgos, Leon, Oviedo, Orense, Tuy, Mondoñedo, Calahorra, and Sigüenza. In this kingdom there are four principal chains of mountains: the mountains of Biscay along the coast of the western sea, continued by the heights of Asturias; the mountains of Segovia, where there are many towns and villages; the Sierra Morena; and the Sierra de Segura, where two great rivers have their origin, namely the Guadalquivir, anciently called the Betis, passing by Cordova and Seville and entering the sea at Barrameda, and the Segura, which flows by Murcia and enters the Mediterranean near Guadamar.

In this kingdom there are six great rivers: the Guadalquivir already mentioned; the Tagus, which flows by Toledo and Santarem and enters the western sea near Lisbon in the kingdom of Portugal; the Douro, which flows by Zamora and enters the western sea near Porto; the Guadiana, which flows by Badajoz and enters the western sea at Castro Marim; and the Ebro, which flows by Tudela and Zaragoza, cities of the kingdom of Aragon, entering the Mediterranean by Tortosa. This kingdom of Castile and Leon has all the sea coast of the west as far as Bayonne the greater, and borders on Navarre and Aragon and Granada. The ensigns of the Kings of this kingdom are a flag with two castles and two lions quarterly.

I departed from the kingdom of Castile and went to the kingdom of Portugal where I found four large cities, Lisboa, Portogallo, Santarem and Braga, and three great rivers flow across it, the Tagus, Guadiana, and Douro already mentioned. This kingdom borders on the western sea and the kingdom of Castile and Leon. The arms of this kingdom are castles all round and quinas in the middle.

I departed from Portugal and went by the coast of the western sea to the province of Galicia, to the port of Bayona the less, and from there to Pontevedra, and from there to Santander, and from there to Castro Urdiales and from there to Bilbao, and from there to San Sebastian, all of which is the coast land of the King of Castile.

From there I went to Bayona the greater which is in Gascony. It is seated on the western sea, near the Pyrenean mountains. The Lord of this Bayona has for his flag white with a cross red. 4 NA\7ARRE — Toulouse Tudela and Estela. Three great rivers flow through it, the Ebro, Sinca, and Signe. The King of it has for a sign the flag as follows.

I departed from Navarre and crossed the Pyrenees which reach to the country of Ampuria, and in these mountains four great rivers have their rise. They call the first Sinca, the second Sigre, the third Giron and the fourth Ebro. On the left side of these mountains is the country of Burdeos and Limogines and Armenaque, and Piteos and the noble city of Tolosa, where the liberal arts are studied, and the Lord of this Tolosa has for his sign

a red flag with a cross of gold.

I left Tolosa and turned along the coast of the country of Burdeo, and then to Rochela, a rich city of France, and from there I went to the point of Sanmae which is in the 1 Sancho el fuerte 1194 Blanca = Theobald I of Champagne] Theobald II = Philippe le Bel Louis X 1313 Juan = Comte d'Evreux Charles the Bad 1343 Charles the Noble 1387 Blanca = Juan II of Aragon i — 1 Carlos Leonore Prince of Comtesse de Viana Foix 2 The King of Navarre and his knights broke the chain which defended the approach to the Almohade Sultan's tent, at the battle of Las Navas de Tolosa in 1213. From that time the Kings of Navarre bore the chain on their coat of arms, and on their flag. All these are in the kingdom of Francia, where there are many cities, towns and villages. Leaving Normandia along the coast,

I came to the Gulf of Loira into which enters a great river which they call Saina which traverses the whole kingdom of France, and passes through the centre of the great city of Paris. It enters the sea in the Gulf of Loira, and from this gulf to Paris there are four days journey. You should know that the kingdom of France borders on the Mediterranean where there is a city called Narbonne, and on the Alps of Alsace and on the coasts of Flanders, and all the coasts of Gascuena to the Pyrenees. The King of France has three fleurs de lys of gold.

I left Paris and went to Rouen and Chalon and from there to a city on the coast which they call Dieppe in the kingdom of France, and I left it and reached a rich city called Calais which is in the province of Picardy. You should know that from this Calais to the island of England is a short crossing of 8 miles.

I departed from Calais and went to the country of Flanders, to a noble city which they call Bruges. The lord of that country has a flag — gold with a black lion. From there I went along the coast to a city which they call Solanda and from there to another called Maxa, and to another Leobec which are cities of Germany.

From there I passed to the great and rich city of Dodrec, crossing a great river which they call Rinus, having its origin in the German Alps. This river passes by Cologne, a great city of Germany. In this city they say that the three Magian Kings are interred, who worshipped Jesus Christ in Belem. But when

I travelled in the empire of Cathay I was in a . city called Solin and they showed me three highly revered monuments and they were in honour of the three Magian Kings who adored Jesus Christ, and they said that they were natives of that city. In this Germany there are some very high mountains which they call the German Alps. Two rivers rise in them, one called Ruedano which flows by a city called Leon, and unites with another very large river coming from the Alps of Alsace. They flow past Lucdevic and Avignon, a city where the Pope resides, and enter the Mediterranean Sea near a city they call Arle. These cities are in the kingdom of Proencja. They call the other river Rinus and it flows by the city of Colone which I have already referred to, and enters the German Sea. The other river is called Danubio. It traverses all Germany and enters the middle of the kingdom of Ungria, forming ten large islands. (Further on I will relate how they make a great lake of sweet water, in the province of Barbaria which they call Danoye Lake, near a city called Karispona), and enters the province of Grimania near a city they call Tusna.

Afterwards the Danubio enters the province of Panonia, and goes by Patania and Ebruc and Viana and Arruzvar, and afterwards enters the kingdom of Ungria and, crossing the whole of it, enters the greater sea by a city which they call Vesina". After that it forms a very large island. The Emperor of Germany has for his device a flag — yellow with a black eagle crowned. 1 According to Marco Polo the three Kings were buried at Saba, a

town in Persia, 50 miles S.W. of Teheran. The Catalan map places their tombs in Eastern Turkestan. One Church legend was that they were buried in Hadramaut whence the Empress Helena had the bodies conveyed to Milan. Frederick Barbarossa removed them to Cologne. of Donauschingen. " Widdin. 12 Charles IV King of Bohemia , Father of the Emperors Wenceslaus and Sigismond. 18 Ashmole gives the Emperor Sigismond a double-headed eagle. I then passed over a great river which they call Albia, rising in the mountains of Boemia. Here the German Sea forms the great Gulf of Frisia, and in that gulf there are four islands. One is called Rayna, another Erria, another Finonia, another Ganglante. The King of Frisia's device is a flag — gold with three long black lions.

I left the kingdom of Frisia and presently entered the kingdom Dacia of the Danes which is all surrounded by the German Sea, and on the other side is the Gulf of Frisa, so that this kingdom only has one single entrance. In it there are twelve great cities. The largest is called Burbena, and in it they crown the Kings of Dacia. Another they call Burgalensis, another Biva, another Abenbruc, another Fandeuz, another Artuz, another Arens, another Ardonep, another Damesmare, another Corp, another Dandora, another Dasia, another Bonia. From this point to Norvega the distance is 60 miles. The King of this Dacia has for his device a flag — gold with three black lions. Device on the flag the same as Frisia.

I departed from the kingdom of Dacia and returned to Germany, to a city called Lubec which is in the dukedom of Xaxonia, from there to Rosgot, and from there to Bondismaguc which are cities of Upper Germany, and from there to a city called Grisualdiz on the banks of great lake called Alechon. Passing this I then went to a city called (in Holstein). u Randers. (Sleswig). 17 w Greifswald. Corveric, from there to Escorpe and from there to another city called Dansicha. By this Dansicha there passes a great river called Turonie which rises in the Bohemian mountains and falls into the Sea of Germany. In the kingdom of Boemia there are seven great cities, Grisna, Posna, Sirca, Noxia, the largest called Praga where they crown the King of Boemia. This Praga is all surrounded by a lofty range which they call the mountains of Boemia. In the middle there is a great plateau, and in its centre is the city surrounded by a great river called Albia. Another larger river also rises in those mountains called Vandalor near an extensive land called Avandalia. In ancient times the people of Avandalia conquered Andalusia of Spain and gave it that name. The King of Boemia has for his device a flag — white with a red lion crowned.

I left Boemia and went to a province which they call Sant Nurio, and to another the name of which was Curconia and Culman which are great provinces between Germany and the greater sea, and though it may be that they are inhabited by Christians still they are schismatics : and I arrived at two great cities between the greater sea and the Sea of Germany called Litefama and Catalant between the greater sea and the German Sea. It is a very populous land and the King of it has for a device a white flag with this sign.

I left Litefama and entered the kingdom of Polonia where there are five great cities/the largest being Santa Maria where they crown the kings. Another they call Rinalia, another vgiBANT, another Ungradia, another VI Ron A, and it is known that between the two cities of in Pomerania. giving its name to the Vistula. 6 Posen ? ° Sieradz. » Vandalia. And they say that this river enters the German Sea, which is a gulf of the western sea. For the German Sea is a gulf which enters the western sea as far as the province of Palonia, passing between Germany and the Norwegian mountains. Also by this Palonia another flows : a very great river which is said to rise in the snows of the Trasmontana, and to form a great lake near Virona. The King of Polonia has for his design a green flag with this sign in red.

I left the kingdom of Polonia and went to the kingdom of Leon which the Germans call Lumbrec in which there are five great cities. They call the first Leon, another China, another Vasadino, another Tinez. It must be known that this kingdom of Leon borders on the province of Rumenia, and with the kingdom of Suava. The King has a green flag with a red cross as is here shown.

After this I turned to the other coast of the German Sea, to the part of the Trasmontana being the land of Europe which I will mention further on. I entered a great province they call Suevia and found a city called Roderin very rich and populous though the land is very cold. It has in it nine cities, to wit Tarsa, Andine, Chicobergis, Landis, Ystat", Formeans. In this kingdom there are two great lakes, one called Escarse and the other Estocol. The King of this Suevia has for his device a yellow flag with two red lions facing each other in the way as follows. near Lund. u Istad. Duke of Gueldarlund had two lions rampant combatant, but they were counter-changed or and azure. IO Sweden — Norway

I left the city of Roderin and, going on board a ship, I passed to an island they call Gotlandia which is in the German Gulf, and on this island there is a great city called Bisuy in which there are ninety parishes, and the island is well peopled. There is a smaller island called Oxilia. The King of these islands has a flag of gold and purple bars.

I departed from Gotlandia and went to a province which is between Suevia and Noruega called Gotia. There I found three great cities, the first Estocol, another Calman, and another Surdepinche. This city of Estocol faces the German Sea, a gYeat gulf on the shores of which there are many cities. The water of this gulf gets frozen from the cold of the Trasmontana. The people of this Gotia conquered Spain and were the Lords of it for a long time. The devices of this kingdom are a yellow flag with two red lions facing each other as for Suevia.

I departed from Gotia and ascended the lofty mountains of Noruega which is a very strong kingdom containing three great cities. They call the largest Regis where they crown the kings, another is called Nidroxia, another Tronde, another Trunberec. In the mountains of this Noruega they breed many birds, Girifaltes, Azores and falcones: also many fierce beasts, white javalis and white bears. They say that a prince, son of the King of Noruega, conquered the country of Flanders in the time of King Arthur of Britain. And be it known that this Noruega towards the north is uninhabited, and that the year makes one day for six months, and another six months night, * Stockholm. ° Nidaros. Knight of the Swan rescued Beatrice, daughter of Thierry III of Cleves, from her oppressors, married her and founded a dynasty in Flanders. But the Knight was not a Norwegian. The King of this Noruega has for his device a flag — gold with a black lion.

I departed from Noruega in a ship of the English, and we shaped a course to the west, and came to an island called Insola Cola, then to one called Lister and then we came to another called Insola Bondola, and then another very large called Salanda which is at the entrance of the Gulf of Frisa already mentioned. This island of Salanda is very populous and has three great cities called Salandi, Risent, Escondin, Alenda. The King of this island has for his device a flag — gold with a black lion, as in Noruega.

I left the island of Salanda in the said ship and we made a long voyage, arriving at another island called Tille, and from from there we came to the island of Escocia, and found in it four cities, one called Donfres, another Eneruic, another Veruic. The King of this Escocia has for his device a red flag with three long lions of gold. 1 This belief in people without necks is mentioned by Pliny, Solinus and others. 2 The King of Norway was then

Magnus Smek (1319-74) who married Blanche of Namur. His son Haakon married Margaret of Denmark and the kingdoms were united under her in 1381. Magnus Smek was also King of Sweden. 3 A mistake. A west course would not take him to Oland. near Carlsrona. Redding. n Lealand. 12 Telemarken in the south of Norway. M Edinburgh. Bruce David Bruce Robert Stuart 17 He gives the arms of England for Scotland. He was there in the time of David Bruce who married an English princess. He may have seen her arms on a flag in Scotland.

I departed from the land of Escocia and came to the kingdom of Inglaterra. You should know that it is a very well populated country and that it contains eleven great cities. The largest, where they crown their King, is called Londres, and another Gunsa where are the general studies, another Antona, Others Bristol, Artamua, Premua, and Mira- Forda. In a province they call Gales there is a great city called Dirgales which is a lordship of Inglaterra. The King of those lands has for his arms on a flag quarterly in two quarters fleurs de lys gold on a field azure, because the King is of the house of France, and in the other two quarters in each one on a field gules three ounces gold.

I left Inglaterra in a boat and reached the island of Irlanda which is a short crossing of a mile. They say that formerly it was called Ibernica. You should know that it is a well peopled island with a good climate, and that there are three great cities in it. The chief one, where they crown the Kings, is Estandforda, the Others Ymeria, Gataforda, Rois, and Donbelin. In this island there is a great lake, and they say that the lake brings good fortune, because many enchantments were made on its banks in ancient times. The King of this island has the same arms as the King of Inglaterra. Being in Irlanda I sailed in a ship bound for Spain, ? I Edward II i Edward III Richard II Lago Afortunado is also so called in the Catalan portulanos and in those of Valseca (1439), and Benincasa (1467). Northern Isles 13 and went with those on that ship on the high sea, for so long that we arrived at an island called Eterns and another called Artania and another called giTILANT, and another called Ibernica. All these islands are in the part where the sun sets in the month of June, and they are all peopled, well supplied and with a good climate. In this island of Ibernica there are trees and the fruit that they bear are very fat birds. These birds are very good eating whether boiled or roasted. The men in this island are very long lived, some living 200 years. They are born and brought up in a way which makes them unable to die in the island, so that when they become very weak they are taken away and die presently. In this island there are no snakes nor vipers, nor toads, nor flies, nor spiders, nor any other venomous things. [In this Ibernica there is an archiepiscopal city called Dubilin,] and the women are very beautiful though very simple. It is a land where there is not as much bread as you may want, but a great abundance of meat and milk. You should know that this island is outside the seven climates. The King of this island has for his device the same flag — gold with a black lion — as the King of Noruega.

After this I departed from the island of Ibernica in a ship, and voyaged so far over the western sea that we sighted the Cape of Finisterre, and arrived at Pontevedra in the province of Galicia. From there I went to a town in the kingdom of Castile, as I mentioned before, which they call Tarifa. It was founded by a very powerful Arab named Tarif. Near this town Albua^EN, King of all the land of the west, was defeated and conquered by the most noble King Don Alfonso of Castile, who pillaged all his tents, and took his treasures, his women, and his 1 Faroe Isles. Isles. An error of a copyist. 5 An interpolation by a copyist. horses.

I departed from Tarifa and went to the city of Aljezira where is the rock of Gibraltar, being places in the dominions of the King of Castile. From there I went to Malaga a very luxurious city of the kingdom of Granada.

In this kingdom there are three cities. The grandest, where they crown the Kings, is Granada, the others Malaga and Almeria. This kingdom is bounded by the Mediterranean and the kingdom of Castile. In this kingdom there is a very lofty range of mountains called the Sierra DE Granada which extends over the whole country as far as Lorca which is in the kingdom of Castile. The device of this King is a red flag with Arabic letters of gold such as Mahomad their prophet bore.

I departed from the kingdom of Granada and went to the kingdom of Aragon, a very rich and well supplied kingdom. I found five great cities in it. The chief one, where the Kings are crowned, is Zaragoza, the others Valencia, Tarragona, Tortosa and Barcelona. The river Ebro runs through this kingdom, and the river Sinca. It is bounded by Navarre, Castile, France, and the Pyrenees. The King has for his device nine pales gules and or.

I left Barcelona and went along the coast to the country of Ampuria and from there to the city of Narbona which is by the shore of the Mediterranean Sea. The Lord of it has a white flag with a red cross like that of Tolosa, and 1 This was the battle of Salado where the King of Castile, Alfonso XI, defeated Abu-1-hasan Ali King of Morocco on 1340. » " 3 The arms of Barcelona, adopted by Aragon when the heiress of that kingdom married the Barcelona Count. The shield was originally gold, but after a battle Raymond Berenger, Count of Barcelona, wiped his bloody fingers down it. Henceforward it was or five pales gules.

Then I went to Arle a rich and noble city which is in the Proencia, and on the banks of the river Ruedano is Avinon, a rich city, where resides the Court of Rome, the Pope, and Cardinals. Near is Lecduena a city of the King of France. After- wards I went to Marsella which is the head of LA Proencia, going from there by the sea coast to Frenit and from there to Nista, and passed by Monaco and Berengan and Saona.

Then I ascended the mountains and down to Genoua, a very rich city on the shores of the Mediter- ranean Sea. The Lord of it has for his device a white flag with a red cross, and with the word Justicia. I departed from Genoua and entered Lombardy where there are many great and rich cities. It is proper to know Of Mediolanensis, Clamona, Bolona.11, the abode of philosophers, Padita, Panonia, PA Via, Burga, Ravena and Plazencia.

I left Lombardy and came to Pisa a land very fertile with a temperate climate. It has a flag gules. Leaving Pisa I came to Tuscany in which there is a city called Florence. The Lord of it has for his device a white flag with a red cross. I went from Tuscany to the noble city of Rome, which is the head of the empire of the Romans. A river called Tiber flows through it, which rises in the Alps of Albernia " Bologna. " Bergamo. 16 The Apennines. 1 and flows by the Sea of Antona, and the patrimony, entering the sea, half land, at the port of Rome. From these mountains of Albernia comes another very great river called Arno, which flows through Tuscany to Florence and falls into the Sea of Pisa. The devices of Rome are a red flag with a gold bar on which are letters. Round this city of Rome are the Santa Sebra, and other Cities Ostia, Taracona, Gaera, Mondragon. You should know that Rome, Pisa, Tuscany, and the lands of the principality are between the Mediterranean Sea and the Gulf of Venice. These are the arms of Rome.

I left Rome, went to the Romana and the principality, and arrived at Naples, a very luxurious, well supplied, and pleasant land in which are the provinces of Pulla, and Calabria. There are many rich cities, the principal ones being Surenti, Salerno, Policastro, Stalea, Rezo, Girazo, Cotrun, Taranto, Entranto, BREND1ZO, Monapoli, Var, Barleto, Monfrodoye, Pescara, Zchi- Lazo. The King of Naples has for his device a purple flag with gold

fleurs de lys, for he is of the House of France. Above is a red slip which they call a label.

I departed from Naples and went over to the island of Sicily, a short passage. It is very luxurious and well supplied. There are in it eight large cities, namely Mecina, Catania, Caragoca, GIRENT115, Trapani, Palermo, Cafallu, Pari and Elrey. This Sicily has a flag parted per saltire, two quarters argent with eagles sable, the other two bars gules and or, for the King is of the House of Aragon. * Monte Dracone. ° Sorrento. u Brindisi. n Squillace. 13 Purpure semde de fleurs de lys or, a label gules.

I went from there to Brandiza. Then, taking the left side of the gulf, by Naples, I went by Pescara, Antona, and Ravena to the city of Venecia which is at the head of the gulf on the sea. It is bounded by Lombardy and the Sea of Anton, and by the land of the patrimony, and to the east by Esclavonia. The Lord of this Venice has for his flag — argent, a winged lion gules like the lion of St Mark.

I departed from Venice in the same galley and coasted along the side of Esclavonia passing by a city called Aquylea, and another called Triesa. From there I went to Parenzo, and arrived at a city they call Sena which is in Esclavonia and another called Jara. The King of this Esclavonia has for his device a yellow flag in halves, the red half near the hoist has a white star and the other half is yellow. In the kingdom of Esclavonia there is a very high mountain which is called Boxina where four rivers rise. One is called Sar, another Raba, another UR and another Rabeza. All these rivers enter the kingdom of Ungria and unite with the great river Danube which rises in the Alps of Germany. Now this land of Boxina marches with Germany and Panonia and Ungria, and the mountains are in its centre, and they are mountains well peopled, with a well supplied land, but they are not Catholic Christians, and the King of these mountains has the same arms as those of the King of Esclavonia. of the Raab. u Bosnia. 1

I departed from Boxina and went along the coast to the city of Jara, from there to Sinbochon and from there to Narent. The King of this land has for his device a flag quarterly purpure and argent. With this Narent there marches a city called Dulcecno which, with the adjacent mountainous country is very pleasant and well supplied. With this kingdom of Aceruya marches the kingdom of Burgaria and the kingdom of Daraze which are in the province of Esclavonia. In these mountains two very great rivers have their rise, one called Dranoya, the other Pirus, which flow into the kingdom of Ungria, falling into the great river Danube and forming in Ungria ten islands. They call the first Ungria LA Mayor whence the kingdom of Ungria took its name. The next they call Jaurin, the next Buda, the next Firmia, the next Signa, the next Maceno, the next Drinago, the next Posga, the next Ungria LA Menor, the next Servia. All the rivers that form these islands enter the great sea near a city called Vecina of which I will write further on. You should know that in this Ungria there are many rich cities, to wit Ungria, Ceuana, Casoc, Biuer, Castro, Ferrun, Jaurin, Servia, Strugonum, Bagamos, Beac, Drinago, Saladino, Comoru Bahryvaei Bach Varasdin Myrriu, and many others. This kingdom of Ungria Eszeln marches with Greece and Germany, Esclavonia, and Bolonia and Burgaria. The flag of this kingdom is parted 1 Sebenico in Dalmatia. 2 In Dalmatia at the mouth of the Narenta. or Drina. between Save and Drave. " Caschow. 16 Biwor on the Danube. 19 per fess, upper half with fleurs de lys of France because the King is of the House of France, the lower half bars gules and argent.

I departed from the kingdom of Hungary and went along the coast to a city called Durazo. There I took ship and proceeded to the island of the Morea. In it there are seven great cities, to wit Trareoza, Patras, Coranto, Neapoli, Marbaxa, Colon, Mutam. I left the island of the Morea and went to the island of Rodas where there is a

rich city called Greta. This island belongs to the order of St John.

I left the island of Rhodes and went to the island of Candia, and from there to another island they call Negropont which the Venetians conquered. I left the entrance to the greater sea and Constantinople, which I will describe further on, to my left, and went to the city they call Satalia of Greek Christians. This Satalia is part of the province of Naturi. The King of this Satalia has for his device a flag with bars wavy argent and purpure and over all the sign of Solomon's seal. The city of Satalia and Sinbichon, and others as far as the lesser Armenia, are all in the province of Turquia which was called, in ancient times, Asia Minor. In it there are many lordships and provinces which it would be hard to enumerate, for this Turquia extends to the greater sea, and be it known that it is a very rich land, well supplied with all goods. The King of this province has this flag for a device.

I went along the coast of this Turquia to a city they call Candebor and from there to another called Antroceta 1 Louis I of Hungary came, in the male line, from Charles of Anjou, brother of St Louis. 2—2 and from there to Corincho. And this Turquia is divided into many provinces, Capadocia, Felicia, Boescia, Vitilia, Gala, Cialidia, Frigia where is Troya, Pan- Filia, Isauria. The King of this land has a black flag with five white crosses.

I departed from this Corincho and went to the city they call Feradelfia or Feradelfin which marches on that of Troy which, in ancient times, King Menelaus of Greece destroyed. Troy was the head of all that Asia Minor which they now call Turquia, and its device is a flag half white, with a red cross, the other half yellow with a red square. In this Turquio there is another province they call Cunio in which there is a rich city called Cunyo with much territory, and the King has a flag with bars wavy argent and gules. There is also another province called Sauasto anciently Sauasco from a city of that name which was the head of all the cities. This city of Sauasco was the ancient Samaria, though now it is Sauasco head of the kingdom with a white flag having five red crosses. In this Turquia there are two cities in the parts of Armenia the less, the one called Chontay and the other Silia.

I left them and entered Armenia the less, which is all surrounded by very high mountains, called the mountains of Armenia, and within the mountains there is a plain country in which there are 360 towns and villages and castles. On the shores of the Mediterranean Sea in the place where it ends, you must you should know that anciently this Armenia was called the island of Colcos. For in this Armenia an arm of the sea enters, in which there is a small ante. or Si was. 6 ? Within Armenia there are four great cities, to wit Laiso, Curquo, Airso and Sucia.

After this Armenia is the island Chipre and in this Cyprus there are four great cities, Famagosta, Nyroxia, Lamiss, and Bafa. The King of Chipre has for his design a flag parted per pale argent five crosses gules and purpure two fleurs de lys palewise, because he is of the House of France.

I left Chipre at a point they call the point of Santander, and arrived at Alixandreta and from there to Antiocha a most noble city of Syria. The French took it when they conquered Syria. In ancient times it was called Repeleta. From there I went to Solin and Tortosa and the Syrian Tripul. It was Solin that was taken by Don Remondo Count of Tolosa, father of Don Alfonso Emperor of Spain.

From there I went to Eborut, and from there to the city of Acre, which was held by the Friars of St John. I then went to Cesaria and to Escalona. They say that in ancient times it was called Palestina. From there I went to the port of Jafa where are the pilgrims for Jerusalem. You should know that there are these cities in Syria and many other towns and villages, and five high mountains. The first is called the mountain of Libano where rise

two rivers, one called Jor and the other Dan, and they unite to form the Jordan. This land where the Jordan flows was anciently called Tiberia and afterwards Siria. It flows through the centre of Suria 1 In the Gulf of Alexandretta. de Lusignon King of Cyprus. 5 Seleucia Pieria. T Father of Alphonse Comte de Toulouse, not of Alphonso Vii (Emperor) of Castile. — Egypt and forms two large lakes, one called the Dead Sea, and the other the Sea of Galilee. They affirm that in these two lakes there were two cities called Sodoma and Gomorra, and in these two lakes the river sinks under ground and does not appear again. The mountains are Ermon, Galat, Abraren and Seyr. You should know that in this Suria is the city of Iherusalem which was sanctified by the holy temple which Salamon built there, and was consecrated by the blood of Ihesu Christo. This land of Iherusalem was anciently called Cananea after Can son of Noe.

Afterwards it had the name of Judea after Juda son of Jaco. You should know that this province was taken by the French when they made the conquests beyond seas. The device of this province is a white flag with red crosses, like this. Suria marches with the land of Jafet and this Jafet borders on the very rich city of Damasco, well supplied with all things. Near this Damasco flows the river Eufrates and formerly it was called Lairag. The King has a yellow flag with a white moon. Egipto borders on Suria. Anciently it was called Exia.

I came along the coast to a port which they call the port of LA Risa, from there to the port of Descrion, from there to Tenexe which is in Egipto, and I took the road to the west and came to Damiata a noble city surrounded by the river Nilus. You should know that here the King of France was defeated and a prisoner when he went to make conquest beyond sea. On the banks of this river Nilus is situated the great city Alcaira where the Kings of Egipto are crowned, and here was crowned Melic Nascar, the Lord 1 The arms of Jerusalem are metal on metal : argent a cross potent or between four lesser crosses or. These five crosses gules have no other authority. IX at The first is called Alcaira, the second Babilonia because it was peopled by those who escaped from the destruction of Babilonia, the third Roda, the fourth Lajuza. The device of this kingdom is a white flag with a blue moon.

I left Alcaira and went to the coast where is the city of Alexandria which is noble and rich. From this Alexandria to the isle of Roxeto the distance is ten leagues all peopled with villages. The King of this Alexandria has for his device a yellow flag and in the middle a black wheel in which a grey lion.

I departed from Alexandria and went by the coast to the port of Ribas Aluas, from there to a city called Luchon where the King has a yellow flag with a white moon. Leaving Luchon I came to the city of Tarabuc. From there I came to Mon DE Barcas and Bona Andrea which is in Berberia, and from there to Tolometa on the sea shore. The King has for a device a white flag with a yellow sash on a lance. From Tolometa

I went to Bremchon and to Zunara. At Zunara the sea forms a great gulf called the Gulf of Scin and on the borders of this Zunara are the clear mountains which the ancients called Carena, of which we shall speak further on, when we treat of the mainland. I departed from the Gulf of Scin and came to Puerto 1 Al Melek Nasser son of Kelun Malek Almanzor succeeded in 1291. He was called Lord of the great Turks after he defeated the Mongols near Damascus in 1303. He died 1341. Albi. , the ancient Berenice. 8 Zanara in the Gulf of Syrtis. 9 The Great Syrtis. 10 Montes Claros. 1 and from there to Tripul of Berberia. It is called Tripul because it is bounded by the Triplicana moun- tains. This Tripul is a rich city and the King of it has for his device a white flag with a green palm tree and two red keys.

I went from Tripul to Rahasa, Capiz and Faquiz, and from there to Africa a rich city. You should know that twenty-six miles from this Africa there is a great tower called Ligem ; and from this tower Ligem to Alcairahuan there are forty miles. At this Alcairahuan the King of all Africa towards the west, named Albohacem, was defeated, and all his tents were pillaged. The King of Africa has for his device a white flag with a purple moon.

I went from there to Euxia and from there to Tunez which is a great and rich city well supplied with all things, and is the head of all Berberia. The flag of the King is white with a black moon. After this Tunez I went to the island of Cerdena which is a great land in which there are two high mountains, one called Mont Baruarua and the other Mont Arbolea. The King of Cerdena has the bars of Aragon on his flag. After Cerdena there is another island called Corcega. It has a white flag with a red cross because it was taken by the Genoese, for which reason the Catalans are at war with them.

From there I went to Bona where St Augustine was Bishop. 1 Mouth of the river Magra, ancient Cyniphus. 2 Monies Triplicana D'Huar-el-Jebel. 3 Ras Majabes. in Tunis. 7 The defeat of Abu-1-hasan Ali near Kairwan by Ahmed, a descendant of the Almophades, took place in 1348. It was destroyed by the Vandals but restored by Justinian. It was again destroyed by Okba, who used the ruins for building Kairwan. It is now again a flourishing town. 9 The old name was Hippo. The King of it has a white flag with a black moon.

I departed from Bona and went to the city of CONSTANTINA which is all surrounded by a river. The King has a flag parted per fess white and yellow. I left Constantina and came to a city which is called Asbora, from there to Alcom* and Gigar* until I arrived at Bugia. It is a very strong and ancient city. The King has for his device a red flag with a yellow cross bow.

I went from Bugia to Arguer, from there to Brischan a city on the sea coast. The King of it has a white flag with a sign like this. I departed from Brischan and went to the island of Mayorcias in which there is a noble, rich, and well supplied city. The King has for his device a flag with bars vert and sable. From Mayorcias I turned to the coast and went to Tensse, Algezer, Maganga and Oran, and from there to Sersel which is in the kingdom of Tremecen, between the Mediterranean Sea and the mountains of Carena called the clear mountains. You should know that in this Tremecen they killed the King of the west named Beacob. The King of Tremecen has for his device a flag, white with a blue moon.

I departed from Tremecen and entered Numedia as 1 After the civil war with Maxentius, Constantine restored the town (A.D. 311) which received his name. bars of the Kings of Majorca differed in colour from those of Aragon. In 1375 the King of Aragon annexed Majorca. 8 Abu Yakub Yusuf Almansor, second of the Beni Merini Kings, contended with Abu Said King of Tremecen in 1307. Abu Yakub was murdered by a slave. far as the river of Muluya, from there to Alcudia and Mocena and Bediz until

I arrived at the strong city of Cepta. You should know that Cepta is opposite to Algezira and Gibraltar, places of the King of Spain. The gulf of the sea called the strait of Azocaque passes between Cepta and Gibraltar. The King of this city has for his design a red flag with two white keys.

I departed from Cepta and went to the noble city of Fez where the Kings of the Kena Marin always reside. There runs past it a river called Fexe which rises in the clear mountains, and falls into the western sea near a city called Cale. At Fez their Kings are crowned and reside, and they have a flag all white.

I departed from Fez which was anciently called Cotamanfez, and went to Miquynez and to Ribate and then turned to Tanjar on the sea coast, then to Arzila, along the coast Raxy and Cale a city on the sea coast where they bury their Kings. From there I went to Nife and Azamor and Cafi where a river enters the sea called Gox, rising in the clear mountains (Montes Claros). You should know that in this province is the most noble city of Marruecos which used to be called Cartagu the great". A Consul of Rome named Scipio Africanus conquered it in the time of the sovereignty of the Romans.

Afterwards the Goths who were Lords of Spain were the sovereigns here. The King of Marruecos has for his device a red flag with a chess board black and white. After this I departed and went to Admet a very ancient I Mellila. 2 Penon de Velez. of the lineage of Beni Merin. Beni Merini dynasty ruled at Fez from 1269 to 1550. Tensift. II A mistake, confounding Marocco with Tunis. 12 The Vandals under Genseric, who reigned 427 to 477, crossed the Strait of Gibraltar, in 429, and conquered all Mauritania. 13 Marakesh or Morocco was founded by Yusuf ibn Tashfin, first of the Almoravide dynasty, in 1072.

From there I went to Cafi and to Modogor ports of the western sea. Then I climbed the mountains of Cucia LA-Alta which is a country well supplied with everything. These mountains are very high and it is a most dangerous land, for there are not more than two very perilous passes. The King Myramamolin escaped to these mountains when he was defeated by the Marinis. Now this cugiA belongs to the lineage of the Miramamolyn, and the King has for his device a flag —white with a black lion. You should know that with this Cucia commence the clear mountains which the Christians call Atalanes and the ancient name was Carena. They are 2665 miles in length, which makes 891 leagues and two thirds.

I departed from Cucia and entered Gazula a fine province surrounded by lofty mountains. It is well supplied with provisions and water, but is very cold. You should know that it is a place where the sun sets in the month of December, and owing to this it is cold in summer, and warm in winter. The inhabitants never wanted to have a King, but they have a Judge and are very decent people.

I left Gazula and went to the sea coast to a port called Zamatana where is the Cape of NA on the western sea. It is a Nun 1 Almutamed-ala-Illah. His sepulchre was at Aghmat. He was the son of Abu Amru Abbed, and was born at Beja in Algarve in 1040. He was sent to the castle of Aghmat with his wife and sons, where he died in 1095. His wife was Itimad first called Romeykiyyah. 2 The descendants of the Almohades in Morocco, as soon as they knew of the death of Abu-1-hasan AH As-said the Miramamolin, who was slain before Treme^en in 1248, raised up a Moor named Almortada to be Miramamolin. He and the Almohades fought a battle with the Beni Merini at Mequinez, and were defeated. The Miramamolin then fled to Sus. 3 El Sus. * Atlas mountains. 5 Djezula, ancient Getulia. desert land with bad cruel people who live on the shore.

I went along the coast, always in &panfilol, until I arrived at the Cape of San Bin. All the coast was uninhabited there Port of Saubrun being neither city, town, nor village. I went along the coast for a very great distance,, traversing the uninhabited sandy beaches until I arrived at the land of the negroes, at a cape they call Buyder, where is the King of Guynoa near the sea. There I found Moors and Jews. You should know that from this Cape of Buyder to the river Del Oro there are 370 miles, all uninhabited land. From this place the panfilo turned.

I stayed some time, and went to see the lost islands which were called by Tolomeo the islands of LA Caridad. You should know that from the Cape of Buyder to the first island, the distance is 1 10 miles. I embarked in a leno* with some Moors and we arrived at the first island which they call Gresa. Then we came to the island of Lancarote and they gave it that name because the inhabitants killed a Genoese of that name.

From there I went to another island called Bezimarin, and another Rachan. There is another Alegranca, another Uegimar, another Forte Ventura, another Canaria. I went to another island called Tenerife, and another they call the Isla Del INF1ERNO, another Cumera, another 1 A galley used in the middle ages in the Mediterranean with one row of oars, and usually two masts. * The Atlantic Islands were known as the Islas Perdidas or de la Caridad the Kalidat of the Arab geographers. Moors, Spaniards and Genoese frequented them long before the Portuguese. 6 Leno (lignum) wood, a generic name for all vessels. 6 Graciosa, badly copied. 7 Vachi-marini Isla de los Lobos. 8 Roque del Este. 9 Not in two of the texts. Same as Benimarin. Mistake of the copyist, or Guimar in Tenerife. Atlantic Isles , another Aragonia, another Salvaje, another Desierta, another Lecmane, another Puerto Santo, another Lobo, another Cabras, another Brasil, another Columbaria, another Ventura, another San Jorge, another Conejos, another Cuervo Marines, so that altogether there are 25 islands.

I returned to the Cape of Buyder whence I had started, and went by the Zahara with some Moors who were taking gold to the King of Guinea on camels. We came to some very great and high mountains in the middle of the Zahara which they call Zichialhamera and afterwards we travelled a very great distance over the Zahara until we came to another mountain called Infurent. Here I parted from those Moors, and joined some others who came to Algarve.

I went with them, over the Zahara, until we reached Mascarote, a town of the Benamarin King which is at the foot of the mountains of Cucia. There I stayed for some time, and then went to Sulgu- Menca, a rich city in the Zahara, near a river which comes from the clear mountains. The King of it has for his device a white flag with the root of a green palm tree, in this manner.

I departed from Sulgumenca and went six days journey, over an inhabited country to the Rio DE Dara. The country is well peopled and supplied with provisions. 1 Aragones, a place in Gran Canaria. 7 Cequia el Hamara, Sekiet el Homre. at the foot of the Atlas. u Sus. 12 13 El Drau : near the pass over the Atlas to El Sus. , 30 Sahara Oases — Guinea i Maguer is in the Zahara and

I left the Rio DE Dara with some Moors who were going to Guynoa. I went with them over the Zahara until we arrived at Tocatoron which is a city among some mountains. The inhabitants are negroes and the King of Tocatoron has for his device a white flag with a black mountain in the middle, like that of the King of Guynoa.

From there I went to Tibalbert, a city on some very high mountains, from there to another mountain called Sidan, which is under the King of Guynoa, and from there to Buda, a well supplied city, also on the top of a mountain. You should know that the city was peopled by a King of Tremecen. For he was bad and did evil things, and the people wanted to kill him. So he fled, with his treasure, to this place, and founded this city of Buda. Its flag is white with a red moon.

Afterwards I departed from Buda and went, by the Zahara, to another mountain called Ganahe in which there is a rich well supplied city of the same name. It is the head of the kingdom where they crown the Kings. And the King of Guynoa has a gold flag with a black mountain in the middle.

I left Ganahe and went to Crima, another city in the Zahara, and from there to Mesca, a rich city by which a river flows which rises in the clear mountains. You should know that in this river ends the river of Guynoa which is very wide and very long and along which there are many lands both desert and inhabited. It is 65 days journey in length, and 40 wide. Of Guynoa there is much to say. It contains seven mountains well peopled, and land yielding 1 Tibelbelt of Leo Africanus, south of the Atlas. 2 The name Guinea properly belongs to Senegal. Peschel. 3 The Region or Promontory of seven mountains is on the map of Pizigani (1367) and on that of Fra Mauro (1457) on the coast of Guinea. It is also on the map of Juan de la Cosa. Central Africa 3! abundantly as long as there are mountains, elsewhere it is all Zahara. Two ranges of mountains extend to the Rio Del Oro, and there they collect the ivory teeth, and the gold in the ant hills which the ants make on the river banks. The ants are as big as cats, and dig out much earth. This kingdom marches with the kingdom of Organa in which also there is much desert, and on another side with the Rio Del Oro which they call Nilo. And further out, in the Zahara there are three very high mountains, which are very populous. The first mountain is called Organ where is the head of the kingdom where the King is crowned. The second is called Tamar because there are in it many palm trees. The third is called Timer because here the people on the river banks collect much gold ; we cannot give the quantity but there is much. The King of Organa has for his device a white flag with a green palm tree and two keys.

I departed from the kingdom of Organa and passed on to the kingdom of Tauser which also consists of extensive deserts, all dead Zahara, but it has six mounts (oases) inhabited by negroes. The first is where the King always resides, and where he is crowned. Some call it Almena, others Albertara, others Merma, others Catifi EL Quibir, others Saploya. The King of this kingdom of Tauser is always at war with the Moorish Arabs who live in the Zahara. He has for his device a flag of yellow with a black mountain, like the King of Guynoa.

I departed from Tauser and travelled for a very long distance on camels, until I arrived at the kingdom they call Tremecin which borders on the river Nilus. They 1 A kingdom on the upper Senegal. 2 Western Nile or Niger. 3 Treme\$en, Tremizen, on Telensin extended along the Barbary coast between Melilla and Bugia. The name is compounded of two words Tillimn and syn which means "uniting two," that is the Sahara live always at war with the Christians of Nubia and Etiopia. There are in this kingdom five large places inhabited by negroes. They are Trimisin, Oadac, Manola, Orzia and Palola. You should know that these inhabitants of this kingdom of Tremecen peopled it from Berberia. The King has for his device a purple flag with a white moon.

From there I went to another kingdom called Dongola marching with the deserts of Egipto, and the river Nilus. The river forms two courses, the greater, flowing to the westward, called the Rio Del Oro. On its banks is the kingdom of Guynoa. The other part flows through the deserts of Egipto and enters the Mediterranean Sea at Dam I Ata. Between these two branches of the river is the kingdom of Dongola, a country well peopled with Christians from Nubia, but they are negroes. It is a rich land and very well supplied, and with many fruit trees. The land has a very hot climate. The King of Dongola has for his device a white flag with a cross like this. In this kingdom of Dongola I found Christians, Genoese merchants. I joined with them and we took the road to the river Nilus travelling sixty days journey over the deserts of Egipto until we arrived at the city of Alcaara which is the head of the kingdom of Egipto where they crown their Kings as I have already related.

I left Alcaara and went to Damietta, where I found a ship of Christians and went on board. I sailed in that and the Telt. Abu Yahia Yaghromorasan, the first of the independent Kings, began to reign in 633 A.H. and founded

the Beni Zeian dynasty (1285). There were frequent wars with the Beni Merini of Fez. In 1348 the Beni Zeian threw off the yoke of the Beni Merini, and in 1389 Abu Tashfin became King of Tremeseñ. The Beni Zeian dynasty of Tremeseñ ruled from 1283 to 1554. 1 The Niger and Senegal confused together. 2 The Genoese had a commercial treaty with the Sultans of Egypt from 1290, and were given facilities for traffic up the Nile In return they did good service to the Sultans in several ways. Egypt — African Coast TO Rio Del Oro 33 ship until I disembarked at Cepta already mentioned, and went from there by land to Marruecos again, then crossed the clear mountains to Gazula. I remained there for some time as it is pleasant. Then some Moors armed a galley to go to the Rio Del Oro, for there they make great profits.

I went with them on account of something they said to me, so we left Gazula in that galley. Always keeping along the shores of the western sea we passed Capes NU and Sant Bin and Buyder, all an uninhabited Cap de Saubrun coast, and came to the Rio Del Oro already mentioned, which is a branch of the Nilus rising in the lofty mountains of the Antarctic Pole, where, it is said, is the terrestrial paradise. It traverses the whole land of Nubia and Etiopia and divides into two branches, one flowing through Egipto to Damiata, the other larger branch flowing westward to the occidental sea, and called the Rio Del Oro. We went on after leaving this river for a very long distance, always keeping in sight of the coast, leaving behind us the Islas Perdidas, and came to an island inhabited by many people. They call this island Gropis. It is a well supplied island, but the people are Galpis idolaters. They took us all before their King, and wondered much at us and our language, and customs. The merchants who armed the galley made much profit. The King's device is a white flag with the figure of his idol. We left the island of Gropis and shaped an eastern course towards the southern sea until we found another island called Quible. 3 7 southern sea and is peopled by negroes. We left it on the right handx keeping along the coast, and came in sight of a very high mountain called Alboch. We went there and found it inhabited by many people. There rises from it a river which becomes very large and flows through a fine country. Here the galley turned back, and I remained for some time.

Afterwards I departed from Alboch with some people and went to another mount called Lirry. A river rises from it called Enalco. I left this kingdom called Lirry, and went to another called Gotonie consisting of some very high mountains. They say there are no others so high in the world. They are called the Mountains of the Moon. Others give them the name of the Mountains of Gold, and five rivers flow from them which are the biggest in the world. They all fall into the Rio Del Oro ; and they form a lake so large that it is twenty days journey in length and ten in width. In the middle of it there is a large island called Palola inhabited Pallego by negroes, but most of the land is uninhabited, owing to the intense heat and it is all dead sand. There are six mountains in this land, the largest being the Mount of Oro, Others Lirry, Alboch, Burga, Elbahac, Elmolac. You should know that this kingdom of Gotonye is not very populous, except in these mounts. But it has extensive lands bounded by the Rio Del Oro, the ocean, and a gulf which enters for fifteen days journey from the ocean. So that it is one of the largest kingdoms in the world. Its device is some yellow sashes on a spear. Be it known that this land we are describing is very hot, but it abounds in many delights, and there are many 1 Sierra Leone? 2 The Kamaranka. 3 Soudan and Senegambia. 4 On the banks of this river Nilus they breed the great beasts yielding ivory, and from here the merchants bring the teeth. On the banks of this river they collect gold in the ant hills and collect the ambergris, and for this reason the country is very rich.

I departed from this kingdom of Gotonie and arrived at a gulf connected with the sea, and in the gulf there were three islands, called Zanon, Azeuean and Malicun. I crossed this gulf until I came to a great city called

Amen U AN. It is a very great and populous kingdom with a land supplying all that is good, but the people are heathens and believe in idols. The kingdom contains eight great cities, called Amenuan, where the King always resides and is crowned, Goran, Ascida, Cologane, Benateo, Vnda, Gaona and Canben. The King has a white flag with an idol. In this kingdom of Emenuan there enters a branch of the river Euphrates which rises in the lofty mountains of the Antarctic Pole, where they say that the terrestrial paradise is. This river Euphrates forms three branches, one entering the middle of the kingdom of Amenuan and the other branches flowing round the whole kingdom, the width, in some places, being two days journey. When

I crossed this great river I first made a long journey along its banks which are very populous. I came to a great city called Graciona which is the head of the empire of Abdeselib a word meaning " Servant of the Cross." The Abdeselib is defender of the church of Nubia and Ethiopia, and he defends Prester John who is Patriarch of Nubia 1 Miniana and Amina, regions north of the Kong mountains. As the terrestrial paradise was to be in Africa there must also be a Euphrates, but He assumes two rivers with the same name. 3 This was really the Benue. 3—2 and Abyssinia, and rules over very great lands and many cities of Christians. But they are negroes as to their skins and burn the sign of the cross with fire in recognition of baptism. But although these men are negroes, they are still men of intelligence with good brains, and they have understanding and knowledge. Their land is well supplied with all good things, and excellent water of that which comes from the Antarctic Pole where, it is said, is the earthly paradise. They told me that the Genoese whose galley was wrecked at Amenuan, and who were saved, were brought here. It was never known what became of the other galley which escaped. The Emperor Abdeselib has for his device a white flag with a black cross like this.

I departed from the city of Gra^Iona, for the cities of this empire had names which I could not obtain, and travelled over many lands and through many cities arriving at the city of Malsa where the Preste Iohan always Melee resides. He is the Patriarch of Nubia and Etiopia, and at his coming he always goes along the banks of the river Euphrates. This is a well peopled and well supplied land. From the time

I came to Malsa I saw and heard marvellous things every day. I enquired what the terrestrial paradise was like, and wise men told me that it consisted of mountains so high that they came near to the circuit of the moon. No man has been able to see it all, for of 1 In 1281, according to Graverge de Hemso (Ann. di Geogl), two galleys set out from Genoa commanded by Vadino and Guido de Vivaldo, to go to India. One of them reached a city of Ethiopia called Menam where the crew was imprisoned and none ever returned. 2 Abd-el-Selib. Barth mentions a negro potentate east of Lake Chad — Abd-el-Djelil — who conquered Bornu in 1385. Espada suggests the possibility of this being the Abdelselib of 3 Desquelles nous ne faisons nulle mention, pour doute que ce ne semblait au .lisant estre mensonges. Prester John 37 twenty men who went, not more than three ever saw it, and that they had never heard tell of any man who had ascended the mountains. There are men who say that they saw it from the east, and others that they saw it from the west. They say that when the sun is in Gemini they south see it to the south, and when the sun is in Capricorn they see it from the east. They further told me that these mountains were surrounded by very deep seas, and that from the water of those seas come four rivers which are the largest in the world. They call them Tigris, Euphrates, Gion and Fickion. These four rivers irrigate all Nubia and Etiopia. The waters which descend by these rivers make so great a noise that it can be heard at a distance of two days journey. All the men who live near it are deaf, and cannot hear each other owing to the great noise of the waters. In all time the sun in those mountains is there day and night either on one side or the other. This is because half those mountains are over the horizon, and the other half are over the horizon, so that, on the top of

the mountains, it is never either cold nor dark, nor hot nor dry, nor moist, but an equable temperature. All things, whether animal or vegetable, can never decay nor die. They told me many other secrets of the stars both as regards judgments and magical virtues, also concerning herbs, plants, and minerals, and I saw several marvellous things. The Greeks call this place ORTODOXis, and the Jews Ganheden, and the Latins Paraiso Terrenal, because there is always a good temperature. The device of Preste Iohan is a white flag with a black cross having two crooks one on each side. For in Nubia and Ethiopia also places paradise in the far south. Inferno, canto xxxiv. there are two emperors, one being Emperor of Graciona and the other Emperor of Magdasor.

I departed from the city of Malsa, the residence of Preste Iohan, and took an eastern route, crossing the river Nillo and finding many cities called Amoc, Araoc, Sarma, OEA, Morania, Vyma, Gabencolic, Glaoc, and many other towns. Twice I crossed the river Gion and finally reached a great city called Magdasor. It is a very great empire in which there are many cities, towns, castles, villages, and a populous land of Nubian Christians. This empire of Magdasor is all surrounded- by two of the rivers that come from the deep seas encircling the terrestrial paradise, one Gion the other Pison. On another side it is bounded by a gulf of the Sea of Judea which enters into the land forty days journey. In this city of Magdasor they told me of a Genoese whom they called Sor Leonis, who went in search of his father, who came in two galeasses already mentioned. They treated him honourably. This Sor Leonis wanted to go on to the empire of Graciona in search of his father, but the Emperor of Magdasor would not consent, because the way was doubtful and the road dangerous. You should know that in this land of Nubia and Abyssinia there are 154 regions, lands desert and lands inhabited, insomuch that it embraces a fourth part of the whole face of the earth. The Emperor of Magdasor has for a device a white flag with a black cross.

I departed from the empire of Magdasor and went eastward along the Gion. On the frontier of this empire this river Gion divides into two arms, one going to the 1 2 Itinerario de Sorleone (Antoniotto da Nolla) contains a passage relating to the Genoese expedition of 1281. Two galleys commanded by Vadino and Guido de Vivaldo. At Menam, on the coast of Guinea, the crew of one galley was captured. In 1291 two galleys of Teodosio Doria and Ugolino de Vivaldo reached Amenuan on the Guinea coast. Red Sea 39 south and reaching the Sea of India.

I left this branch and took the one to the right hand. I went along this branch for a very long distance, meeting with people of many beliefs and with strange manners and customs which it would take long to describe, until I came to a gulf of the Sea of India which enters into the land fifty days journey. In this gulf there are three very large islands called Zinzibar, Alcubil and Aden which is the largest and the most populous. It lies against Arabia, and here the Red Sea begins, and penetrates the land westward forty days journey. On its shores are many cities, towns, and villages. When the ships come from India they arrive at Aden and pay a tithe of their merchandize because between the island Aden and the point of Aden there is a rich city. Then there is a very narrow place to pass, and a ship then enters the Red Sea and discharges its cargo at a city they call Sacam, belonging to the King of Caldea. On the shore of this Red Sea there is a city called Albacio which was anciently the head of the kingdom. Here they discharge for Egipto and Damasco, and the goods are taken by land on camels. You should know that this Red Sea is along the shores of Arabia and Caldea, extending by the desert of Egipto. On its shores are many cities and lordships. I will give the principal ones — Chos, (Tra)Lidebo, Made, Axiongebél, Gide, Serayn, Sacanu, Yude, Adromaris, RASAQUIPiz, Meca. This Red Sea is so called because the bottom consists of red ochre, which makes the water 1 An error of the copyist for Acibar or the aloe for which Socotra was famous. * Possibly a corruption of Abyssinia. Lidebo or Aidab. 7 Mader, African coast. 8 Ezion Geber. , Arabian coast. , Arabian coast. Quipal. 40 Mesopotamia red. By this sea the Jews passed when they

went forth from the Egyptian captivity of Faraon the King. Presently

I entered Caldea which is all surrounded by two very great rivers, rising in the mountains of Toro. One is called Cur and the other Euphrates, but not the one of Nubia. Both these rivers reach the Indian Sea in the gulf they call the Black Sea ; but the Jews call it the Persian Sea. This Caldea is a rich, populous, and well supplied land. You should know that in this province is the Tower of Babel which the giants built in the centre of a great plain called the Agro DE Senabar, and here was the great city of Baulonia which is now destroyed, of which the Lord was Nabucodonusor. The people of this Baulonia were in two divisions. One peopled Bandacha, a noble city in the province of Baldaque and the other went to Alcaara DE Baulonia in the Egyptian Alcaara, where now resides the Soldan of Egipto.

I crossed an arm of the Euphrates and entered the province of Baldaque in which there is a great city which they call Bandacho : and Nabucodo- Nusor was King of these provinces. I departed from Bandacho and went to Mesopotania, in which the Emperor Merlinus Tartarus, Lord of Armenia the greater, was crowned.

I left Mesopotania and went to a city they call Montfalcon, where the river Cur forms a great island called Ansera, in which island there is a great city. Beyond this river is the site of the city of Niniue which was destroyed for its sins. You should know that this region contains very extensive lands, many cities and villages, and is all encircled by the two great rivers called Euphrates and Cur. From the borders of the Red Sea to the shores of is a mistake for Tigris. may be Holagou Khan, grandson of Genghis Khan, who took Bagdad in 1258.

I departed from the island of Ansera, crossed the river Cur, and made a very long journey until I came to Arabia, traversing a great extent of land, and arriving at the city of AL Medina where Mahomat was born. From there I went to Meghan where is the law and testament of Mahomat in an iron chest and in a house of calamita stone. For this reason it is in the air, neither ascending nor descending. You should know that this Meghan is the head of the empire of the Arabs. Its device is a red flag and on it Arabic letters in gold.

I departed from Mecha and travelled over the kingdom of Arabia onwards until I arrived at a very large and rich city they call Fadal on the shores of the Sea of India. I remained there some time and then went on board a ship and passed a very large and well peopled island called Sicocra. There is in it a large city also called Sicocra, under the rule of the King of Arabia. This same island the ships touch coming from India laden with spices. It has a red flag with Arabic letters.

I left the island of Sicocra and came to another island called Enrro at the mouth of the Persian Gulf also called the Black Sea. In this gulf they collect the ambergris. This island of Enro belongs to the King of Arabia. We went up the gulf against the north wind and we found the water of the sea to be as red as blood. We continued our voyage and came to two other islands, one of them called Aquisio, with a city of the same name. The other island is called Hormixio, with another great city of the same name. You should know that the empire of Persia extends as far as these two cities, and the lordship of the great Benacayt. *

I left this gulf and entered the province of Sabba where they gather incense, arriving at a great city called Golfathan, from there to Egepta and Cabat, also great and well supplied cities, but they are inhabited by Tartaros, a people without law who do not keep a single one of God's commandments. So

I departed from Sabba and returned to the city of Hormichio where I stayed for some time. I then travelled with some merchants for a very great distance, and arrived at a kingdom of Delini belonging to the Kings of India. It contains extensive lands, very rich and populous. The cities

I came to were nine, called Noncla and Chequimo, Demonela, Coximocha, Granbaet, Ganarrac, Mahobar, Gomar and Colon. You should know that in this kingdom of Lini the pepper and ginger and aloe ripen, and many other spices, of which there are great harvests which are taken over all the world. They call this province India the sandy, and the colour of the people is black. They use Turkish bows. They are a wise people with good memories, and learned in all kinds of knowledge. The device of the King is a white flag with a gold pale.

I departed from the kingdom of Dilini and entered that of Viguy which is on the other coast of the Indian Sea. It is a very rich land, well supplied with all good things. The cities which I visited in the kingdom of Viguy were Panona, Framisia, Tusi, Artillo, Corsa, Rusna, Armonea, Androuar, Moncaspi, and Pascar. Beyond this kingdom there is an island in the Indian Sea called Sagela in which there is a great and rich city. In this 1 Arabia Sabea? 2 Places on the Arabian side of the Persian Gulf. and Rajputana. 5 Bijaya-nagar ? or Narsinga. Eastern Archipelago 43 island there are workings whence gold, silver and other metals and very large rubies come, others smaller. In this kingdom there is a mountain where there is a great city called Baxaja. In this mountain there are other workings for metals and here they extract very large emeralds. This kingdom marches with the empire of Armalec, with the kingdom of Linj and with the Indian Sea. You should know that this Indian Sea is a branch which joins to the great eastern sea. Some say that it covers all the world up to the western sea. Wise men say that as far as the Antarctic Pole there is a great land forming a tenth part of the whole earth. When the sun is on the tropic of Capricorn, it is said, by the learned, to pass over the heads of the people of the Antipodes, who are black people burnt by the great heat of the sun, but it is land where there are many waters coming from the Antarctic Pole. The learned call this land Trapouana, marching with the island of Java, and extending to the westward along an arm "of the great sea which surrounds the whole earth and of which the Indian Sea is part. You should know that in the islands of Java and Tra- Pouana there are 45 extensive regions, the greater part desolate owing to the great heat of the sun. But in the inhabited parts they gather much pepper and many other spices. Here are the great griffins and the great cockatrices. The King has for his device a white flag with a gold wand.

Afterwards I departed from the kingdom of Viguy and passed over a gulf of the Indian Sea which they call the Gulf of Bengala because on its shore there is a great city called Bengala of the empire of Armelec, and it is the capital of the kingdom. I passed from there to the kingdom of Oxanap which is on the shore of the Indian Sea. It The name Taprobana though originally given to Ceylon, came in the middle ages to be applied more frequently to Sumatra. 3 Burma? has four cities, Moroa, Cortomar, Sorfaxa and Xaloac. This Xaloac borders on the confines of the empire of Catayo. Along the shores of Oxanap the sea is green : it is an arm of the Indian Sea between this Oxanap and the island of Java. The King of Oxanap has for his device a white flag with a pale of gold.

I departed from the kingdom of Oxanap, went on board a ship with some merchants, and sailed over the green sea until we came to the island of Java, a very great island in the Indian Sea, forty days journey in length. In this island there are three very great regions. They call one kingdom Mogoles, another Jauales, another Manbrot. The island is very populous, but there are no cities because all the people live in the country, and

gather spices, pepper and odoriferous gums. It is a very hot land. The people are black, and they adore the Emperor of Cathay, whose image they have on their flags. On leaving Java

I returned to the kingdom of Oxanap and took the way to the kingdom of Armalec which has extensive provinces and many cities. The cities which I visited are these. The first where they crown the Kings is Byabalec, one of the grandest cities in the world. Another is Orga, another Balaxia where there is a mine for extracting balaxes, another Menoar, others Almodasi, Laceria, Noranda and Rafania. This empire marches with the kingdoms of Lini and Viguy, and the Gulf of Bengala and the empire of Catayo. The device of this empire is a white flag with a gold pale.

I departed from the empire of Armalec and travelled by land for a very great distance over a well peopled country with flocks, but no cities nor towns, because all the inhabitants live in the country. At last I arrived in the 1 Sarua in Pegu. 2 Burma ? 3 Bengal ? Peking. China 45 empire of Catayo where all the cities are on the shores of the eastern sea, which joins with the Sea of India. This sea of the east is full of reefs and islands, and to the east-ward there is no news of any lands, only waters as in the western sea. You should know that Catayo is the end of the face of the earth in the line of Spain. It marches with the empire of Armalec to the west, with the eastern sea to the east, with the Montes Caspios to the north, which encircle Tartaria. The cities of Catayo which I knew are soLiN, Godiana, Magodiana, Morrosia, Facolisia, Dardasan, Tordaor, Bocarda, Ascania, Longauisa. This empire is irrigated by three great rivers which rise in the Montes Caspios, and are led off into many parts. They call the largest of these rivers Magot for it rises near the castle of Magot, which is one of the gates of encircled Tartaria. This river Magot enters the green sea. The other two rivers go to the Sea of Java. They call this Emperor Gosman Emperor Morroy, and Grand Can, Lord of the East. His device is a gold flag and in the middle an emperor seated, in white cloths, with an imperial crown on his head, in one hand a Turkish bow, in the other a golden apple. There are two certain roads to Catayo, one from Costantinopla, crossing the greater sea, and by the Sea of Lentana to the land of Auegazia, from there to the land of the Rey David, and passing through Armenia the greater, and by the Iron Gate to the Sea of Sara. Then, mountains of Central Asia, including Himalayas, Altai, mountains of Mazanderan and Caucasus. 2 The Christian tradition was that the land of Gog and Magog was on the west side of the Caspian. The Arab geographers moved it to the far east and north. Marco Polo identified their country with that of the Huns. There are curious legends about 3 The Hoang Ho. * Black Sea. 5 Sea of Azof. by the isle of Janula by the Gulf of Monimenti and so to the city of Trastargo : from there taking the road to Norgancio and crossing the Montes Caspios to the city of Cato and the kingdom of Bocarin.

From there all Asia must be crossed, without finding a city or town to the empire of Catayo. The other way is by entering the Mediterranean Sea and going by the island of Chipre to Armenia the greater, from there to the city of Sauasto which is in TURQUYA and travelling on to the river Euphrates and the city of Argot. The empire of Mesopotamia must then be crossed, from there reaching the river of AR and travelling by the kingdom of LA Iglesia which is in the empire of Persia. Then cross all Persia to the city of Toris, leaving the Sea of Sara on the left hand, and travelling over all the kingdom of Siras which has neither city nor town. Then cross the kingdom of Sarmagant always working to the eastward to the kingdom of Scim. The Scim is not the one we spoke of before, for the other Scim is in higher India, bounded by the eastern sea, while this borders on the empire of Catayo. But from Scim to Catayo there is neither city nor town because the inhabitants all live in the country.

I departed from the empire of Cataya towards the north, up the course of the river Magot and travelled for sixty-five days. I did not find town nor city. The land is entirely inhabited by tribes with flocks. It is all a plain country and has no stones, nor trees, nor people who eat bread, but only meat and milk. Yet they sow a seed which they call monos*, something like ajonjoli. It is sown at any time of the year, presently sprouts, and is reaped after thirty days. This is raised in great quantity. It is cooked * Bokhara. Mungo. Mondj of Ibn Batuta, small green bean. Mongolia 47 with milk, and makes very good food, which the people eat and give to travellers. These tribes have many horses without number. They do not eat barley because there is none, but only hay. They are so numerous because the climate is suitable.

From there I reached the Montes Caspios of Magot. You should know that these mountains are of immeasurable height, and surround Tartaria from sea to sea, and there is only one very narrow pass. Here there is a castle built of magnet iron throughout ; for nature made it in this manner, and it reaches to the clouds. At its foot rises the river Magot. On the other side there is another castle which is as high, and built of the same stone, called Got. The castles are very high on the top, so that ten thousand men can reside in each of them. Between the two are the Iron Gates which shut the entrance to Tartaria. Within these mountains all the land is plain without stones or trees, and with a temperate climate, and left to many flocks. It is a hundred days journey long and seventy broad, all closed in by these Montes Caspios. To the east it is all bounded by the sea, and also there are very great rocky dales. Within this Tartaria there are countless tribes who do not observe any of the commandments of God, except that they do no evil one to another. They are very confident, and great fighters both on foot and on horseback, insomuch that Alexander was unable to conquer them, or to enter their country by the mountains for they shut and fastened those iron gates by placing great rocks against them, and they were closed for a long time. Eventually they removed the obstruction, coming out and conquering a great part of the world themselves. For from that lineage came all those of the empire of Catayo. From that lineage also came those of the empires of 1 Gog and Magog are from Ezekiel xxxviii. Gog the chief prince of Mesheck and Tubal, coming from his place out of the north parts. , Arauia, and Mesopotamia, all the Persians, those of the empire of Sara, as well Turks as Tartars, Saracens and Goths. Some of them turned to the law of Abraham and others turned Moors. The wise men of Tartaria say that when 7000 years of the era of Adam are completed, they will be lords of the whole face of the earth, and will make all peoples conform to their law and to their freedom. But certainly they observe no law what- ever, and keep no commandments of God except not doing evil one to another. This enclosed Tartaria forms a fourth part of the whole earth. In the middle of this land there is a great lake which they called the Tabasum sea. The people of this land are called Mogoles and the land is known as Mogolin, the land of Tagojar, the land of Got and Magot. With these mountains the empire of Catayo is bounded. I lived for some time in that castle of Magot because I saw and heard marvellous things every day. On the north side Tartaria is bounded by the lands of Albizibi which are desert and uninhabited, though there are people in some places who are vile and eaters of raw flesh and fish. They have long faces like dogs, but they are white and do anything they see to do. They are called Sinofalos. I saw one of them in the city of Norgancio. In this empire of Catayo there is a kingdom called Scim which borders on the kingdoms of Sarmagant, Bocarin, and Trimic. This kingdom of Scim is in India the high, which borders on the eastern sea. And from this kingdom of Scim comes the great mountain Caucasum which extends from the eastern sea to India 1 Lake Lob. 2 Cino-cefalos. On the map of the Pisigani (1367) there is a legend about them written near the river Tanais. 3 India Transgangetica. (Elbeit). The Indies 49 the low. The kingdom of Trimic is all surrounded by mountains which give rise to many fountains and rivers. This land has a very healthy climate and agubilada? so that those

who are born and live here have very long lives. They are men of clear understandings and good memories, learned in the sciences, and live according to law. They say that the men who first heard of science and learning were these, and that the Persians heard of those things from them. For this reason they deserve honour more than any others because no others equal them in science nor in learning : and for this they deserve honour above all other men. For the others did not equal these in science or learning. This is because they are at the birthplace of the east, and the rest of the towns and great cities, and the root of this kingdom are all due to the temperate climate which tempered their bodies and the good extended to their spirits, and gave them better understandings and clearer memories. For this they deserved greater honour. Beyond these are the people of India who are near the equinoctial line. Their land is very hot. Most of their towns are on the sea shore and there are many islands. So that the air receives moisture from the sea, and tempers the dryness and heat. In this way are formed beautiful bodies and graceful forms, with fine hair; which are not produced by the heat, except that it produces dark colour. India the high is bounded by the eastern sea which is called Mare Sericum or Mare Cansasur from the Montes Caucasos. In this sea there is a great island called Manzie ; and beyond it there is another known as Paradise, and here a great gulf penetrates into the land, and 1 Qr'agulilada, from the Arabic gialil, grand, illustrious. is the earliest European account of the Tibetans. 4 Manji of Marco Polo, and Manci of Orderico de Bordenone. 4 covers all until it comes to the western sea. They call it the Sea of India. On the shores of that sea is India the high, and India the sandy, and the cities of Nubia. You should know that the water of this sea is warm like the water in a bath, and great fish are bred in it. The other two kingdoms are to the westward. The first of these lands is Babilonja, the second Persia. Their inhabitants are a temperate race, because they are in the middle of the climates, in a locality where natures and complexions are equal, being in the commencement of the western peoples. For this reason also they are clever and have good memories, favouring science and learning, and the formation of government and laws. They merit nobility, being in the western part where the heat is not so great. They are considered to be in the second grade of the nobility of the orientals. Owing to this the Romans, who are in the fifth climate, and take the sixth, where they held sovereignty, are less than the others as regards law, science, and learning. Consequently they are haughty, proud, quarrelsome, and warlike. But those of Scim merit nobility above all. There are four great cities in Scim called Catigora, Cebia, Cuci and Bacerta. The flag of the King of Scim is white with a figure of the sun in the centre.

I departed from Magot where I had resided for some time and travelled with some companions 25 days journey to the westward, to the city of Bocarin where the King always resides. It is a very great city, and a river flows by it, which has its source in the Montes Caspios. Here I met with merchants who came from Catayo and travelled with us 35 days journey to another city called Cato, the 1 Sgim appears to be a kingdom of hearsay. It may refer to some confused stories about the people of Bengal and Burma. Or it may be Siam which is called Cini by Varthema (p. 224). Caspian 5 1 head of a kingdom with very extensive territory. But all the residents live in the country, except the people of one city where the King lives. These two kingdoms have for a device a yellow flag with many white stars. We departed from the kingdom of Cato and travelled a great distance without finding town nor city, yet the country was inhabited and with many flocks. We came to a mountain which is a spur from the Caspian Mountains and extends to the Sea of Sara. This mountain is 125 days journey long. We crossed it by a very high pass and again travelled a long distance over a country without cities or towns, until we came to a great city called Norgancio in the empire of Uxbeco. Near it flows a great river called Organcio which rises in that spur of the Montes Caspios. The King of this Norgancio has for his device a white flag with the sign of Uxbeco Emperor of Sara red. We left Norgancio and travelled for 30 days without seeing a city or town ; but

there was plenty of milk and meat and monos. Then we came to the Sea of Sara, to a city which they call Raansinlia. It is in the Gulf of Monimenti.

I stayed there for some time. Afterwards I embarked on the Sea of Sara in a ship of Coman Christians, and we anchored off a city called Godaspa, which is in the territory of Vnascayt Emperor of Persia. Further on a great river enters the sea called Tigris, which rises in 1 Apparently a region in or bordering on Siberia. 2 Kharism or Khiva. 3 Shah Usbek was born in 1292 and died 1341. His empire extended from the Dnieper to the Ural mountains, according to the Catalan map of 1376. 4 On the Caspian. the right bank of the Don. 8 Abu Said Jan Bahadur son of Aldjaptu, Mogul Sultan of Persia 1317 to 1335. 4—2 the mountains of Toro. I followed up the course of this river until

I came to the mountains of Toro which are in the middle of the land of the Emperor of Persia. From these mountains four great rivers flow. They call one the Tigris which enters the Sea of Sara between two cities called Godaspa and Sarmagante which belonged to the empire of Persia. The other, called Cur, goes through Persia, and there are many cities on its banks. The kingdom near the mountains of Toro is called Eglesia and is inhabited by Armenian Christians. Another city is called Malascort and another Nasol, others Orbe, Suscar, Maxate, Mahumen, Brasar, and Aquisio on the shores of the Black Sea. The third river, called Eufrates, has on its banks Argor, Nega, Camac, Alargeo, and Malaxia. This river has three arms. One flows to the Red Sea, another goes by Arabia to the Black Sea, another flows by Damasco and the land of Jafet to the Mediter- ranean Sea. The fourth river, called Surmena, goes by Toris and Jorgania, entering the Mare Mayor near Trapesonda.

Then I left the mountain of Toro and went to see the mountains of Armenia the greater, where the ark of Noe arrived when it escaped the universal deluge. This mountain is of salt stone as white as crystal. You should know that is one of the highest mountains in the world. No man has been able to ascend it, though attempts have been made many times. These mountains are in the empire of Persia. All round the country is inhabited by Armenian Christians who are the guards of the Emperor and he places much trust in them.

I departed from Armenia and came to the great city of Toris " which is 1 Cyrus or Kur. on the mappemonde of Sanudo 1321. i 10 Shown on the map of Pisigani and the Catalan of 1376. It is one of the grandest cities in the world, well supplied, rich, and in a good climate. For this reason the Persians are wise and well versed in all the sciences. They have learned men with a profound knowledge of the stars. The Emperor of Persia has for his device a yellow flag with a red square in the middle. You should know that in Persia there rise two fountains and that each one makes a great lake 12 miles in width, and from each a river flows which crosses the whole of Persia. They call one fountain Marsargis and the other Marcargis. The two rivers unite. and enter the Black Sea. The cities on their banks are Argis, Caperti, Salamanca, Ormi, Cade, Buxila, and Rastello.

I crossed the river of Argis and went over a great part of Persia, going from there to the kingdom of Saldania and its rich and noble city. Its King has for his device a yellow flag with a red square. I departed from Saldania and went with some merchants eastward to another city called Premua Del Rey DE Persia, from there to Abba. From from there

I travelled a long distance until I came to the city of Ayra, called by the Tartars Sarax, where the empire of Persia ends. It is a well supplied city, rich, and very ancient. They say that in this city was first discovered the astronomy or law of the stars; for this city is in the line of the centre of Persia. The cities I have visited in Persia

are Casar, Serrans, Thesi, Spaor, Jorjaman, Spalonero, Saldania, and Toris. In this last town is where Benascayt, the Em- peror of Persia, was crowned. His empire extends from the Sea of Sara to the Persian Gulf where is the city of HORMIXIO, and from the Mare Mayor to Aquisio also 1 Lake Urumia. 2 Lake Van. ;,3 Sultanieh? on the Persian Gulf. Its length is 125 days journey and its width from the river Cur to the city of Siras 100 days journey. Benascayt, Emperor of Persia, assembled a very great host and went to fight with Uxbeco, Emperor of Sara. There arrived more than a million and a half of cavalry. Then Benascayt promised some Armenian monks whom he consulted, that if he won the battle he would become a Christian. The Armenian Christians, who came with him, marched with a cross before them and, God help- ing, he conquered. Uxbeco was defeated and his cavalry fled. Many were killed or taken prisoners, all their tents pillaged, and their women captured* The conqueror ad- vanced far into the enemy's country.

After this some Moorish Hajjis who preached daily to Benascayt, gave him certain herbs and he died. But the Kings of Persia always favoured the Christians and trusted them. After this I left Persia with some merchants who came from Catayo. We crossed the river Cur at the island of Ausero and came to the city of Mesapotamia in the empire of Baldac.

From there we travelled for a great distance without coming to any city, for all the inhabitants lived in the country. We next came to the river Euphrates and cross- ing it, came to a city called Lualaxa. Here a branch of the river turns to Damasco and the land of Jafet, falling into the Mediterranean Sea.

Then I went along the river Ayuso until I came to a city called Tripul of Suria which is on the shore of the Mediterranean. There I embarked in a ship of Christians and went to Chipre, from there to the isles of Romania and Ancandia, from there to the Morea and from there to Creta, Negropont, and a kingdom of Greeks which they call Salonico, bordering 1 See Deguignes in. 269. Abu Said encamped on the banks of the Kur or Cyrus, and the forces of Usbeg retreated. Abu Said died while taking a bath. Others say that his favourite wife poisoned him '335- . Constantinople 55 on Macedonia, where the great Alexander reigned. The King of Salonica has for his device a red flag with a yellow cross and four chain links.

From there I went to a city they call Galipoli which is on the shore of the gulf between the Mediterranean and the greater sea. By this way the French passed when they conquered Suria. From there I went along the sea coast to a city they call Recrea and from there to the city of Con- stantinopla, a rich city, the capital of the empire where they crown the Kings. Here there is a church of God called Santa Sofia, which is very wide, lofty, and beautiful. Before it there is a tower of stone which has not been ascended. On the summit of this tower there is placed a knight with his horse of metal. It is very large, and he has on his head an episcopal hat It is in honour of the Emperor Constantine. His right hand is extended towards Turquia which was formerly called Asia Minor, on the other side of this gulf of the sea. The Emperor of Con- stantinople has for his device a flag quarterly, 1st and 4th argent a cross gules, 2nd and 3rd gules a cross or between four chain links or.

I left Constantinople and entered the Mare Mayor, proceeding along the coast on the left hand until I came to a kingdom called Lodomago. It is a very rich country. The King has for a device a red flag with a yellow cross between four chain links. Leaving Lodomago I came to Mesenbez, and from there to Barna. Here is the true Greece, and the empire of the Greeks in Greece is formed of many provinces, namely Archadia, Achia, Boecia, Macedonia, Cahonia, 2 A column. The statue of Constantine fell in 1207. The statue of Theodosius was afterwards placed on the column made of silver. The episcopal hat was probably a nimbus or crown. 'S

Dominions— Danube Letedomonia, Cesalonica^Parus: another Macedonia up to Constantinopla, and the land of Sufragia, and the land of Micali. Near all these lands there is a river called Pirus which rises in the mountains of Cerua.

I departed from the kingdom of Menseber and went along the shore of the Mare Mayor to a great city called Vecina. Here nine rivers unite, and fall into the Mare Mayor. They call the first Turbo, the second Danubio, the third Dacia, the fourth Drinago, the fifth Pinga, the sixth Raba, the seventh Rabesa, the eighth UR, the ninth Vecine. These nine rivers make a great commotion before this city of Vecina which is the capital of the kingdom. It has a white flag with four red squares.

I departed from Vecina and went along the coast to Mauro Castro and from there to Lobo, a very high mountain, and near it there is a river called Lusur which rises in the mountains Rexos. After this port there is a city called Pidea, the head of the kingdom. It has the same flag as Uxleto because it is its dependency.

From there I went to the port of Nigropila which is in a large gulf of the Mare Mayor. From there I reached the Cape of Gotia which is between the Mare Mayor and the Sea of Letana. The Goths occupied this cape when they went forth to besiege Alexandre. The cape borders on two very extensive provinces, the land of the King David and the province of Anogasia, and Tana.

From there I entered the Sea of Tana by a strait between the Capes of Gotia and Tus, where there is a city called Materga. There are three kingdoms bordering on this Sea of Letana, which are subject to Uxleto. These are Comania whose people are Christians, Comanes; Tana a country of Turcos and Tartaros and CANARDi. They are divided by a great river called 1 Laced em onizu ft Sulina ? of Azof. The flags of these kingdoms are the same as that of their over-lord Uxleto.

I departed from the Sea of Letana and proceeded along the shores of the eastern side of the Mare Mayor for a very long distance, passing by Aruasaxia, and Pesonta in the empire of Uxleto, and arrived in the kingdom of Sant Estropoli which is inhabited by Comanes Christians. Here there are many people who have Jewish descent, but all perform the works of Christians in the sacrifices, more after the Greek than the Latin Church. The King has for his flag — gules a hand argent.

I left Sant Estropoli and went to Gorgania which is between the Mare Mayor and the Mar DE Sara, a very extensive land of the empire of Uxleto. I then went along the shore, passing by Faxe and Conisa to the city of Trapesonda where I remained for some time. This empire borders on Turquía, but the people are Greek Christians. The Emperor of Trapesonda has for his device a red flag with a golden two-headed eagle. {)

I departed from Trapesonda and went by Quinisona arriving at the kingdom of Semiso, a large and populous territory bordering on Turquía and the Mar Mayor. The King has for his device a white flag with a sign like this. The people are Greek Christians. I departed from Semiso and, still going along the coast, came to a kingdom they call Castelle, inhabited by Greek Christians who are at war with the Turcos. This kingdom is strong and populous. Its device is a red flag with a golden cross between four chain links. From Castelle

I went to Samasco, from there to Punta 1 The Don. ° Sinope. and Carpi, arriving at a kingdom called Palolimen bordering on the province of Troya and the Mar Mayor. Its inhabitants are Greek Christians. I left Palolimen and went by Diaschilo to Fera- Delfia, and found a rich and well" supplied city. All these cities are in

Turquia anciently called Asia Minor. The King has for his device a flag parted per pale, argent and azure and on a field argent a cross gules.

I departed from the kingdom of Feradelfia and went to another kingdom called Atologo which contains extensive territory near the sea. The King has for his device a red flag charged with a black wheel. I left Atologo, travelling by land with some merchants, went across all Turquia and came to the city of Sauasco. Leaving that place

I crossed a river which rises in the mountains of Toro, travelled over Jorgania until I arrived at the Sea of Sara, at a city called Deruent, having an extensive and well supplied territory : but the climate is cold. The flag is that of Uxbeco, to which empire Deruent is subject. At Deruent

I embarked on the Sea of Sara in a panfilo, and arrived at a city called Caraol, in a very great and well supplied kingdom subject to the empire of Persia. Between Deruent and Caraol there is a port called Jan u AS Ferri. There are many wars concerning it, for Deruent is in the empire of Uxbeco and Caraol is in the empire of Persia.

Then I went from Caraol to Axbran*, Barnachu, and the point of Bacu which is all surrounded by the Sea of Sara, but there is one entrance by the mainland. Here a great river enters the Sea of Sara, which they call Tigres. It comes from the lofty 1 Sakaria, near Scutari. Baku. 7 Kur or Cyrus. At the approach to the point there is a great city called Bacu, and the adjacent sea is know as Sara DE Bacu. This name is also given to the King of that land who is known as Don Bacus, He was very powerful and got the people to believe that he was a god, and He was spoken of as the god Don Bacus, and he founded this city of Bacu. The Tartaros have many names for this Sea of Sara. They call it the Sea of CASPIO after the Montes Caspios, and the Sea of Jorgania, and of Quillan, those countries being on its shores. They call it the Sea of Bacu after the city of Bacu.

I departed from the city of Bacu and went by Gudaspu, Reversa, Avar, Maumet, Asangu, Musaur, Espauor, Quillan along the shores of the Sea of Sara. They are to the south, in the empire of Persia. Then I went along the shore on the other side to the north, by the Gulf of Monimenti, to Trescargo, Contulicanchi, and to the great city of Sara where Uxbeco was crowned Emperor of the Tartaros. This city is situated in the Gulf of Moni- Menti, and on the river Tan AY, along the banks of which there are many rich cities, but it is a very cold country. The device of the Emperor of Sara is a white flag with a red sign.

I departed from the city of Sara and went up the course of the river Tirus until it joined the Tanay. The cities which I passed on the banks of the Tanay are Balta- Chinca, Escleurza, Tifer, Coranchi, which are capitals of kingdoms, each one with extensive bounds, belonging to the empire of Sara. They are rich and well supplied lands, 1 A mistake for Twer. The capital of Kipchac or empire of Uzbeg was destroyed by Timour in 1403. It was on the left bank of the Volga, between that river and the Gulf of Mertuoy, which " 2 Volga? 60 Russia with many flocks, camels, cows and buffaloes.

I went on to the junction of the river Tir, which others call the Caspio, rising in the mountains Caspios. This river Tir comes from the great Tanays lake, and both united form a very large river flowing north so that it is not known where it ends. It flows into the Albizibi country, which is desert and uninhabited, except tKat in a few places there are vile people who eat raw flesh and fish, and have long faces like dogs. They are called Signofalos. I turned to the westward up the river Tir because I was unable to pass it, owing to the great width.

I arrived at a province called Sebur where there is a great city called Casorama, its capital. This kingdom is quite surrounded by the two rivers Tyr and Tanay. I departed from the kingdom of Sebur and arrived at cities called Tascoar and Pidea. Here I crossed the river Tanay and entered a great province called Roxia in which there is a city called Xorman, the capital of the kingdom. It is bounded by the great lake of Tanay, which is three days journey in length and two broad. Three very great rivers flow from it, one called Tanay falling into the Mar Mayor beyond the city of Tana, another called Tir flowing into the deserts of Albirzibi, the other NU turning to the west towards the sea of Alemana beyond a city called Virona. This river of NU bounds a great province called Siccia, a very cold country. In this Siccia there is a great city, the capital of the kingdom, called Nogarado. The King has for his device a red flag with a white castle.

I departed from Siccia and entered another kingdom, but believed in, by most of the; middle age geographers. * Novgorod. Leaving Xorman I presently came to Maxar a kingdom in which there are three cities Cas AM A, Lasac, and Monscaor. This kingdom lies between the kingdoms of Vogarado and Siluana. This King of Maxar has for his device a purple flag with white stars. From Maxar

I went to the kingdom of Siluana which they call Septen Castra and the Greeks call it Horgiml. It is encircled by two great rivers, the Turbo and Lusim. In this kingdom there is a great city called Sarax. The king has for a device a green flag with a red scimitar. The people are schismatic Christians. Ascending the river Tir towards the north there are two very large provinces called Yrcania and Gotia, whence the Goths came forth who entered Spain. It is called the land of Nogulaus. The people are strong and warlike, but their country is very cold. This Gotia and Yrcania march with the lofty mountains of Trasmontana. In these mountains the north star is seen in the middle of the heavens, and throughout the year there is daylight for six months, and night for six months. It is uninhabited, yet they say that men are met with whose heads come out of their shoulders, having no necks whatever. Their beards are on their breasts, and their ears reach to the shoulders. There are also found in this land very great bears and wild beasts, as I have already related. These two provinces of Yrcania and Gotia were peopled by the Godos who came from the closed Tartaria, from the castle of Got and Magot when they deliberated on the siege of Alexandre, and the conquest of the greater part of the world. With this Gotia marches another province called Paschar which borders, Back TO Seville on Sueuia. In this Sueuia there is a great province called Roderin, and two great lakes, each a day's journey across. One is called Stocol, the other Lacus Estarse. They surround a great land between the Sea of Alemania and the mountains of the Trasmontana. It is a land cold without measure.

Afterwards these two rivers fall into the Sea of Alemania, in a gulf of that sea which they call the Stocol gulf. This gulf is frozen for the greater part of the time, owing to the intense cold. In this sea is the island of Godlandia which I have already mentioned. I departed from Sueuia and turned to the sea shore, reaching a city which they call Sordepin, and from there to another called Calmar, from there to Estocal, Sormences, Ystac, and Londis. In Londis

I embarked in a German arroca and steered west in the Sea of Alemania. We found five islands in this sea, Godlandia, Cola, Biscar, Bondelet, and Salandia. Here a great gulf of the Sea of Alemana enters, and surrounds all the kingdom of Dacia of the Danes. In the entrance to this gulf there are two islands called Janglant and Finonia.

From there I went to Flanders, and from there to Seville, the city from which I first started.

Here the book ends: Flanders, and from there Seville, the city from which he first started.