

In Religion.

woman is married, she is quite forsaken of all her Suiters; who then seeke out other new Paramours for their liking. Concerning their Religion, the greater part of these people are neither Mahometans, Iewes, nor Christians; and hardly shall you find so much as a spark of Pietie in any of them. They haue no Churches at all, nor any kind of Prayers, but being vtrly estranged from all godly doctrine, they leade a savage and beastly life: and if any man chanceth to bee of a better disposition (because they haue no Lawgiuers nor Teachers among them) hee is constrained to follow the example of other mens liues and manners.

Robberie.

All the Numidians being most ignorant of Naturall, Domestical, and Common-wealth matters, are principally addicted vnto Treson, Trecherie, Murther, Theft and Robberie. This Nation, because it is most faithless, will right gladly accept of any seruice among the Barbarians, to be it neuer so vile or contemptible. For some will take vpon them to be Dung-farmers, others to be Scullions, some others to be Otilers, and such like seruile Occupations. Likewise the Inhabitants of Libya lue a brutish kind of life; who neglecting all kinds of good Arts and Sciences, doe wholly apply their minds vnto thiefe and violence. Neuer as yet had they any Religion, any Lawes, or any good forme of liuing; but alwaies had, and euer will haue a most miserable and distressed life. There cannot any trecherie or villanie be invented so damnable, which for lures sake they dare not attempt. They spend all their dayes either in melt lewd practices, or in hunting, or else in warfares; neither wear they any shooes nor garments. The Negroes likewise leade a beastly kind of life, being vtrly destitute of the vse of reason, of dexteritie of wit, and of all Arts. Yea, they so behaue themselves, as if they had continually liued in a Forest among wild beasts. They haue great warmes of Harlots among them; whereupon man may easily coniecture their manner of liuing; except their conuercation peepes bee somewhat more tolerable, who dwell in the principall Townes and Cities: for it is like that they are somewhat more addicted to Ciuilitie.

§. II.

Collections of things most remarkable in IOHN LEO his second Booke of the Historie of Africa.

The Map of the Kingdome of Marocco, or Maruccos.



Beginning at the West part of Africa, we will in this our Geographical Historie proceed Eastward, till we come to the borders of Egypt. The Region of Hea being one of the Provinces of Marocco is bounded Westward and Northward with the maine Ocean, Southward with the Mountaines of Atlas, and Eastward with the Riuer which they call Erythrae. This Riuer springeth out of the forestad Mountaine, discharging it selfe at length into the Riuer of Teniffi, and diuiding Hea from the Province next adiacent.

The Region of Hea is an vncleane and rough soyle, full of rockie Mountaines, steepe Woods, and Chittill Streames in all places; being wonderfully rich, and well floved with Inhabitants. They haue in the said Region great abundance of Goats and Ases, but not such plenty of Sheep, Oxen, and Horses. All kind of Fruits are very scarce among them. This People for the most part eateth Bready-bread vntoasted, which is like rather vnto a Cake, then to a Loafe: this Bread is baked in a kind of cloth Garment made of Wooll after the manner of a Couerlet, called in their Language, Elabif, and not vnto those Couerlets of Blankets which the Indians lye vpon their Beds. In these kind of Mantles they wrap themselves; and when an as they giue with a woollen girdle, nor about their waiste, but about their hips. You may easily discern which of them is married, and who is not: for any married man alwaies keepe his Beard shauen, which, after hee bee once married, hee suffereth to grow at length. The said Region bringeth forth no great plenty of Horses, but those that doth bring forth, are so nimble and full of mettall, that they will chuse like Cats out the steepe and craggie Mountaines. These Horses are alwaies vntoasted: and the People of this Region vie to till their ground with no other Cattell, but onely with Horses and Ases. You shall here find great store of Deere, of wild Goats, and of Hares. No good learning nor liberall Arts are here to be found; except it be a little skill in the Lawes, which some few challenge vnto themselves: other wise you shall find not so much as any shadow of vertue among them. They haue neither Physician nor Surgeon of any learning or account. But if a distease or infectious befall any of them, they presently leaue or cauterize the sickie partie with red hot Irons, even as the Indians vse their Horses. Howbeit some Chyrurgians there are among them, whole dutie and occupation consisteth onely in circumcising of their male Children. Whosoever will traueill into a forraigne Countrey must take either a Harlot, or a Wife, or a religious man of the contrary part, to beare him companie. They haue no regard at all of Iustice.

The ancient Citie of Tenediff was built by the Africans vpon a most bequittfull and large Plaine, which they inuironed with a lofty Wall built of Bricke and Lime. In this Citie there are no Innes, Stoues, nor Wine-tauerne: so that whatsoever Merchant goes thither, must take out some of his acquaintance to remaine withall: but if hee hath no friends nor acquaintance in the Towne, then the principall Inhabitants there cast lots who should entertaine the strange Merchant: inasmuch that no Stranger, be neuer so meane, shall want friendly entertainment; but is alwaies sumptuously and honourably accepted of. But whoeuer is received as a Guest, must at his departure bestow some gift vpon his Host in token of thankfulness, to the end hee may be more welcome at his next returne. Howbeit if the said Stranger be no Merchant, hee may chuse what great mans house he will to lodge in, being bound at his departure to no recompence nor gift. To be short, if any Beggar or poore Pilgrim passe the same way, he hath some sustenance provided for him in a certaine Hospitall, which was founded onely for the releefe of poore people, and is maintained at the common charge of the Citie. In the middle of the Citie stands an ancient Temple, being most sumptuously built, and of an huge bignesse, which was thought to be founded at the very same time when as the King of Marocco bare rule in those places. This Temple hath a great Ciborne standing in the midst thereof, and it hath many Priests and such kind of People which giue attendance thereto, and store it with things necessarie. In this Citie likewise are diuers other Temples, which, albeit they are but little, yet be they most cleanly and decently kept. There are in this Citie about an hundred Families of Iewes. My selfe saw this Citie vtrly ruined and defaced, the Wall thereof being laid euen with the ground, the Houses being destitute of Inhabitants, and nothing at that time to be there seen, but onely the nests of Rauens and of other Birds. All this I saw in the 920. yeere of the Hegira.

Vpon the foot of an hill eighteene miles Eastward from Tenediff, stands a Towne called by the Africans Teceleb, and containing about one thousand Households. Here also is to be seene a most stately and beautifull Temple, as likewise foure Hospitals, and a Monastrie of Religious persons. The Inhabitants of this Towne are farre wealthier then they of Tenediff: for they haue a most famous Port vpon the Ocean Sea, commonly called by Merchants, Goo. They haue likewise great abundance of Corne and Pulle, which grow in the fruitfull fields adiacent. It was destroyed by the Portugals, 1514.

The Citie of Hudecchia being situate vpon a Plaine, standeth eight miles Southward of Tenediff: it containeth seuen hundred Families: and the Walls, Churches, and Houses throughout this whole Citie are all built of Free-stone. They haue certain yearly Faires or Markets, whereunto

The Region of Hea lying vpon the West part of Africa. Their Food. Their Attire. Their manner of entertain- ing Strangers at Tenediff. Their Temple. Tenediff destroyed by the Portugals. Hudecchia a Towne of Hudecchia. S I I T