

## TERRA INCOGNITA.

making of hole metals, Chams and Letters for their *Malefactors*, Pans of Cloe-Wools, Camber-pots and Vessels of such unclean use; by impaling it as a penalty on infamous persons, to wear Gold Rings upon their Fingers, and the like devices: as also his device to prevent mistakes and dislikes in marriages, by giving the parties a full view of each other, naked. Many more projects of this nature, some of them possible enough, but so impracticable, so beyond hope of being looked on in the modelling of a *Comœdia mundi*, that we may reckon this device amongst those strange fancies, *qua nunguam ante se conceptas, rursum in representatione*. The man indeed (considering the times he lived in) of rare abilities; but this *Hipps* fitted only to the *American* of this Southern Continent, this *Terra Australis Incognita*, in which now we are, and to no place else.

3. *NEW ATLANTIS* is an Island of this *Southern Continent* discovered by Sir *Francis Bacon*, the learned *Visecount of St Albans*; one of Sir *Thomas More's* successors in the place of *Lord Chancellor*; but far before him in the Excellency and feasibility of his invention. It had this name with reference to *Atlantis*, an Island of the Western or *Atlantic* Ocean, mentioned in the Works of *Plato*, both alike invisible. But for his falling on this Island, his description of it, the City of *Ben-Salem*, and the manner of his reception there, such handsom probabilities, and so fairly carried, that to one not acquainted with the *State of the World*, it would seem a *Reality*. But above all things, the inventions and designs of *Salomon's House*, for perfecting the works of nature, or rather improving nature to the best advantages of life, and the benefit of mankind, are beyond comparison. The man I must confess had his personal errors (I know none without them) of good and bad qualities equally compounded, *Alves eus vigore & levitate mixtissimi*, as *Patreclus* once said of *Piso*: not one amongst many thousands (to put me that *Charakter*) qui aut orum solidius diligat, aut facilius sufficiat negotio. A man of a most strong brain, and a *Chemical* Head. Who if he had been entertained with some liberal *Salario*, extracted from all Affairs both of State and *Judicature*, and furnished with sufficiencie both of means on Heaps, for the going on in his *design*, would, I am confident, have given us such a body of natural *Philosophie*, and made it so subservient to the publicke good, that neither *Aristotele* or *Theophrastus* amongst the Antients, nor *Paracelsus*, or the rest of our later *Chymists*, would have been considerable.

4. *FAERIE LAND*, is another part of this *Terra Incognita*; the habitation of the *Faeries*, a pretty kind of little Fiends, or *Pigmy Devils*, but more inclined to sport than mischief; of which old Women, who remember the times of *Poetry*, tell us many fine stories. A cleaner and more innocent cheat was never put upon poor ignorant people, by the *Monks* and *Friers*. Their habitation here or no where; though sent occasionally by *Oberon* and their other Kings to our parts of the *World*. For not being reckoned amongst the *good Angels*, nor having malice enough to make them *Devils* (but such a kind of middling *Sprites*, as the *Laines* call *Lemures Larve*) we must find out some place for them, neither *Heaven* or *Hell*, and most likely this. Their Country never more enabled, than by being made the *Scene* of that excellent Poem, called the *Faerie Queen*. Intended to the honour of *Queen Elizabeth*, and the greatest persons in her Court; but shadowed in such lively colours, framed so exactly by the Rules of *Poete*, and representing such *Ideas* of all moral goodness; that as there never was a Poem more *Artificial*; so can no *Ethical* discourse, more fashion and inflame the mind to the love of virtue. *Invisum facilius aliquem quam imitacrum*, shall be *Spencers Aloue*; and so I leave him to his rest.

5. The *PAINTERS HIVES ISLAND*, is an Island of this *Territory*, mentioned by Sir *Walter Raleigh*, in his *History of the World*. Of which he was informed by *Don Pedro de Sarmiento*, a Spanish Gentleman, employed by his King in planting some Colonies on the *Straits of Magellan*, (which we have touched upon before.) Who being taken Prisoner by Sir *Walter* in his going home, was asked of him about some *Land* which the *Map* pretended in those *Straits*, and might have been of great use to him in his undertaking. To which he merrily replied, that it was to be called the *Painters Wives Land*, saying that whilst the Painter drew that *Map*, his wife sitting by, desired him to put in one Country for her, that in her imagination might have an *Island* of her own. His meaning was, that there was no such *Land* as the *Map* pretended. And I fear the Painter's wife hath many *Hands* and some Countries too upon the *Corporal* in our common *Maps*, which are not really to be found on the strictest search.

6. The *LANDS OF CHIVALRIE* are such Islands, Provinces and Kingdoms, in the Books of *Ernesty*, which have no being in any known part of the *World*, and therefore must be sought in this. A gross absurdity, but frequent in those kind of *writings*, who in describing the *Adventures* of their Knights, in despite of *Geographie* (with which indeed they had no acquaintance) have not only disjoined Countries which are near together, and laid together Countries which are far remote; but given us the description of many *Islands*, *Provinces*, and mighty *Kingdoms*, which as the ingenious Author of the *History of Don Quixote*, merrily observeth, are not to be found in all the *Map*. Of this sort is the Isle of *Amazonas* in Sir *Huon of Bordeaux*; the *Firme Land* in the *History of Amadis de Gaul*; the *hidden Land*, and that of the *Sage Alhart* in *S. Palmerin of England*; the *Islands of Lindarazza*, and the *Devilish Fano*, with the Kingdom of *Lya* (of which the Amazonian Lady *Arbiflora* was the rightfull Queen) and many others of that kind in the *Mirror of Knighthood*; and divers of like nature in *Palmerin de Oliva*, *Privalion*, and *Belianis of Greece*, *Parisinus*, the *Romance of Romances*, and indeed, who not of all that *Rabble*? Handily humoured by *Michael de Cervantes* in his *Island of Barataria*, of which the famous *Sancho Panca* was somerimes Governor, and the Kingdom of *Alicomico*. And yet I cannot but confess (for I have been a great Student in these books of *Chivalrie*) that they may be of very good use to children or young boys in their *Adolescency*. For besides that they divert