

The Preface.

that choice proceeded from the Relation I Corresponded with; for that ^{* See Letter 7th.}

honest Gentleman ridiculed the Metaphorical Harangue of the * Grangula; and intreated me not to make a literal Translation of a Language that was so stuff'd with Fictions and Savage Hyperboles. 'Tis for this reason that all the Discourses and Arguments of those Nations, are here accommodated to the European Style and way of Speaking; for having comply'd with my Friend's Request, I contented my self in keeping only a Copy of the Letters I writ to him, during my Pilgrimage in the Country of these naked Philosophers.

'Twill not be improper to acquaint the Reader by the bye, that those who know my faults, do as little justice to these People, as they do to me, in alledging I am a Savage my self, and that that makes me speak so favourably of my Fellow-Savages. These Observators do me a great deal of Honour, as long as they do not explain themselves, so as to make me directly of the same Character with that which is tack'd to the word Savage by the Europeans in their way of thinking: For in saying only that I am of the same temper with the Savages, they give me without design, the Character of the bonestest Man in the World. 'Tis an uncontest'd truth, that the Nations which are not debauch'd by the Neighbourhood of the Europeans, are strangers to the Measures of Meum and Tuum, and to all Laws, Judges, and Priests. This can't be call'd in question, since all Travellers that have visited those Countries, vouch for its truth; and a great many of different Professions, have