

sailed over in the time of Augustus, passing by all Germany as far as the Cimbrian Cape, and thence as far as Scythia. And from the East the fleet of Macedonia sailed along the Indian Ocean towards the north until the Caspian Sea was to the south of them, in the time that Seleucus and Antiochus reigned, and they ordered that that region should be called Seleuchida and Antiochida. And to the north of the Caspian many parts have been sailed over, so that the northern sea has been nearly all sailed over: and he likewise says, in the same chapter, that Cornelius Nepos writes that to Quintus Metellus Celer, who had been consul with Afranius, and who was then proconsul in Gaul, there were sent certain Indians by the king of the Suevi, who, starting from the Indian Ocean, had without mischance been carried to Germany.

Nº 19.<sup>1</sup> In these Rocos islands there are birds of such size (as they say) and strength that they take up an ox and bear it in their flight<sup>2</sup> in order to eat it, and *still more they say*<sup>3</sup> that they take a vessel, no matter how great it may be, and raise it to a great height and then let it drop, and they eat the men. Petrarch likewise says so in his book of Prosperous and Adverse Fortune.

Nº 20. There are in the island of the people of Calenguan lions, tigers, panthers, deer, and many other different kinds of animals; likewise there are eagles, and white parrots *who speak as clearly as human beings what is taught them*, and many other countless birds of various kinds. The people of the island are idolaters; they eat human flesh.

Nº 21. A ship from Cambaya discovered this island of Mamorare, and it is said there was so much gold in it that they loaded it with nothing else *according to what the Portuguese say*.

Nº 22.<sup>4</sup> There are in this island of Ceylon native cinnamon, and rubies and hyacinths and cats' eyes and other kinds of precious stones.

Ciapangu is a large island lying in the high seas, which island is one thousand five hundred miles distant from the mainland of the Grand Khan towards the east. They are idolaters, and a gentle and handsome race. It has an independent king of its own, who is tributary to no one. It contains much virgin gold, which is never taken away from the said island, because ships never touch there, as it is so distant and out of the way. The king of this island has a very great and very wonderful palace, all made of gold in ingots of the thickness of two reals, and the windows and columns of the palace are all of gold. It [the island] contains precious stones and pearls in great quantities. The Grand Khan, having heard the fame of the riches of this said island, desired to conquer it, and sent to it a great fleet, and could never conquer it, as Marco Polo more amply relates and tells in his book, chapter 106.

[S. W. Quadrant of Map.]

In this figure, projected on a plane, are contained all the lands, islands, ports, rivers, waters, bays, which have been discovered to the present day, and their names, and who were the discoverers of them, as is made more manifest by the inscriptions [tables] of this said figure,—with all the rest that was known before, and all that has been written by Ptolemy, such as provinces, regions, cities, mountains, rivers, climates, and parallels, according to their degrees of longitude and latitude, both of Europe and of Asia and Africa.

And you must note that the land is situated according to the variation which the needle of the compass makes with the north star, for the reason of which you may look in the second table of No. 17.

[S. E. Quadrant of Map.]

*Of the fish which stops a ship.*

Pliny writes in his ninth book, chapter twenty-five, of a fish which is called Nichio, which he describes as being round, and that attaching itself to a ship it holds it even though it be under sail. And Petrarch, in the preface to the second book of Prosperous and Adverse Fortune, says that the echenis or remora, a fish of half a foot in length, stops a ship, though it be very large, and winds and waves and oars and sails aid its course; it alone overpowers the power of the elements and of man, with no other agency save attaching itself to the planks of the ship, and with no other force than its own nature; which fish is like mud or mire, and taking it out of the water it loses its power. The aforesaid is found in very distinguished writings, which are not quoted here lest it take too much space.

<sup>1</sup> [The Latin of Nos. 19, 20, and 21 is in the S. E. quadrant of the map. It ends in each case with a reference in Spanish to the Spanish of the tables.]

<sup>2</sup> to their nests.

<sup>3</sup> their talons are so strong.

<sup>4</sup> Latin in N. E. quadrant of map.