

came out of *Asia*, is more than manifest, in that the West-side of the Country towards *Asia*, is far more populous, than the East towards *Europe*: of which there can be no other reason assigned, than that these parts were first inhabited, and that from hence the rest was peopled. Next, the Idolatry of this people, and the particularities thereof, their incivility, and barbarous qualities, tell us that they are most like the *Tartars* of any. Thirdly, the West-side of *America*, if it be not Continent with *Tartary*, is yet disjoyned by a very small Strait, as may be perceived in all our *Maps* and *Cards*, as also in the Description of these Countreys: so that there is into these Countreys a very quick and easie passage. And fourthly, the people of *Quivira*, which 'of all the Provinces of *America* is the nearest unto *Tartary*, are said to follow in their whole course of their life, the seasons and best pasturing of their Cattel, just like the *Scythian Nomades*, or *Tartarian Hordes*: an evident argument of their Original descent.

But from what Root soever they did first descend, certain it is that they had settled here many ages since, and overspread all the parts and quarters of this spacious Continent; there being no place, which the *Spaniards*, or any other Adventurers, found desolate, or waste, and without Inhabitants. But their numbers much diminished since these late Discoveries; the *Spaniards* behaving themselves most inhumanely towards this unarmed and naked people: killing them up like sheep appointed to the slaughter, or otherwise confusing them in their Mines and works of drudgery. And had not *Charles* the fifth ordained with most *Christian* prudence, that the *Natives* should not be compelled to work in the Mines against their wills; but that the *Spaniards* should provide themselves of *Slaves* elsewhere: the *Natives*, in a little longer time had been quite exterminated, to the great reproach of *Christianity* and the Gospel. For to exceeding barbarous and bloody were they at their first coming thither, that *Huitwney*, a Nobleman amongst them, being perswaded to embrace the *Christian* faith; demanded first what he should get by being of that Religion: and was answered, that he should get *Heaven* and the joys thereof: Then would he know, what place was destinate to such as died unbaptized; and was answered, that they went to *Hell*, and the torments of it. Finally, asking unto which of these two places the *Spaniards* went, and being told they went to *Heaven*; he renounced his baptism: protesting that he would rather go to *Hell* with the unbaptized, than to live in *Heaven* with so cruel a people. The rest were driven unto the *Font*, like so many Horses to the watering place; and received into the Church of *Christ* without any instruction: insomuch that one old *Frier* (as himself confessed to *Charles* the fifth) had Christened 700000 of them, and another of that rank 300000 never acquainting them with any of the Articles of the *Christian* faith, or points of Religious conversation, (except it were to be obedient to their Pastors and Teachers.) Yet here I must confesse, (for I am loath to defraud any man of his due) there hath been made a great improvement of *Christianity*: the number of *Christians* in this Countrey, being thought by some Learned man of the Church of *Rome*, to equal all those of the *Latine* Churches in *Europe*. And though perhaps constrained at first unto it as a new Religion, and of a stricter Rule than that which before they had; yet by long time and education, it is now grown more plausible and familiar to them. The Church hereof governed by the four Arch-bishops of 1. *Mexico*. 2. *Lima*. 3. *S. Foy*, and 4. *Dominico*; who have under them 25 Suffragan Bishops, all liberally endowed and provided for.

When this new world came first acquainted with the old, *Isabel* Queen of *Castile*, would not permit any of her husband *Ferdinando's* subjects, to be planted here, viz. *Aragonians*, or *Valentians*; but licensed the *Castilians*, *Andalusians*, *Biscains*, and the rest of her own people only, enjoying the wealth hereof to the rest. When he was dead, *Ferdinando* licensed generally all the *Spaniards*, excluding only the *Portugals*. But so rich a prize could not so warily be fenced, but that the *Portugals*, *French*, *English*, and now of late the *Low-country men* have laid in their own Barns part of the *Spaniards* harvest: who well hoped to have had a Monopoly of so wealthy a Region, and to have enjoyed without any rivall or competitor the possession (I cannot say the love) of a Countrey so abundantly fruitful. For though some of the Kings of *Spain*, have been used to say, that they loved the *East Indies* as their Mistress only, in whose favour they could patiently enough endure a Rival; but esteemed *America* as their wife, in whose love they could not brook a Competitor, without foul dishonour: yet by his leave (or without it rather) some of his neighbours have made bold with his wife, in these later times; though in the affections of his Mistress they have greater interest. But these attempts of the *English* and *Hollanders*, have been an occasion of great strength to the whole Countrey. For whereas in our first Wars with *Spain*, our private Adventures found the Sea-coasts almost naked of defence, and thereupon made many a rich and prosperous voyage to these parts: the *Spaniards* upon sight of that weakness and disadvantage, so strongly fortified their Havens and Sea-Towns, that towards the later end of the reign of Queen *Elizabeth*, we were not able to accomplish that with great and publick forces, which before had been performed by small and private. Which caused our *Captains* and Adventurers, failing oftentimes in the Continent, to make up their Market on the Seas, in the return of the *Spanish* Navies, as they yet do.

This New World is very plentifull of Spices, Fruits, and such Creatures which the old World never knew; stocked with such store of Kine and Bulls, (brought hither out of *Europe* since the first discovery) that the *Spaniards* kill thousands of them yearly, for their tallow and hides only. Blest with such abundance of Gold, that they found in many of their Mines, more Gold than Earth: a Metal which the *Americans* not regarding, greedily exchanged for hammers, knives, axes, and the like tools of iron; for before, they were wont to make their Canoes or Boats plain without, and hollow within, by the force of fire. Other particularities shall be specified in the particular Descriptions of the several Countreys. I shall now only take a brief view of such of their Beasts and Fowls, as either this old World did not know, or knew not in such shapes and qualities, as are there presented. Their *Lions* less in great-
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