

An. 1688

These Vessels were 5 or 6 weeks in their Voyage to and from *Tenan*: and at their return Captain *Weldon's* Bark went not up to *Cachao* with the Rice, but unladed it into our Ship to supply us. Soon after this I went a second time up to *Cachao*, not in a Boat as before, but on foot along the Country, being desirous to see as much of it as I could: and I hired a *Tonquinese* for about a Dollar to be my guide. This, tho' but a small matter, was a great deal out of my Pocket, who had not above 2 Dollars in all, which I had gotten on board, by teaching some of our young Seamen Plain Sailing.

This was all I had to bear my own charges and my Guide's; and 'twas the worse with me, because I was forc'd to make short Journeys every day, by reason of my weakness: It was about the latter end of Nov. 1688, when we set out. We kept on the East-side of the River, where we found the Roads pretty dry, yet in some places dirty enough. We ferry'd over several Creeks and Brooks running into the great River, where are Ferry-boats always plying, which have a few Cash for their fare. The Fever and Ague which I brought with me from *Achin* was gone: yet the Fruits I eat here, especially the small Oranges, brought me into a Flux. However, tho' I was but weak, yet was I not discouraged from this Journey, being weary of lying still, and impatient of seeing somewhat that might further gratify my curiosity.

We found no Houses of Entertainment on the Road, yet at every Village we came we got House-room, and a Barbacue of split Bambooes to sleep on. The people were very civil, lending us an earthen Pot to dress Rice, or any thing else. Usually after Supper, if the day was not shut in, I took a ramble about the Village, to see what was worth taking notice of, especially the *Pagoda* of the