

tants, that an old man of 80 years, one of the *Caciques* of the Island, addressed himself unto *Columbus* at his first coming hither, advising him to use his Fortune with moderation, and to remember that the souls of men have two journeys when they leave this world; the one foul and dark, prepared for the injurious and cruel person; the other delectable and pleasant for the men of peace. It is said also of them they knew not the use of money, nor understood the niceties of *Measure* and *Tax*: *Tenants* in common to the blessings which the earth brought forth, and *Cobblers* of Nature.

Amongst the *Karities* of this Island, they mention a Fountain out of which floweth a pitchy substance, which is found frequently on the Seas into which it falleth, excellent for the *Calking* of ships: Secondly, a Navigable River (but the name not told us) the waters of which were so hot, that a man could not endure to hold his hand in them. They tell us also thirdly of a Valley 15 Leagues from *S. Jago*, which produceth stones exactly round, as if made for pleasure; but yet merely natural. But these no greater *Rarities* than in other places: nor altogether so great as in *H. Spaniola*. Of which they tell us of a fair River, whose waters are Salt, and yet none but fresh streams fall into it: Of another Lake (three Leagues in compass) on the top of the Mountains, into which many Rivers were known to run without any Exit. Neither of these so strange or rare as the *Cuchys*, a kind of *Scarabe* or *Beetle*: the eyes and wings whereof when opened give so great a light, in the darkest places, that a man may see to read and write by it, as well as by a Candle.

Rivers of most note, 1 *Camie*, much annoyed with *Crocodiles* (a Beast not common in these Islands, nor elsewhere in this) exceeding dangerous to such as repose themselves on the Banks of the River. 2 *Arima*, which disburtheneth it fell near the Port of *Xagua*. 3 *Rio de Porcos*, full of Rocks and quicksands, at the entrances of it. 4 *Rio Escondido*, passing betwixt *Habana*, and the Port of *Marcanas*, 5 *Marion*, and 6 *Tanne*, of less note: Besides these there is *Xagua*, a safe Station and Road for shippings of a narrow entrance, but large and spacious when once entered, above ten Leagues in length, and of breadth proportionable. So fenced on all sides from the winds, that ships lie here in safety without any Anchor. Some other *Baies* there be as usefull, though not so considerable.

Towns of most consequence, 1 *S. Jago* in the South part of the Island, situate about two Leagues from the *Main*, but in the bottom of a large and capacious Gulf, the most noted Port of all these Seas. Built by *Don Diego de Velasques*, An. 1514. Afterwards made a *Bishops* See, beautified with a *Cathedral*; some *Religious* houses: once not inferior unto any for numbers of People, though now few enough. *Baracao*, 30 Leagues on the East of *S. Jago*, the same Foundation as the other; and neighboured by great quantities of *Eben-wood*. 3 *S. Salvador*, by some called *Bayno*, according to the old name of the Province in which it standeth; built by *Velasco* in the most pleasant and richest part of all the Island; but not so busy as the other, for Trade and Merchandize. 4 *Porto del Principe*, an Haven Town in the North parts: not far from which is the Fountain of a pitchie or blamminous liquor, spoken of before; which I conceive to be much of the same nature with the Fountains of *Naples* in the East. 5 *Trinidad*, another of *Velasco*'s foundations, nine or ten leagues Eastward of the Port of *Xagua*: once well frequented, but now forsaken, and meet nothing. 6 *Havana* in the North parts, opposite to *Florida*, a noted and well traded Port: so strongly situate & fortified both by Nature and Art, that it seems impregnable. The Entrances defended with two notable Castles; a greater then either opposite to the mouth of the Haven; all so commodiously built, and well planted with Ordnance, that they are able to keep out and scatter the greatest Navy. Near one of them standeth an high Tower, from the top whereof notice is given unto the *Guards*, of every ship that cometh within view of the *Watchmen*. The best assurance, not only of this Island but the Bay of Mexico; and therefore honoured for the most part with the fear of the Government, and the greatest Trade of all these Seas: the ships which are bound for *Spain* from all parts of the Gulf, carrying here for one another, till all met together, and setting sail from hence by the *Straits* of *Babama*, amongst the *Isles* of the *Ducados*.

This Island one of the first which was discovered by *Columbus*: who having almost tired the *Spaniards* with the expectation, first fell upon the Island of *Guabanani*, one of the *Lacaios*, to which he gave the name of *S. Savous*. From thence he sailed to *Baracao*, on the North of this Island, which he caused to be called *Fernandina*, in honour of *Ferdinand* the Catholic King of *Castile* and *Aragon*; at whose charge and the encouragement of *Isabella* his Heroick Queen, he pursued this enterprise. Landing, he asked the People if they knew *Cipango* by which name *Paulus Venetus* calls the Isle of *Japan* and they conceiving that he enquired after *Cibao* (of great note for the richest Mines in *Hispaniola*) pointed towards *Hayti*; some of them going with him to conduct him thither. *Cuba* by this means laid aside, and all the thoughts of *Spain* upon *Hispaniola*, where they found many golden provocations to invite their stay; till hunging after more Gold, and some new Plantations, they passed over hither: and in few years by the prudent conduct of *Velasco*, got such footing in it, and made that footing good by so many Colonies; that their title and possession was beyond dispute; and so continued to this day.

6. JAMAICA.

JAMAICA lyeth on the South of *Cuba*, from which distant 20 Leagues, and as much, or very little more, from *Hispaniola*. Discovered in the second voyage of *Columbus*, by whom named *S. Jago*; that name changed afterwards to *Jamaica*.

It is in length from East to West about 50 Leagues, and in breadth 20. the whole compass estimated at 150. the middle of it under the 18 Degree of Northern Latitude. Of a rich soyl, abundantly provided of all things necessary: well stocked with Cattle, and no less plentifully stored with most sorts of Fruits, which either Industry or Nature have supplied it with. Great store of Cotton wool; and such abundance