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T H E  
P R E F A C E.

**T**HE Author Dr. John Francis Gemelli Careri, has here oblig'd the World with so excellent an Account of his Travels, that scarce any can be thought to exceed, and very few to be equal to it. He undertook this laborious and dangerous Task only to satisfy his own Curiosity, and gives the Publick a true Relation of what he saw in many Parts, where other Travellers had made it their Business to bring little but Fables and Romances. He omitted nothing in his Round worth observing, because his only Business was to see and be inform'd; and being a Man of Learning and excellent natural Parts, he had all the advantages of taking good Observations, and delivering 'em politely, which common Travellers generally want. He was a Doctor of the Civil Law, which sufficiently evinces his Learning; and as he tells us, besides his natural Curiosity, was further mov'd to travel by Crosses and Misfortunes he met at home. Neither did he go as a Vagabond trusting to Fortune, but well provided with Money to make him acceptable in all Parts, and gain admittance where others under worse Circumstances could not. Nor does he only give a judicious Account of what he saw, which is perform'd by way of Journal, but touches upon all Antiquities deliver'd by the best Authors, of Countries, Cities, and other Places and Things of Note. This of him in general, but to say something in particular of each Part or Volume.

In the First he assigns the Motives he had to Travel, and then beginning at Naples runs along the Coast of Calabria, crosses to Sicily, then sails along that Island till he comes to Malta, of which he gives a very exact Description; the same he doth of Egypt whither he sail'd next, and there of the Pyramids, Mummies, &c. whence he proceeds to the Holy Land, the Island of Rhodes, the City of Smyrna, several small Islands, the Imperial Cities of Constantinople, Adrianople, Bursa, Trebizond, and many other Places in his way to Persia; with a succinct Account of the Religion, Manners, Antiquities, &c. of the Turks, and the Succession of their Monarchs.

The second Volume contains a curious Description of the Persian Empire, the distances from place to place, beginning at the Frontiers to Ispahan, the Court of that Nation; and thence down to Bander-Congo, a Sea-Port on the Gulph of Persia. He treats of their Religion, Antiquities, &c. as in the other Books, and particularly sets down all the remains of Darius's Palace, with something of the Banians or Idolaters. Gives several Cuts of singular Curiosities; discovers some Mistakes made by Tavernier in his Travels, which he also does in his first and third Parts of Turkey and India. And having deliver'd all that may satisfy the nicest Reader, proceeds on his Voyage to Damian, the first City he came to in India.

The third Volume beginning at Damian, belonging to the Portuguese, runs along all that Coast, particularizing all that that Nation is possess'd of in those Parts, as Goa, Bazaim, Diu, and other Places; as also what is subject to Idolaters, and what to Mahometan Princes; most lively represents to the Imagination the wonderful  
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