

provision the father may have made in his life-time for her, with all its increase from the day of the donation.

When the father becomes old, and unfit for war, he is obliged to surrender his whole effects to his eldest son, who is bound to give him aliment and nothing else; and when the eldest brother dies, leaving younger brothers behind him, and a widow young enough to bear children, the youngest brother of all is obliged to marry her, but the children of the marriage are always accounted as if they were the eldest brother's; nor does this marriage of the youngest brother to the widow entitle him to any part of the deceased's fortune.

The southern Galla are called Elma Killelo, Elma Gooderoo, Elma Robali, Elma Doolo, Elma Bodena, Elma Horeta, and Elma Michaeli; these are the seven southern nations which the Mahometan traders pass through in their way to Narca, the southernmost country the Abyssinians ever conquered.

The western Galla, for their principal clans, have the Djawi, Edjow, or Ayo, and Toluina, and these were the clans we principally fought with when I was in Abyssinia. They are chiefly Pagans. Some of their children, who were left young in court, when their fathers' fled, after the murder of the late king, their master, were better Christians and better soldiers than any Abyssinians we had.

It is not a matter of small curiosity to know what is their food, that is so easy of carriage as to enable them to traverse immense deserts, that they may, without warning, fall upon the towns and villages in the cultivated country of Abyssinia. This is nothing but coffee roasted, till it can be pulverised, and then mixed with butter to a consistency that will suffer it to be rolled up in balls, and put into a leather bag. A ball of this composition, between the circumference of a shilling and half-crown, about the size of a billiard ball, keeps them, they say, in strength and spirits during a whole day's fatigue, better than a loaf of bread, or a meal of meat. Its name, in Arabia and Abyssinia, is Bun, but I apprehend its true name is Caffè, from Caffa, the south province of Narca, whence it is first said to have come; it is white in the bean. The coffee-tree is the wood of the country, produced spon-

taneously every where, in great abundance, from Caffa to the banks of the Nile.

Thus much for this remarkable nation, whose language is perfectly different from any in Abyssinia, and is the same throughout all the tribes, with very little variation of dialect. This is a nation that has conquered some of the finest provinces of Abyssinia, and of whose inroads we shall hereafter have occasion to speak continually; and it is very difficult to say how far they might not have accomplished the conquest of the whole, had not Providence interposed in a manner little expected, but more efficacious than a thousand armies, and all the inventions of man.

The Galla, before their inroads into Abyssinia, had never in their own country seen or heard of the small pox. This disease met them in the Abyssinian villages. It raged among them with such violence, that whole provinces, conquered by them, became half desert; and, in many places, they were forced to become tributary to those who before they kept in continual fear.

But this did not happen till the reign of Yasous the Great, at the beginning of the present century, where we shall take fresh notice of it, and now proceed with what remains of the reign of Sertza Denghil, whom we left with his army in the 9th year of his reign, residing at Dobit, a small town in Dembea, watching the motions of the rebels, Isaac Boharnagall, and others, his confederates.

The 10th year of his reign, as soon as the weather permitted him, the King went into Gojam, to oppose the inroads of the Djawi, a clan of the western or Born Galla, who then were in possession of the Bucco, or royal dignity among the seven nations: but they had repassed the Nile, upon the first news of the king's march, without having time to waste the country. The King then went to winter in Bizamo, which is south of the Nile, the native country of these Galla, the Djawi.

If this nation, the Galla, has deserved ill of the Abyssinians, by the frequent inroads made into their country, they must, however, confess one obligation, that in the end they entirely ruined their ancient enemy, the Mahometan King of Adel, and reduced him to a state of perfect insignificance.