

“ they make their ropes and nets. There are curious snail-  
 “ shells \*, like those they bring from CHINA, and many †  
 “ pearl-shells. Near the place where the Spaniards settled, on  
 “ the brink of the fountain, was a tree, in the trunk of which  
 “ the natives had made a wound, from whence distilled a sweet-  
 “ scented liquor, which much resembled the oil of *beto*. The  
 “ Indians make bags and pockets ‡ of palm; curious and large  
 “ mats, which serve them for sails to their vessels. They saw  
 “ certain cloths §, but did not know of what they were made.  
 “ They weave them in small looms: they serve them for hand-  
 “ kerchiefs, and cloaks, with which the women cover them-  
 “ selves. They much use a food, which is called *brete*, also  
 “ known and much used in the EAST-INDIES. It is a leaf of  
 “ the shape of a heart, about the size of a hand: it has the  
 “ smell, taste, and colour of clove, and, together with other  
 “ things, they chew it. They spit out the first spittle, and  
 “ swallow the rest. It is reckoned wholesome, and good to  
 “ strengthen the stomach and gums.

“ Their towns are of twenty houses, little more or less, they  
 “ make them round, and of plank, raised on a single stake of  
 “ large wood. They have two stories ||, to which they go up  
 “ by hand ladders. They are covered with palms, interwoven  
 “ with each other. They are open all round, half man height,  
 “ and surrounded with a wall of loose stones, open at the en-  
 “ trance instead of a gate ¶.

“ There is in each town a large house as a temple \*\*, with hu-  
 “ man figures in bas-relief, ill wrought; and another long house,  
 “ which appears to belong to the community; and along between  
 “ them some stages of canes ††. There are ten or twelve of these

\* Caracoles. † Varias. ‡ Mochilas y bolsas. § Telas. || Sobrados.

¶ Paredon se piedras sueltas en frentada en lugar de puerta.

\*\* Como oraculo. †† Barbacoas de cañas.