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some of them, especially those of silk and linen, being so inconsiderable, that they are obliged to supply the want of a sufficient quantity by importing them from Europe and the Levant. The people send few of their commodities to foreign markets, their oil, wax, corn, and pulse, being barely sufficient to supply the country, though before the city of Oran became subject to Spain, the merchants have been known to ship off from the various ports of Barbary, seven or eight thousand tons of corn in one year. The consumption of oil, which is here very plentiful, is also so considerable in this country, that it is seldom permitted to be shipped off for Europe: so that their exports chiefly consist in ostriches feathers, wax, hides, wool, copper, rugs, silk-fishes, embroidered handkerchiefs, Christian slaves, and dates.

The goods imported, whether merchandize or prizes, chiefly consist in gold and silver stuffs, damasks, linen and woollen cloths and stuffs, cotton raw and spun, tin, iron, plated brass, lead, quick-silver, cordage, sail-cloths, bullets, cochineal, tartar, alum, rice, sugar, honey, wax, spices, aloes, opium, anise and cummin-seed, soap, coppers, arsenic, brazil, logwood, vermilion, gum-lack, sulphur, mastic, saraparilla, aspic, frankincense, galls, paper, combs, cards old and new, and dried fruits. But though there is a constant demand for all these commodities, yet a small quantity of them is imported by the merchants, on account of the frequent exactions and heavy duties to which they are subject, and the precariousness of payment; on which account those who want any of them will wait in hopes to meet with them on board some prize; for they are chiefly supplied with them by the corsairs. It is a misfortune that both the manufacturers and shop-keepers, which last are chiefly Moors and Jews, are severely treated by the government, and frequently fined for even pretended faults, which renders them so poor, that it often puts them upon cheating their customers, either in their weights or measures, though they are sure of being treated with the utmost severity, either by a heavy fine, corporal punishment, or with death.

The coin in use here is mostly foreign, their own being only of three kinds, viz. the barba, of copper, fix of which were formerly worth an asper; but is now of only half that value.

The asper is a small square piece of silver, and both this and the former has Arabic characters stamped on each side. Fifteen of these aspers are of the value of a Spanish ryal, and twenty-four of a dapta, which is worth about a crown. These are all the pieces of money coined in the city of Algiers.

They have likewise three sorts of gold coin; but these are only coined at Tremesen, viz. the rupee, worth thirty-five aspers; the median, and the dian, or zian, worth a hundred aspers. This last was the ancient coin of the kings of Tremesen, on which account that province has the sole privilege of coining these pieces.

Besides these, the Turkish sultanin of gold, which is worth about a ducat; the mofcales of Fez, of the value of about one shilling and ten-pence; Spanish ryals, French crowns, Hungarian ducats, and other European money, are also current among them, though they have no fixed standard.

S E C T. XXII.

Of the Kingdom of TUNIS.

Its Situation, Extent, Divisions, Rivers, Islands; of the Mountain of Zawan or Zagaan, and of the Climate of Tunis in general.

THIS kingdom, which once comprehended the provinces of Constantinia, Bugia, Tunis, Tripoli, and Zaab, or Ezzab, is bounded by the Mediterranean on the north and east; by the kingdom of Algiers on the west; and by Tripoli, with part of Biledulgerid, on the south; extending from the island of Jerba in thirty-three degrees thirty minutes to Cape Serra, in thirty-seven degrees twelve minutes north latitude, it being two hun-

dred and twenty miles in length from north to south, and a hundred and seventy in breadth from east to west; the city of Sbekka, the farthest city to the west, being situated in eight degrees, and Clybea, the farthest to the east, in eleven degrees twenty minutes east longitude. *11:20.*

This country, which was once divided into provinces, is now under the immediate inspection of the bey, and is only distinguished into the summer and winter circuits, which the bey takes in person through his dominions at those seasons with a flying camp; in the summer season traversing the fertile country near Keff and Bajjah, and the districts between Cairwan and Jercede, and in the winter proceeding through the rest of the country.

The summer circuit, or northern district, is much better inhabited than any of the neighbouring kingdoms of the same size, and is by far the most pleasant and fertile; and as it has a great number of cities, towns, and villages, has the finest appearance of affluence, prosperity, and cheerfulness, which doubtless proceeds from the mildness of its government, and its being freer from tyranny and oppression. Its fertility is, however, interrupted by several hills, plains, and marshes, dispersed over it, that will admit of little cultivation, nor scarce any manner of improvement.

The principal rivers of this circuit are, the Zaine, which divides Tunis from Algiers; the Meyerda, usually called Mejerada; the famous Bagrada of the antients, on the banks of which Regulus is said to have killed a monstrous serpent. The Miliana, supposed to be the Catada of the antients, is remarkable for its forming the bay of Tunis, and having that metropolis situated at its mouth; the Gabbs, or Caps, supposed to be the Triton of the antients, which rises only three or four leagues to the south-south-west of the city of its name, and falls into the sea to the northward of the old city, forming the ground on which it was built into a kind of peninsula; and the Mejerdah, or Old Bagrada, which is the most considerable of the whole kingdom.

A small island opposite to the mouth of the river Zaine, is in the possession of the Genoese, who pay an annual rent to the regency; but the coral-fishery, which was their chief inducement for making this settlement, failing considerably, it is probable they will not long keep possession of it, if they have not already abandoned it. They have, however, erected a fort for their protection against any surprize from the neighbouring Arabs on the continent, and from the insults of the cruising vessels of Algiers and Tripoli.

The other islands belonging to this state are, Cape Negro, which is situated about five leagues to the north-east of Tabarka, which has a settlement of the French African company, who pay a considerable sum of money to Tunis for the liberty they enjoy at La Calle, though that place is under the Algerine government, and for keeping up a fort here to protect them from the insults of the neighbouring Arabs.

Six miles to the north of Cape Negro is Jalta, the Galata, or Calathe, of the antients. This is a high rocky island, which has a very dangerous shoal. The Cani are two flat contiguous islands, where the Italian row-boats frequently lie in wait for the Tunisians. These lie four leagues to the north-north-west of Cape Pillone, and nearly in the mid-way to Cape Blanco; and four leagues beyond Cape Negro to the northward are the Three Brothers, which are three rocky islands near the continent, about half way to Cape Blanco.

The principal mountain of this kingdom is the Zowan, or Zagaan, whose summit affords a prospect of the greatest part of the kingdom. It is remarkable for a town of its name which stands at the foot of it, in great repute for dying scarlet caps, and for bleaching of linen; great quantities of both being daily brought thither from all parts of the kingdom. The stream which serves for that purpose, and runs from the top of the mountain, was formerly carried by a noble conduit to Carthage. Over the fountain was built a temple, the ruins of which are still to be seen. It has also on its declivity and about its foot several Roman antiquities, as the remains of towns, castles, forts, and inscriptions cut in marble. This moun-