

window-frames are made of ebony, and inlaid with silver: the kings elephants, troops, and concubines, are numerous. The guards are commanded by Dutch and Portuguese renegade officers. This monarch assumes great dignity, and demands much respect, which his subjects readily pay him, as they imagine, that all their kings immediately on their demise, are turned into gods. He expects that Christians should salute him kneeling, and uncovered, but requires nothing more of them. His title is, Emperor of Ceylon, king of Candy, prince of Onva, and the four Corles, great duke of the seven Corles, marquis of Duranura, lord of the sea-ports, and fisheries of pearls, and precious stones, lord of the golden sun, &c. His revenue consists in the gifts and offerings of his subjects; his palaces are built upon almost inaccessible places, for the greater security: no bridges are permitted to be erected over rivers or streams, nor any good roads to be made, to render the country as impassable as possible. None are suffered to approach his palace without a passport stamped in clay. The troops are hereditary, and their weapons are swords, guns, pikes, bows and arrows. They are subtle, but not courageous, and will not engage an enemy but by surprise, or when there is some manifest advantage in their favour. It is so difficult to penetrate into the inland parts, and all the passes are so well guarded, that even the Dutch themselves are unacquainted with the greatest part of the island. In the year 1505 the Portuguese landed in Ceylon, and about twelve years after they established factories there, the reigning king permitting them to build forts; and, upon his demise, he declared the king of Portugal his heir; but in process of time the Portuguese behaving with great insolence and cruelty, the young king of Candy invited in the Dutch, in 1639, who after a tedious war, at length, in the year 1655, subdued the Portuguese, and became masters of the trade and coast: upon which they drove the king, their ally, into the mountains, and, with their wonted gratitude, made him their tributary. The Dutch have in subsequent