The history of trauyale in the VVest and East Indies, and other countreys lying eyther way, towards the fruitfull and ryche Moluccaes : As Moscouia, Persia, Arabia, Syria, Æ gypte, Ethiopia, Guinea, China in Cathayo, and Giapan : vvith a discouerce of the Northwest passage / Gathered in parte, and done into Englyshe by Richarde Eden. Newly set in order, augmented, and finished by Richarde VVilles.
THE
History of Trauayle
in the
West and East Indies, and other
countrys lying eyther way,
towards the fruitful and rych
Moluccaes.
As
Mosconia, Persia, Arabia, Syria, Egypte,
Ethiopia, Guinea, China in Cathay, and
Japan: VVith a discours of
the Northwest pas-
fage.

In the hande of our Lorde be all the corners of
the earth. Psal. 94.

Gathered in parte, and done into Englyshe by
Richarde Eden,

Newly set in order, augmented, and finished
by Richarde VVilles.

Imprinted at London
by Richarde Iugge.
1577.
Cum Privilegio.
The first decade.

taste, to be much more pleasant then our partychys. Wherefore where as in eating of them he perceived a certaine saunour of syrce to proceede from them, he commandeth the cropp to be opened of suche as were newly Kyled, and founde the same full of sweete syrces, which he argueed to be the cause of theyr strange tast: For it standeth with good reason, that the fleshe of beasts, shoule natue the nature and qualitie of theyr accustomed nourishment. As the Admirall harde made on the syrce, there came towarde hym a certaine governour, a man of foure score yeeres of age, and of great grauitie, although he were naked sauing his pripie partes. He had a great trayne of men waunting on hym. All the whyle the priesse was at mage, he theved him selven very humble, and gave reverent attendance, as grace and demure countenance. When the mage was ended, he presented to the Admirall a baskette of the froutes of his country, delievering the same with his owne hands. When the Admirall had gently entercapped hym, desyning leaue to speake, he made an motion in the presence of Didacus the interpreter, to this effect. I hate hym adversued (most mighty prince) that you haue of late with great power subdued many lands and Regions, by thereunto unknown to you, and haue brount no litle saure oppon all the people and inhabitants of the same: the wherefore your good fortune, you shal bære with less insoulcence, if you remember that the soules of men bære two journees after they are departed from this body. The one, soule and darke, prepared for suche as are iniurieus and cruel to mankynde: the other, pleasante and delectable, ordained for them which in theyr lyce syrme louse peace and quiernes. If therfore you acknowledge your selues to be mortall, and consider that every man shal recive conduigne rewarde or punishment for suche thynges as he hath done in this life, you wyl wrongfully hurt no man. When he had said these wordes and other syrce, which were declared to the Admirall by the interpreter, he marveyling at the judgement of the naked side man, anwered, that he was gladde to hare his opinion as touching the sundrie journees and rewarde of soules departed from theyr bodyes, supposing that neither he, or any other of the inhabitantes of those Regions, had had any knowledge thereof: declaring further, that the chiefe cause of his comming.
The first decade

...comming thither, was to instruct them in such godly knowledge and true religion: and that he was sent into those countreyses by the Christian kyng of Spayne (his land and master) for the same purpose, and specially to subdue and pumpe the Camibales, and suche other mischeuous people, and to defend innocents against the violence of evill doers, upplying hym, and at other suche as troubled vertue, in no case to be afrayde, but rather to open his impude unto hym. Pceryuer he, or any other suche quiet men as he was, had stouped any wrong of theyr neighbours, and that he would see the same revenged. These comfortable words of the Admiral so pleased the olde man, that notwithstanding his extreme age, he would gladly have gone with the Admiral, as he had done in deede, if his wife and childe had had hym of his purpose; but he maruelyed not a lytle, that the Admiral was under the dominion of another and much more, when the interpretour tolde hym of the glorie, magnificence, pompe, great power, and furnishments of ware of our kings, and of the multitude of citie and townes which were under theyr dominions. Intending therefore to have gone with the Admiral, his wife and childe fell prorstrate at his feete, with tears desiring him not to forlode them and leave them desolate, at wholde pitifull requestes, the woorthy old man being moved, remained at home to the comfort of his people and familie, sitting rather then hym feete: for not pete rulying to woonder, and of heauie countenance because he myght not depart, he remaundayd oftentimes pf that lande were not heaven, whiche brought forth suche a lytte of men? So it is certaine, that among them the lande is as common as the seme and water, and that Dyne and Thyne (the seades of all myttcheese) have no place with them. They are content with a lytte, that in so large a countre they have rather superstitie then lacrene: so that (as we have syde before) they seeme to liue in the golden wode without tople, lyving in open gardens, not incrucked with yches, dividid with hedges, or defended with walke: they dale truely one with another without lawes, without booke, and without judges: they take hym for an evill and myttcheeous man, which taketh pleasure in dooyng hurt to oter. And albeit that they delyte not in superstities, yet make they
The first Decade.

Electrum is a mettall naturally mixt of one portion of golde, & another of silver, being of such property to deserve payment, and was therefore in olde time in greater estimation then golde.

The mine of Electrum.

Electrum was of suche weight, that it was not only with both my handses unable to lift it from the ground, but also of strength to remove it euerly one way or other: they affirmed that it weyed more then three hundred pounde weight, after eight ounces to the pounde, it was found in the house of a certayne prince, and left hym by his predecessours: and albeit that in the vayes of the inhabitaunties yet burynge, Electrum was no where digged, yet knewe they where the myre thereof was, but our men with much ado coude hardlye cause them to doe them the place, they bose them suche princie hatred, yet at the length they brought them to the myre, being now ruinated and stopped with stones and rubbyle that is much easer to digge then is the iron myre, and might be etreased againe, if myners and other workmen kepyt therein were appoynted thereunto. Not farre from the towne of Concepcion, in the same mountaynes, is founde great plentie of Amber, and out of certayne rokes of the same, distillic a substancce of the yelowe colour which the Papaynters vs, Not farre from these mountaynes are many great woods, in the whiche are none other trees then Bashile, which the Itallians call Serzina. But here perhaps (ynght noble mynyr) you woulde aske, what should be the cause, that where as the Spaynarde vs haue brought out of these myndes certayne hyppes laden with Bashile, somewhat of Guatamynie cotton, a quantitie of Amber, a lytle golde, & some hyppes, why they haue not broughe suche plentie of golde, and suche other yppes mar喳ndizes, as the fruitefullnesse of these regions seeme to promyse. To this I answeere, that when Colloys the Concelion was likewise demanded the cause hereof, he made answeere, that the Spaynarde vs when he gooke with hym into these regions, were geuen rather to sleepe, play, and idlenesse, then to labour, and were more studious of leisur and newes, then desertous of peace and quietenesse: also, that being geuen to licenciousnes, they rebelled & fooke him, finding matter of sale accustome against hym, because he went about to represse theire outragiousnesse; by reason whereof, he was not yet able to bryeke the power of the inhabitaunties, and sleepe to possesse the full dominion of the Same, and these hypperies to be the cause that they...
and fructes, hong to over them, heades, that they might plucke them with their hands: also that the fruitfulness of this ground, is either equall with the lyke of Isabella, or better. In Isabella, he left only certayne sicke men, and shippe wyghtes, whom he had appoynted to make certayne canaules, the residue of his men, he conweighed to the south, to laynt Dominickes tounse. After he had busalem this fortresse, leaving therin a garrison of xxr. men, he with the remnant of his soldiers, prepared them selues to searche the inner partes of the West side of the Iland, hystero knownen onely by name. Therefore about xxx. leaues, (that is) foure score and tene myles from the fortresse, he chaunced on the ryer Naiba, which we sayde to defende from the mountaynes of Cibaua, ryght towarde the south, by the myndelle of the landle. When he had overpaflle this ryer with a compayne of armed merchoped into xxx. decurions, that is, tenne in a company, with theye caputaynes, he sent two decurions to the regions of those kynges in whole landle were the grete wooddes of brasse trees. Inclyning towarde the lefte hande, they founde the wooddes, entred into them, and searcht the high and precious trees, which were to that day untoucht. Oche of the decurions filled certayne of the landle house with the trunke of brasse, there to be reported until the shippes came which should carry them away. But the Lieutenante director his journey towarde the right hande, not farre from the bankes of that ryer of Naiba, founde a certayne kyng whose name was Beneciu, Anacauccoa, encampen against thin habitants of the province of Naiba, to subdue them under his dominion, as he had done many other kynges of the landle, booderers unto him. The palace of this great kyng is called Xaragusa, it is situate towarde the West ende of the landle, distane from the ryuer of Naiba, xxx. leagues. All the pynaces which dwell betwene the West ende & his palace, are dicionaries unto him. All that region from Naiba, to the finerst marches of the walk, is utterly without golde, although it be full of mountaynes. When the kyng had espied our men, laping a part his weapons, & geyng to signes of peace, he spake gentelly to them (uncerteyne whether it were of humanitie or feare) and demanded of them what they would haue. The Lieutenante aunswereed: That he should
The first Decade.

pape tribute to the Admiraall his brother, in the name of the Christian King of Spayne. To whom he sowe, Howe can you requipe that of me, whereas never a region under my dominion brought forth golde? For he had heard, that there was a strange nation entered into the lande, whiche made great search for golde: But he supposed that they desir'd some other thing. The Lieutenant answered againe, God forbidde that we shoulde entice any man to pape such tribut as he might not easily forbears, as such as were not engendered or growing in the region: but we understande that your regions bring forth great plenty of Gallantine cotton, and hempe, both such other, whereof we desyre you to give us partes. When he heard these woordes, he promised with cheerefull countenance, to give him as much of these thinges as he woulde requipe. Thus dismissing his army, and sending messengers before, he him selfe accompanied the Lieutenant, and brought him to his palace, being distant (as we have sayde) x. xxx. leagues. In all this tracte, they pased through the jurisdiction of other princes, being under his dominion: Of the which, some gave them hempe, of no leste goodness to make tacketinges for thynnes then our wood: Other some bought head, and some gallantine cotton. And to every of them pape tribut with suche commodities as theye countreys brought touch. At the length they came to the kinges mansion place of Xaragua. Before they entered into the palasce, a great multitude of the kynges seruantes & subiectes reft to the court, honoraibly (after their manner) to receve their kyng Benachi Ascanovus, with the strangers which he brought with him to see the magnificence of his court. But now that you heare howe they were intreated. Among other triumphs and sights, two are especialy to be noted: First, there mette them a company of x. x. women, beying at the kynes wyues and concubines, carrying in thay approches of date trees, singing and dancing: they were all naked, saying that theye private partes were coverd with breeches of gallantine cotton, but the virgins, haunging thayr heare hangiing downe about thayr shoulders, steep about the forhead with a hatte, were utterly naked. They affirme that theye faces, breasts, pappes, handes, and other partes of theye body, were exceedyng smoothe,
The first decade.

smoother, and well proportioned, but somewhat inclining to a longer broune. They supposed that they had seen those most beautyfull Dryades, or the native nymphaes or fayies of the countreyes, whereof the antiques spake so muche. The banches of date trees, which they bore in their right handes when they danced, they deftuered to the Lieutenante, with love curteously and singling countenance. Thus entering into the kynges house, they found a delectate supper prepared for them, after their maner. When they were well refreshed with meate, the myght patwrying on, they were brought by the kynges officers, every man to his lodging, according to his degree, in certayne of the kynges houses about the pallaice, where they rested them in hanging beddes, after the maner of the countrey, wherof we have spokene more largely in another place.

The day folowing, they brought our men to their common hall, into the whiche they came together as often as they make any notable games or triuymes, as we haue layde before. Here, after many daunshinges, kinginges, maskinges, rumpinges, weelinges, and other trystes of nymphaes, today there appeare in a large plaine neere unto the hall, two great armyes of men of warre, whiche the kyng for his patyng had cauled to be pre pared, as the Spaniardes doe the playe with reedes, which they call Ina de Canias. As the armyes mete neere together, they attakynge the one the other as fierelie, as if mostall enimies with their baners spayne, should fight for their goodes, they landes, their lyues, their liberties, their countrey, their wyues & their children, so that within the momente of an hour, fourr men were slayne, and many wounded. The battayle also shoude haue continued longer, if the kyng had not, at the request of our men, cauled them to ceaste. The thysde day, the Lieutenante counterling the kyng to sawe more plenty of gustynges upon the banke neere unto the waters side, that they myght the better pappe theyr tribute privately, according to the multitude of theyr houses, he prepared to Isabella, to uplyte the kynges men whiche he had lette there, and also to see howe his woodes went forward. In the tyme of his absence, xxx. of his men were consumed with diercse diseases. Wherefore being sore troubled in his mynde, and in maner at his wytes ende, what
The first decade.

And sighng against the Egyptian, but to obeye and serve them, except they would bapie bying them selves into further calamities. When the nation was synished, they tooke hym up, and set hym on theyr shoulders, and so carped hym home to his owne palacie: and by this meanes, this Region was pacified for a whyle. But our men, with heavy countenaunce wandered up and downe, as desolate in a strange country, lackinge vitales, and wone out of apparell, whereas, as monethes were not passed since the Admirals departure, buying which rpne, they coulde heare nothing out of Spaine. The Lieutenant comforst them all that he coulde with saye wordes and promisses. In the meane tyne, Beuchus Anacauncha (the kyng of the West partes of the Region of Xaragna (of whom we spake before) sent messengers to the Lieutenant, to signifie unto hym, that he had in a redynes the goldamine cotton, and suche other thynge as he wylde hym to prepare for the payment of his tyndue. Whereupon the Lieutenant tooke his journey thither, and was honouably receyved by the kyng and his syfter, sompyne the tople of Camaba, the kyng of Cibana, bearing no lesse rule in the governaunce of her brothers kyndome, then he hym selve: For they affirmed her to be a wyse woman,of good maners, and pleasaunt in company, she earnestly perconuaded her brother, by the example of her husband, to loute and obey the Christians. This woman was called Anacauna. He founde in the palacie of Beuchus Anacauncha, xxii kynges, which had boughde their tributes with them, and abode his comynng. They boughde with them also, besides theyr tribute assigned them, further to demerite ys favour of oure men, great plentie of vitales, as both kindes of bread, cornes, and fishes, alreadie dyed, because they should not purfyle: Serpentes afof that kynde which we sayd to be esteemed among them as most delicate meat, and lyke into Crocodiles slaying in bygnes. These serpentes they cal Inoana, which our men learnde (fortunatly to late) to have been engendred in the lande: For unto that day, none of them buck Adventurer to cast of them, by reason of theyr horrible deformitie and techevines. Yet the Lieutenant, being enuiped by the pleasauntnes of the kynges syfter, determined to cast of the serpentes. But when he sette the syfte thereof to be to delequc to his toone,
The first Decade.

gongue, he fell to amayn without al sware: the whiche thynge his companions perceiuing, were not behind hym in greedynesse, insonneuch that they had now none other talke, then of the sweetenesse of these serpentes, which they assyme to be of more pleasant taste, then either our Pheastus or Parchices: but they lose theyr taste, except they be prepared after a certayne fashion, as do Peacocks and Pheastus, except they be enterlaved before they be rost. They prepare them therefore after this manner: First, taking out theyr bowelles, even from the throne to the thygges, they washe and rubbe them, bedes very cleane both within and without, then rosting them together on a cirkle, intwisted after the manner of a sleepeynge snake, they thyste them into a pot, of no bigger capacitie then to holde them only, this done, putting a little water vnto them, with a portion of the lande pepper, they seethe them with a soft kype of sweare wood, and suche as maketh no great smoke: Of the taste of them being thus lobe, is made an exceding pleasant broce or potage. They say also, that there is no meate to be compared to the egges of these serpentes, which they ple to seethe by themselues: they are good to be eaten as bone as they are lobe, and may also be serued many dapes after. But haung sayde thus much of their entertainement and dayastic faire, let vs now speake of other matters. When the Lieutenants had spied one of the Ilande houeses with the Goatspine cotton which he had received for tribute, the kynges promised furthermore to give hym as muche of theyr bread as he would demande: he gave them hartie thankes, and gently accepted theyr frendly offer. In the meane tyme, while this bread was a geatinge in sundry regions, to be brought to the palacie of Bouchius Anaconboa kyng of Xaragua, he sent messengers to Isabell, for one of the two Caravelles which were lately made there, intendinge to send the same againe thither laden with bread. The Partynes glad of these cydynges, layled about the Ilande, and in short space brought the shippe to the coastes of Xaragua. The sister of kyng Bouchius Anaconboa, that wyse and pleasant wyman Anacona, (the wyfe sometime of Caunaboa the kyng of the golden houfe of the montaunges of Libano, whose husband dyed in Caunoa, the way when he should have ben carped into Spayne) when
The first Decade.

He hearde say that our shyppe was arrived on the shore of her native country, subtitled the king her brother, that they both might goe together to see it: for the place where the shyppe lay, was not passe vi. myles distant from Xaragua. They rested all night in the midway, in a certayne vplage in the which was the treasure of jewel house of Anacona. Her treasure was neither golde, silver, nor precious stones, but only thinges necessary to be dide, as chappes, shoes, lettes, billes, potingers, pottes, pannes, basons, trepes, and such other houshold strete and instrumentes, worke mainly made of a certayne blacke and hardy symping wood, which that excellent learned Philistion, John baptist Elysus, affirmed to be Hybene. Whatsoever portion of wit nature had given to the inhabitantes of these landes, the same both most appeare in these kynde of woollkes, in which they shewe great art and cunning, but those which this woman had, were made in the land of Guanabba, situate in the mouth of the west syde of Hispaniola: In these they grave the kynde images of such phantesies as they suppose they see walke by night, which the antiques called Lemures: Also the images of men, lemures, beastes, &c. what so ever other thing they have once seen.

What woulde you thinke (moste noble prince) that they could doo, if they had the use of Iron and Steele? For they only first make these lost in the fyre, & afterward make them holowe and carre them with a certayne stone which they hau in the pyres.

Of shoes and chappes, the gau the Lieutenenta foureene, and of vesseles pertaining to the table and kitchen, shee gau the same therefore, some of wood, and some of earthes, also gosam-pyne cotton redye spume, foure great botomes of exceeding weight. The day foloweinge, when they came to the sea side, where was an other vplage of the kynges, the Lieutenenta commandead the shyppe boate to be brought to the shore. The kyng also had prepared two Canoes, payned after they maner, one for hym selfe and certayne of his gentlemen, an other for his sister Anacona and her wapping women: but Anacona desired to be carried in the shyppe boate with the Lieutenenta. Then they nowe approched near unto the shyppe, certayne great pieces of odoumace were discharged of purpose, the sea was filled with thunders, and the appa with smoke, they trembled and
The first Decade.

...and quaked for fear, supposing that the frame of the world had been in danger of falling, but when they saw the Lieutenant laugh, and look cheerfully on them, they called again the spirits, and when they put me nearer to the ship, and heard the nole of the flutes, sawlimes, and tindines, they were wonderfully astonished at the sweete harmonie thereof. Entering into the shippe, and beholding the foreshipp and the stern, the toppe castell, the mast, the hatches, the cabbins, the keele, and the tacks; the brother sprang his eyes on the spalter, and the spalter on the brother, they were both as it were dumb and amazed, and wiste not what to say for so much woondying. While beholding these things, they wandered up and downe the ship, the Lieutenant commanded the ankers to be loosed, and the spalies to be hoylde up. Then were they further astonished, when they saw so great a mole to move as it were by it selfe, without ones; and without the fowce of man for there arose from the earth such a wondre, as a man woulde have wipled for of purpose. Yet furthermore, when they perceived the shippe to move sometime forwarde, and sometime backward, sometime toward the right hande, and sometime toward the left, and that with one wondre, and in manner at one instant, they were at theyr wiptes ende for to much admiration. These things finished, and the shippes laden with bread, and suche other rewardes, they beyng also recompenced with other of four things, he dismissed not onely the kyng Boucban, Anachushe, and his spalter, but likewise all theyr servauntes & women, replenished with toye & wondering. After this, he hym selfe toke his toyme up soote with his souliers to the citie of Isabella, where he was ancertis that one Roldanus Ximenes, a noughty seiuere (whom before, beyng his servante, he had preferred to be capitaine of the myners and labourers, & after made hym a judge in cauters of contouertie), had used hym selfe outrageously, and was maliciuosly impressed against hym, and further, the caufe of much mischief in his absence. For kyng Guarionexius (who a whyle before was pardoned of his former rebellion, and perswaded the people to obey the Spaniards) was by his noughtie blage, and suche other as were confedered with hym, so accused to reuenge the injuries which they suff cyned at his hanedes, before the abominable actes.
The first Decade.

acts whose they, following only the lawe of nature, abhorréd
to admit, that he, with his famipples, famylyters, and dictionaries,
of desperate munde fledde to the mountaynes, being distaunte
from Isabella. only some leages westward, towaerde the north
side of the sea. These mountaynes, and also the inhabitauntes
of the same, they call by one name, Ciguais. The great king of
all the kinges and regiouns of these mountaynes is called Mab-
banexius, and his court or palace is named Capronus. the
mountaynes are rough, high, and such as no man can passe
to the toppes thereof, they are also bending, and have their corners
reaching downe to the sea. Betwene both the corners of the
mountaynes, is there a great playne, by the which many ri-
ters fall from the mountaynes into the sea, the people are very
fierie and warlike men, hauing they, original of the Camibales:
for when they defende from the mountaynes to the playnes, to
keepe warre with theye borderers, they eate all such as they hit.
Gaurionexius therefore, seeing to this kyng of these mountaynes,
gave him many presents of such thinges as are wanting in his
country, therewith declaring how vile, viliolently, and violent
ly he had ben ked of our men, with whom he could nothing
prenail, neither by waye meanes, nor by soyle, nor by humili-
tye, nor by soundelie, and that to be the cause of his retortinge,
to hym at that time, most humbly desyning him to be his defence
against thoppesessions of suche mylesious people. Mab-
banexius hereupon, made hym promise to ayde and helpe hym
against the Christians at that he might. The Lieutenant there-
fore made haste to the foertresse of Conception, whiche, as soone
as he was come, he sent for Roldeus Xemnus, who with suche
as folowed hym, lay in certayne of the Island villages, at ye.
ples, distant from the foertresse. At his commynge, the Lieutenant
asked him what at these stires and tumultes meanst: He answere-
ded without abolishment, Your brother the Admiral hath to doo
therewith, and that answere for the same before the kyng, for
we perceiue that the kyng hath to pur hym in trust, that he hath
had no regarde to vs: here we persype for hunger, while we
folowe you, and are bypen to lekke our unhappye foode in the
delates: Your brother also aligedd me alpliaunte with you
in gourninge the Islaunde. Therefore, sith you have no more
respect
The first Decade.

When Roldanus had spoken these words, and suche other, the Lieutenant woulde haue layde bandes on hym, but he escaped his fingers, and fledde to the West partes of the region of Xaragua, having with hym a trayne of threescore and ten men, which were of his confederacie. Here this wily shrike of rebelles thus conspired, playde theyr iages, and byed with toole hydles in al kynde of wpace, robbing the people, spoiling the countrey, and rauphyng both ypues and virgines. While these changes were dooing in the Ilande, the Admiral had eight shippes appoynted him by the kyng, of the which he lent two laden with vpperasse, from Cales or Gades of Hercules pypers, directly to the Lieutenant his brother. These shippes by chance arrivled on that lyve of the Ilande where Roldanus Xemius ranged with his companys. Roldanus in short tympe had reducethem, promysing them in the seede of fatoakes, wenches pappes: for labour, pleasure: for hunger, abundance: and for wcerynelle and watchynge, sleepe and quietynelle Guarionexius, in the mean time assembled a power of his frendes and confederates, et came offentymes dawne into the playne, and the as many of the Christian men as he could meete conveniently, and also the Ilande men which were thay frendes, wakynge thay grounde, destroynge thay seaues, and spoiling thay byplages. But Roldanus and his adherentes, albeit they had knowledge that the Admiral woulde shortly come, yet feared they nothing, because they had leueed the newe men whiche came in the fyfth shippes. While the Lieutenant was thus solled in the myndes of these stories, in the mean time his brother the Admiral sette forwarde from the coasts of Spayne: but not diectly to Hispaniola, for he turned more toother the south. In the whiche voyage, what he byd, what coasts both of the lande and sea he compassed, and what newe regions he diisserued, we wylhyste declare: for to what ende and conclusion the sayd tumules and sedicions came, we wyl expresse in the ende of the booke folowing. Thus fare ye well.
The first Decade.

The sixt booke of the sixt Decade, to
Lodouike Cardinal of dragonie.

Observe the Adonay, the third day of the
Calendes of June, in the yeare of Christe
1498. hasted up by his sailers in the haven of
the towne Barramedabas, not farre distant
from Caes, and set frome by on his voyage
with royght shippes laden with vitualles
and other necessaries. He diuerced from his
accustomed race, which was by the Ilandes of Canarie, by rea-son of certaine frenchmen spovers and rouers on the sea, which
lay in the royght way to meete with him. In the way from Caes
to the Ilandes of Canarie, about fourshefe and thame myles to-
ward the left hande, is the Ilande of Madera, more southwardthen the citie of Ciutie by fource degrees, for the Pole Articke is
eleuate to Ciutie, circa degrees, but to this Ilande (as the Bar-
iners say) only iiix. He sailde therefore royght to Madera, and
lending from there to Hispaniola, the residue of the shippes laden with vitualles and other necessaries, he him selfe with one shyppe with bekes, and two Parchant Caravelles,
cafted toward the South to come to the Equinoctial lyne, and
to lefte to followe the trace of the same toward the Wast, to
the intent to search the natures of suche places as he could finde
under or neare unto the same, leaving Hispaniola on the north side
on his royght hande. In the middle of this race, the iiirt. Ilandes
of the Portugales, which were in oble tymne called Hopperides,
and are nowe called Cuphot Viride or Caboverde, the are situate in
the sea, royght over against the inner partes of Etiopic, West-
waste two myles lapling. One of these the Portugales call
Bonaista. With the Snaples, or rather the Toptopes of this Is-
lande, many leprous men are healed and cleane of thep lep-
sick.

Departing sodainly from hence, by reason of the contagious-
nesse of the aipe, he sailde, CCCxv myles toward the West-
souwest, which is in the middest between the Wast and the
South. There was he sovered with maladies and heats (for it
was the moneth of June) that his syppes were almost set on fire:
the hoipes of his barrells crackt and breke, and the fresh wa-
ers ranne out; the men also complained that they were not able
The first Decade.

By sea of fresh water.

Through the same and large region of Paria.

Humane people.

they which were his companions in this voyage, being men of good credit, and perceiving my diligence in searching for these matters, tolde me yet of a greater thing, that is, that for the space of several leagues, amounting to a hundred and four miles, he sawed over by freshe water, into much that the further he proceeded, especially towards the west, he affirmed the water to be the frether. After this, he came to a howse mountain and inhabited only with Monkeys or Parmaestes, on that part towards the East: For that side was rough with rocks and stony mountaines, and therefore not inhabited with men. Yet they that went a lande to searche the country, found here into the sea, many savie stedes, well tilled and owen, but no people, nor yet houses or cottages: Perhaps they were gone further into the country, to sowe they came, and appose they their husbandry, as wee often see our husbandmen to leave their stations and villages for the same purpose. In the west side of that mountain, they also a large plaine, whither they made halt, and call anker in the broad purer. As sone as the inhabitants had knowledge that a strange nation was arrived in theys coates, they came flocking without all feare to see our men. We understand by theys yngue and popynge, that this Region was called Paria, and that it was very large: in so muche that the further he reached towards the west, to be so much the better inhabited and replenished with people. The Admiral therefore taking into his shippe course of the men of that lande, searched the west parts of the same. By the temperatenes of the aper, the pleasantnes of the ground, and the multitude of people which they labore daily more and more as they passed, they conjectured that these yngues pretended some great matter: as in neede their opinion failed them nor, as we will further declare in his place. The same not yet ripen, but beginning even nowe to yse, being one day allure by the pleasantnes of the place, and sweete savours which were breathed from the lande to the shippe, they went a lande: Here they founde a greater multitude of people, then in any other place. As our men approached toward them, there came certeine messengers from their Cacici, that is, the kings of the country, to desyre the Admiral in the name of theyse princes to come to theyse palaces with
The first Decade.

without fear, and that they and all theys should be at his commandement. When the Admiral had thanked them, and made his excuse for that time, there came innumerable people with theys boats to the shyppes, having for the most parte cheynes about theys neckes, garlandes on theys heads, and halettes on theys armes of pearls of India, and that so commonly, that our women in playes and triumphes, have no greater plenty of stones of glasse and cristal in theys garlandes, crownes, girdels, and suche other apparells. Being asked where they gathered them, they pointed to the next shore by the sea bankses. They signified also, by certyne scornfull gestures, that they made with theys mouthes and handes, that they most highly esteemed perles. Taking also bastes in their handes, they made signes that the same myght be spilt with them in shote space. But because the same wherewith his shyppes were laden to be caried into Hispaniola, had taken hurt by reason of the salt water, he determined to deferre this mart to a more convenient time: Yet he sent to land two of the shyp boats laden with men, to chyntent to fetch some garlandes of perles for exchange of our chynges, and also somewhat to search the nature of the Regio, and disposition of the people. They enterprised our men genetely, and came flocking to them by heapes, as it had been to behold strange monsters. Fyrst there came to meete our men, two men of grauitie, whom the multitude followe: One of these was well in age, and the other but young. They thynke it was the father, with his sonne whiche should succeed hym. When the one had saluted and embraced the other, they brought our men into a certyne rounde house, neere unto the whiche was a great court. Other were brought many chapers and tounes made of a certyne blake wood, and very cunningly wrought. After that our men and they prince were sette, they sayde to men came in laden, some with sundry delicat byles, and some with wynne. But they meat was only frutes, and chole of dyuers kindes, and betterly unknown to vs. Theys wynne was both white and redde, not made of grapes, but of the lyce of dyuers frutes, and very pleasant in drinking. After this banquete made in the late mans house, the young man brought them to his tabernacle or mention place, where
The first Decade.

was a great company both of men and women, but they stood diversely the one from the other. They are white, even as our men are, faung such as are much conversant in the faire. They are also very gentle, and full of humanitie towards strangers. They cover their private partes with gallantine cotton, wrought with sundry colours, and are beside all naked. There was fewe, or none, that had not either a coller, a chayne, or a braceler of golde and pearsles, and many had all.speeding asked where they had that golde, they pointed to certaine mountaines, seeming with their countenance to inducde our men from going thither: For putting their armes in thaym mouthes, and grumbling as though they bittes the same, spyl pent into the mountaines, they seemed to intend that men were eated there: but whether they meant by the Canibales, ou wylds beasts, our men could not wel perceive. They tooke it eeebling greenelye, that they could not bernder undeast our men, nor our men them. When they which were sent to lande, were returned to the shippes about three of the clocke after noone the same day, sympying with them certaine garlandes, and collars of pearsles, they looke themarkes to departe, mindsing to come agayne shortlye, when all thinges were set in good order in Hispaniola: but he was prevented by another, whiche defeated him of the rewarde of his travaile. He was also hindered at this time by reason of the shallownesse of the sea, violent course of the water, which with continuall tympling, hurted the greatest shippe as often as any great gale of wind arose. To avoid the dangers of such shallow places and elles, he ever sent one of the smallest Caravelles before to trye the way with bountying, and the bigges hyppes followed behynde. The regions beying in the large province of Paris, for the space of xxxv. miles are called of the inhabitannts, Cumana, and Manacapan: from these regions distant li. leagues, is there another region called Curiana. When he had thus passed over this long tract of sea, supposing stpl that it had ben an Iland, doubting that he might passe by the West to the North directly to Hispaniola, he chaunted into a rye of xxx. cubits depth, and of suche breadth as had not liighthly been hearde of. For he was supposing it to be, xxxvii. leagues. A lytle further towards the