

Dänisch-Hallesche Mission

Propagation of the Gospel in the East

Propagation of the Gospel in the East: Being a Farther Account of the Success
Of The Danish Missionaries, Sent to the East-Indies, For The Conversion Of The
Heathens in Malabar

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Section II. Containing Answers to such Questions as relate to Physick,
Oeconomy, and the natural State of the Country.

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fores. In this Language I do also discharge my Ministerial Labours, and converse by its means with such Heathens as are Natives of this Coast ; being now as readily versed in it as in my own vernacular Tongue. I have also for two Years together writ several Books in the same. (c)

(c) See Part III. of the Propagation of the Gospel in the East, pag. 47. Likewise the Letter writ by the Missionaries to the Reverend Mr. Lewis, pag. 27.

S E C T I O N II.

Containing Answers to such Questions as relate to Physick, Oeconomy, and the natural State of the Country.

The First Question :

HOW is it with the Air, Heat, Cold, Day, and Night ?

Answer : The Air is different, according to the different Seasons of the Year. In the Months of *August, September, and October*, we have the most temperate and healthiest Air, but it is subject to change almost every Day, blowing in the Forenoon from the Land, attended with some Heat ; and in the Afternoon from the Sea, refreshing every thing again.

gain. In *November*, *December*, and part of *January*, a westerly Wind reigneth, causing nothing but Rain, and very often stormy Weather, with a little Cold and Frost.

In the midst of *January* to the End of *April*, bloweth again a very temperate Wind: But from *May*, to the latter End of *July*, we are incommoded with a very strong, unhealthy, and hot Wind, blowing from the Land, which occasioneth various Diseases among the *Malabarians* as well as the *Europeans*. This Wind carrieth with it so violent and scorching a Heat, that one would think it came blowing out of a fiery Furnace. Looking upwards to the Sky, we can discern nothing but Sand, which the Wind drives in Heaps into the Houses: Walking in the Street, a Man can hardly open his Eyes, and he must wade through the Wind, as through a Stream of Water. During this obnoxious Wind, I am always very much indisposed, being brought by it to a meer Skeleton: I can hardly fetch my Breath, nor do I feel the least Perspiration of Sweat. Against this Inconveniency, I have this Year preserved my self very much, by the Help of some *European* Liquors, which I found my self obliged to use every Day.

Concerning the *Heat*, it is strongest in the Months of *February*, *March*, *April*, *May*, and *July*. The Dress of the *Malabarians* is so light and easie, that it does not incommode them at all. They are much given to washing, or bathing themselves in cold Water. They have always a sort of a Fan, wherewith they Air themselves: And to prevent the Sun's scorching them too much,

much, they lay a Cloth on the Crown of their Head plaited into many Folds. Besides this, they have on their High-ways, at every two or three *English* Miles Distance, a *resting Place*, or *Refectory*, wherein they may retire and cool themselves. During the greatest Heat, *viz*: from *Twelve* to *Two* a Clock, they use to sleep or sit down in the Shade.

As for the white *Europeans*, they are considerably more molested by this Heat, as wearing not only more Cloaths upon them, but adding also to this outward Heat, an inward one, by indulging themselves in all sorts of strong and hot Liquors. However, in their Houses they can guard themselves pretty well from an excessive Heat. When they sit or lay down, they have always cold Water sprinkled about them, and keep nothing on but some thin under Cloaths, whilst their Servants or Slaves do at the same time continually ventilate or fan the Air. When they go abroad, they have a *Somprair*, or *Ombrella*, swayed over their Head, to assuage the burning of the Sun. At Noon, from *Twelve* to *Two* a Clock, they conform to the Custom of the Land, and betake themselves to rest. Thus they do, at least in some measure, secure themselves from the consuming Heat.

As for my self, the greater the Heat is, the better I enjoy my Health; it agreeing so well with my Constitution, that I seldom as yet felt any Inconveniency by it: Nay, I should find it rather somewhat strange, if I should happen to return to *Europe* again in a cold, and chilly Winter.

Touching

Touching the Cold in this Country, 'tis such, that few have reason to complain of it: The *Europeans* especially enjoy their Health best whilst the rainy Season continueth, which beginneth the latter End of *October*, and lasteth to the Beginning of *January*. As the Rains in *Europe* are generally attended with a cool and refreshing Air, so are they here: But then does this cooling Air more pinch and pierce our Bodies here, than perhaps a sharp Winter-Season will do in *Europe*: The Reason whereof I suppose to be the violent Heat we commonly endure, before the cold or rainy Season breaketh in upon us; and which openeth the Pores of the Body to that Degree, that the cold Air succeeding that Heat, doth more sensibly touch us, than it would do, were the Pores kept closed, as they are in *Europe*. Hence it is, that we are very fond of a good warm Bed, and warm Cloaths, whilst the rainy Season continueth. We have, however, no need of Stoves, Ovens, or Chimneys, to warm our selves; it having never yet been so cold, as to make us stand in need of these or the like Means to get us a Heat. But our Nights, even in the warmest Season, are oftentimes so very cold, that at my rising in the Morning, I have now and then found my Feet very stiff; particularly when they happen'd to lie uncovered. Others again, when they awake in the Morning, are often quite shrunk together, and as it were half dead, having lain exposed to the open Air and uncovered. Yet after all, the cold Season is the most agreeable, and the most delightful Time of the Year, refreshing every thing,

thing, making it green and blooming, and yielding a most delicious Scent, as it doth in *Europe* in the Spring-time.

The *Malabarians* however complain only of the cold Season, as bringing the greatest Inconveniencies upon them; which cannot be otherwise, since they wear but a single thin Cloth, not thick enough to keep off the Cold, or to resist the Rain. And truly, if they did not ply their Work at such a time, to get themselves a Heat, they would be sadly pinched with Cold, as the idle Fellows use to be in *Europe* when it is very cold.

Days and Nights are here pretty near of an equal Length; but the Days are however somewhat shorter when the Sun is nearest to the Tropic of *Cancer*, or the Tropic of *Capricorn*, which however doth not long continue.

The Second Question :

What is their proper Diet? How do the Europeans Dress themselves? What Habitations and Houses have they? Is it expensive or cheap to live there?

Answer : The *Malabarians* live upon boiled Rice, with some Fish, Milk, or some green Herbs. This is their ordinary Diet, together with some *Betel Areck*, which serves them instead of sweet-Meats. The *Moors*, or *Mahometans*, feed besides this upon *Flesh*, *Fowls*, *Hares*, and all sorts of roasted and other delicate Meats. The great and wealthy among the *Moors*, entertain their Guests with a huge
Piece

Piece of *Amber* of a vast Value: It is like a great *Dutch Cheese*, of which every Guest taketh but a very small Crumb. The white *Europeans* eat *Rice, Bread, Fish, Fowls, Birds, Pork, Beef, Hares, Veal, Mutton, Goats, Eggs, Herbs*, and all sorts of *Roots and Greens*. They can prepare here above *three Hundred* different sorts of *Dishes*, and are in no want either of *Viſuals*, or of high ſeaſoned *Sauces*; with this difference only, that the *Viſuals* are not near ſo nourishing or ſucculent as they are in *Europe*.

Bread is very ſcarce in theſe Parts, we having no *Wheat* here but what is brought us from *Europe* or *Benjalen*. Thoſe that will drink *European Liquors* at their *Meals*, may eaſily ſpend *eight Dollars* a Month for *Drink and Viſuals*: But if they will content themſelves with *Water*, and ſuch *Dishes* as are prepared of *Rice*, as our *Soldiers* do, then the Diet cannot ſtand a Man in above *two Dollars* a Month, or *three* at fartheſt. Formerly, a *Malabarian* could make ſhift to live upon *half a Dollar*, or *three Parts of a Dollar*; when at preſent, an entire *Dollar* or *Crown* will hardly maintain him a Month. The Reason muſt be aſcribed to the extraordinary Dearneſs of *Rice*. About *ſixteen Years* ago, *Twenty four Mediden* or ſmall *Rice-Meaſures* were ſold for about *four or ſix Pence English*; when at this time, we can get no more than *three Meaſures* and a *half* for the ſame Price. And indeed, every thing is conſiderably dearer to what it was formerly. This cauſeth great Lamentations and Complaints among the common ſort of People,

ple, of whom, many have hitherto perished with Want and Hunger.

The *Europeans* dress themselves here as they do in *Europe*, every one according to the Fashion of his own Country; but during the hot Season, they wear only some very light filken *East-India* Stuff. In the rainy Season, a good Coat made of *European* Cloth will do no disservice: I have hitherto wore my self a Cloak and Coat of Cloth, and found much Benefit by it, since it secures me both against the Heat and Cold of this Country.

As for the Natives themselves, many of them go naked, covering only their Privities with a small Piece of Cloth: Others go but half covered; and some are quite dressed, especially the Women. Though their Dress be but mean and indifferent, yet do they often discover a deal of Pride and Vanity by it. Such as converse with *Europeans*, use to put on clean Cloaths once or twice a Week.

The *Habitations* of the black Heathens are very different. Poor People build their Cottages of a Clayish Earth, and cover them afterwards with Straw. The Rich and better sort raise their Houses with Brick, and contrive them so conveniently, that they may sit themselves down both within and without, though they have neither Chairs nor Benches. They have also Light enough to see by, though their Houses be without Windows.

The

The Houses of the *Europeans* are all built of pure Stone, but then they are only one Story high, so that the Cover of the House maketh the Ceilings of the Rooms, which they whiten and paint with many different Colours.

The Third Question.

What sorts of rare Creatures are there? What Plants and Rarities doth the Country produce? What degree of Cold is there in the Winter? And how long doth it continue? Do the Plants continue green all the Year round?

Answer: Here are extraordinary great *Elephants*, well inured to War; but they are brought to us from *Ceylon*, and other Places. We have a sort of rare *Stags*, as small as a young *Hare* in *Europe*, which however, have their compleat Horns, and never grow bigger. Our black-fighting *Goats* fight so furiously, that one would think, they must presently knock out one another's Brains; but their Heads being as hard as Iron, they never give over till one of them is at last killed upon the Spot, or saveth himself by Flight. When they are preparing to fight, they take Place at some distance from one another, and then turning to the Charge, they fight in such Order as they have been taught.

Upon this Coast are neither Woods nor Forests, and consequently, it does not breed many wild Creatures: But in the vast Dominions of the *Mogol* are many great Forests, stock'd with abundance of rare Animals, whose

Names I find expressed in *Malabarick Books*, but forbear setting them down at present, since I never had a sight of those Creatures, and so do not know how they are shaped. We have also divers sorts of rare *Birds*, as different *Parrots*, black-streaked *Nightingals*, very fine *Peacocks*, *Paradise-Birds*, and *Anas-Birds*, which are worshipped by the *Malabarians*. There are many more of this Kind, esteemed by the Heathens as *sacred Birds*, and are had in Veneration accordingly.

I proceed now to *Trees*, and *Fruits* of the Earth. They are quite different from those in *Europe*, and I do not remember I ever have seen either a Tree or Fruit resembling those in *Europe*. The best Fruits for eating are the Figs, called, *Ananas*, *Manges*, *Cojavves*, *Coco-Nuts*, and the like. Whatever this Soil produceth, be it never so common with us, would certainly pass for a Rarity in *Europe*. But how is it possible to number all those Rarities, and take them down in Writing? What the *Europeans* call *Winter*, is called here the *Rainy-Season*; whose Cold is not properly a Cold, but a fresh Air only, and holdeth commonly but two Months and a half. This Year we have had no *Rainy-Season* at all, which has caused a great Scarcity of all manner of Fruits. All Greens, and other Garden-Stuffs, continue green all the Year round, and are never more green and lively than during the *Rainy-Season*, which falls out when you have Winter in *Europe*. Our *Trees* are clad with Leaves and Blossoms throughout all the Year, as is likewise

wise the Soil that produces them. We have also *two* regular Harvests, or Reaping Seasons, every Year.

The Fourth Question.

What do they drink there, Wine, Beer, or Water?

Answer: All manner of Liquors fit for drinking, are somewhat scarce in *India*. There is Water enough to be had, 'tis true, but not without Money. We pay about *Three-pence* a Day *English* for Water for the Use of our House. Those that either cannot or will not go to the Price of it, may chuse to drink Salt-Water, or walk themselves to those Wells or Springs that afford good Water. But since those Wells are but rarely to be met with, the general Part of the *Malabarians* living in the Country, are forced to drink Pond, or River-Water.

Besides *Tea-Water*, which doth very good Service in this Country, we have several sorts of Liquors, called *Areck* and *Fincken*: The first of these is a kind of Brandy, and the other a sort of small Wine; but I have not yet tasted either the one or the other. The Juice of *Coco-Trees*, known here by the Name of *Suere*, and not unlike to that Beer in *Germany* which is called *Bryhane*, is pretty common in these Parts. Our *Coco-Nuts* contain in them a fresh and cooling Water, which in the Hot-Season most effectually quencheth the Thirst. One may have also *Milk* of *Cows*, *Sheep*, and *Goats*, throughout the Country. The *Europeans* are fond

fond of their own Country-Liquors, which indeed do best agree with their Constitution, provided they keep within Compass and Moderation. For this Reason, abundance of *European* Liquors are yearly imported into this Country, amounting to the Value of many Thousand *Rix-Dollars*. We are not only supplied with *Rhenish*, but also *French* and *Spanish* Wines; with *Brunswic-Mum*, with Variety of Beers sent from *Lubeck*, *Wisnar*, *Zerbst*, *England*, *Denmark*, &c. together with great Quantities of Wine shipped off at the *Cape of Good-Hope*.

As for *Brunswic-Mum*, it doth the best Service in this Country: One Spoonful of this Beer being mixed, by way of a Tincture, with a Glass of boiled *Sugar-Beer*, will make it drink as fresh and good as if it had but just been brewed in *Europe*. So that with one Bottle of *Mum*, one may tincture about twenty Bottles of *Sugar-Beer*, and make it good and palatable. This is the most common Liquor in this Place, and is called by the Name of *Shamprade*.

Neither are we here without *French* Brandy; which, though it be very dear, is reckoned however to be very wholesome for those that drink much Water. This Country produceth no Wine; only I have seen and tasted at *Nagapatnam*, a Place belonging to the *Dutch*, some fine and large Bunches of Grapes; of which the Governour there useth to send Presents to *Tranquebar*, where they are looked upon as great Rarities.

The

The Fifth Question.

By what Means do the Malabarians get their Livelihood?

Answer: Some of the *Malabarians* maintain themselves by Trade and Commerce; others by the Plow; others again by Handy-craft Work, and other Labour and Business of that Nature. In such Sea-port Towns as *Tranquebar*, Trade is far greater, and every thing more plentiful, than in any other Parts of the Country. Those that can and will Work, find Employment enough to get a Livelihood. There are no *Beggars* to be seen among them except the *Faquiers*, (d) who pretend, that for the better serving of the Gods, they have *denied* all their Friends and Relations, their Houses and Estates, their Wives and Children; and such have some Rice given them wherever they come.

There are many rich and great Men among the *Malabarians*; but for the generality they are poor, or of midling Circumstances. The chief Handy-craft Trades among them are, Linnen-Weavers, Shoe-makers, Taylors, Knitters of Stockings, Dyers, Painters, Masons,

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(d) Tavernier tells us there are in the Indies about Eight Hundred Thousand Mahometan Faquiers, and Twelve Hundred Thousand Pagan Faquiers, or voluntary Beggars; where he also speaks at large of their first Rise and Religion. See Book III, of his *Indian Voyages*, Chap. 2, and 6.

Carpenters, Joiners, Potters, Goldsmiths, Brasiers, Ironmongers, &c. and some work in Chalk and Lime-Houses, in Brickilns, and Glafs-Houses, where Glafs-Bracelets are made.

There are Physicians, Surgeons, Barbers, Exchangers of Money, &c. I may truly say; the *Malabarians* are as expert and ready in their several Trades and Arts as any Nation in *Europe*, and are able to imitate almost every thing that cometh to their Hands, and relateth to their Profession.

Their *Women* maintain themselves by Spinning of Wool, grinding of Rice; by felling of Cheese, Milk, Butter and Fish; by baking Cakes, fetching and carrying of Water; by putting themselves out to Service, &c.

The Sixth Question.

Are strong Rains, Thunder, Hail, Snow, and Rain-bows, very common in India?

Answer: It often does not rain for *four* or *five* Months together, especially during the hot Season of the Year, that one must wonder how it is possible any Sprig or Grass can put forth under so long and consuming a Drought. And truly we should have but a sorry Crop, were it not for a great deal of Water which, in the dry Season, gushes forth out of the high Countries, and discharging it self upon the whole Coast of *Coromandel*, renders it green and fruitful. This Water undoubtedly floweth from some Countries where the Rainy-Season has been. As soon as it reacheth

eth our Coast, every Country-Man, whose Land it approacheth, turns it to his own Ground ; and after having thoroughly watered it, lets it pass on to his Neighbour. In this manner the whole Coast is overflown and refreshed with Water, till at last it emptieth it self into the Sea.

Whenever this Flood happens to be kept back for a whole Twelve-Month together, it causeth a great Scarcity of all Eatables : But when it comes, it comes with so abounding a Plenty, that it doth not only lay the Land under Water, but riseth about two Foot high above it, that one would think, it must either entirely rot, or at least stifle the Growth of the Seed. However, I have observed, that the Crop never appears more promising, than after it has been covered a while with this Water, which carries a very nourishing Virtue with it.

In the Months of *October* and *November*, we generally have Rains and Storms. *Thunder* and *Lightnings* are very common in *India* throughout the whole Year, and are observed to be far more violent than in *Europe*. There passeth seldom a Year, wherein Thunder or Lightning doth not do some Hurt or other. Had it not been for the merciful Providence of God, our whole Castle had been blown up last Year by the Thunder and Lightning, which falling next to the Magazine of Powder, exposed every thing to the greatest Danger.

As for *Snow*, there is none to be seen here : And the *Malabarians* do not know what to make of it when they hear of the Depth of

Snow in *Europe*, and of the *Water* froze into *Ice*. The Appearance of *Rain-Bows* happens very often, called by the *Malabarians*, *Indiravillu*. They pretend to know, that there is another *World* above us, wherein *Dewa Indiren* sways the *Sceptre*. When it *thunders*, they say, that this *King* is at *War* with his *Neighbours*, and that the *Rain-Bow* is his *Shooting-Bow*. But this is the *Opinion* of the *Vulgar* only, and of the ignorant sort of *People*, who take in *Things* upon trust, without any farther *Enquiry*. Their *Scholars* and *Naturalists* have a far better knack in *Reasoning*, and know very well what *Cause* to assign for these and the like *Contingencies* that happen in *Nature*.

The Seventh Question.

*What sort of Wood use they for Firing?
What Oil, or Tallow for their Candles?*

Answer : The *Europeans*, as well as *Malabarians*, use for their *Kitching-Fire* nothing but *dried Cow-dung*, made up in small round *Cakes*, called by the *Natives*, *Praten*. They have also some small *Wood*, which is daily carried about the *Streets* to be sold, but it is somewhat dear.

Concerning *Timber* for *Building*, 'tis imported from *Europe*, or from some other *Place* in *India*, and is consequently sold at a high *Rate*. A *Board* of a middling *Size*, is hardly sold under *five Dollars*; and a *Piece* of *Timber* for about *fifteen*. This obligeth them to build their *Houses* mostly of *Brick*.

Oil

Oil they have in abundance, and extraordinary cheap, not drawn from Olives or Turnip Seed, but pressed out of another Fruit and Seed, much like unto the *European Mustard*. It is called *Ellu*, but hitherto unknown to me. *Wax-Candles* may be had for a moderate Price, and much cheaper than in *Europe*, there being Multitudes of Bees swarming every where in the Country.

The Eighth Question.

Do they Till the Ground? What doth it produce?

Answer: They do Till it. This Coast being extremely fertile, it is able to furnish other neighbouring Countries with Corn. That which groweth here most plentifully, is our *Nellu* or *Rice*, and is used for the same purpose as the Corn is in *Europe*. It groweth almost like *Millet*, or *Hirse* in *Germany*, and often beareth an Hundred-fold. The Fields are *Plowed* and *Harrowed* after the manner of *Europe*. In the Reaping Time, all is cut down with a Sickle, and being carried together in Heaps, they strike a Floor in the midst of the Field, and Thresh it. If there remaineth any thing in the Stalks, their Cows and Oxen must tread it out.

Besides the Arable Ground, they have also fine Pastures and Meadows for Cattle. Horses are very scarce among them. They have great Numbers of *Asses*, *Puffeloes*, and divers Kinds of *Cows* and *Oxen*. Such of the *Malabarians* as make it their Business to till and ma-

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manure the Land, are held here in great Esteem, and are not near so contemptibly used as the poor Plow-Men in *Europe*. I have in my Hands some *Malabarick* Composures, descanting upon the Excellency of a *Rustical* State, together with a Copy of Verses made on every Branch of a Husbandman's Life.

The Ninth Question.

To what Age do the Malabarians commonly attain?

Answer: Some of the *Malabarians* attain to a far greater Age than perhaps you may find in *Europe*. The Reason whereof is undoubtedly to be ascribed to the good *Diet* they observe in Eating and Drinking, since they feed on nothing but what is Simple and Natural: When, on the contrary, the *Europeans* having but little regard to a moderate *Diet*, overcharge themselves with Variety of high-seasoned Dishes, and so considerably weaken their Nature. Many very old Men and Women are found among the Heathens, and yet still nimble enough to go about their Business.

In their Histories, one may read many fabulous Relations of the uncommon Age of the *Malabarians*; and I heard but lately, that one of their *holy Men* has already attained an Age of four Hundred Years, and that none can tell by whom he is supplied with Victuals. And there is a Mountain, eight Days Journey from hence, out of which, they say, none that entereth in it doth ever return, but lives eternally

ly in Company with the *holy Prophets*, who have their *Habitations* there.

I have my self conversed with some that were above a *Hundred Years* old, and as yet of a sound and perfect Understanding. However, the *Malabarians* fare no better in this respect than other Nations do in the Universe; since Abundance both of young and middle-aged People are daily cut off in the very Bloom and Strength of their Years.

The Tenth Question.

The Palm-Leaves, or Books you have sent to Europe, are they writ with Pen and Ink, or are they engraven with an Iron Pencil? And can you your selves write in this manner?

Answer: The *Malabarians* do not know how to handle Pen and Ink, but they take the *Palm-Leaf* in the Left, and an Iron Stile or Pencil in the right Hand, and write with it as fast as we do with Pen and Paper: Yet it requireth a great deal of Patience and Exercise, to write with so heavy a Pencil every Day, and from Morning to Night, and to hold the *Palm-Leaf* in the left Hand, without laying or resting the same on any thing at all.

On their left Thumb they have a pretty long Nail with a Nook cut in it. To this they fasten the sharp End of the Pencil, whilst the upper-end is held by the Fingers of the right Hand; the *Olie*, or *Palm-Leaf*, they hold with the four Fingers of the left-Hand, and putting the Thumb, which supports the Pencil,

cil, on the Top of the Leaf, they move it forwards till a Line is finished, after which, they take back the Leaf, and begin another. I can write indeed in the same manner, as the *Malabarians* do; but since I have no great Occasion for it, (whilst I can dictate every thing to a *Malabarick* Writer,) I have made no extraordinary Proficiency in this Piece of Curiosity. However, I do not question, but I should be as nimble a Writer as a *Malabarian*, if I did but handle my Leaf and Pencil for a whole Week together, in order to use my Fingers to this Exercise.

The Letters on the Palm-Leaves look black, and the Leaves themselves yellowish: The Cause of which is, a sort of Oil mixed with *Saffron*, *Tinder*, and other Ingredients of a blackening Nature. This Oil rendereth both the Book durable, and the Writing legible, when without it, all would appear white, and the Reading prove very difficult to those that were not well-acquainted with it. This blackish Colour is also a great Comfort to the Eye; and truly, had it not been by this Means, the constant Perusal of so many *Malabarick* Writings would have long since impaired my Sight.

The Eleventh Question.

Do you make use of such Books among the Malabarians, and can they read this sort of written Leaves?

Answer: This Way of writing Books, has been in use among the *Malabarians* for some
Thou

Thousand Years together. They have in all their Cities, Market-Towns, and Villages, settled Schools, wherein their Youth is taught to *Read* and to *Write*, though there are but few that attain to any Perfection, either in the one, or in the other. The Reason seems to be, because no less than *six* Years Study is required to make a Man perfect in both. There is, it may be, but one in a Thousand that can both read and write. And again: Among a Thousand that can read and write, you will find but very few arrived to such a Degree of Scholarship, as to perform it readily, and without Hesitation.

Their Women are not kept to School at all, and consequently remain ignorant in either, except a few of them, singled out to attend the Service of the Idols in their *Pagodes*. These are called for that Reason, *the Servants of the Gods*. They usually learn to *Read*, *Write*, and to *Sing*; and apply themselves to attain the learned *Malabarick*, or the Language of the *Bramans*. Many of these Girls are of good Parts, and quick of Apprehension. Much more could be said here of the Books of this Nation; but I refer the Reader to my *Bibliotheca Malabarica*, sent to *Europe* some time since, and dedicated to the Reverend D. *Lutkins*, at *Copenhagen*; wherein I have drawn up a pretty long *Catalogue* of their Books or Composures, and made some short *Annotations* concerning the *Contents* and *Authors* of them, and the Time wherein the Books were supposed to be writ.

As

As for those *Arts* and *Sciences* that flourish in *Europe*, I can assure you, the *Malabarians* do not come behind in any Branch of Learning. They teach *Theology*, called by them, *Weda Sastirum*; their *Ethick* is called, *Grara Sastirum*; and their *Logick*, or Art of Arguing, *Dakka Sastirum*: Their *Oratory* is styled, *Saduria Sastirum*; and their *Poetry*, *Panschaletschina Sastirum*: Their *Philosophy*, taken in a large Sense, is termed, *Loga Sastirum*; and their *Physick* is expressed by *Pumi Sastirum*: They call *Geography*, by the Name of, *Puwana Sastirum*; and their knowledge in *Physick*, by that of *Waiddia Sastirum*: Their *Politicks* go under the Name of, *Nidi Sastirum*; and their *Mathematicks*, under that of, *Sodirishia Sastirum*: Their *Astronomy* is known by the Name of, *Natshettirum parkira Sastirum*; and their *Geomancy*, by that of *Samostrigei Sastirum*: *Musick* is called with them, *Párada Sastirum*; *Chymistry*, is noted by, *Rashamiddei*; and *Geometry* is named, *Kennida Sastirum*.

Thousands of such *Arts* and *Sciences* are in Vogue among their *Literati* or Scholars; but I forbear to specify more at present. More particularly (which is to be lamented!) are they acquainted with such *Arts* and *Mysteries* as spring up from Sin, and lead to Sin. It is astonishing to see what Masters of *Witchcraft* there are in this Nation.

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