







ALI BEY EL ABBASSI

PLATES AND MAPS

OF THE

TRAVELS OF ALI BEY,

IN

MOROCCO, TRIPOLI, CYPRUS, EGYPT, ARABIA, SYRIA,
AND TURKEY,

27297

BETWEEN THE YEARS 1803 AND 1807.

PHILADELPHIA:

PRINTED FOR JOHN CONRAD, AT THE SHAKSPEARE BUILDINGS.

James Maxwell, Printer.

1816.

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TO VARIOUS
MACHINES
FOLLOWING

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ADVERTISEMENT

OF

THE ENGLISH PUBLISHERS.

IN presenting to the world an English translation of the Travels of Ali Bey, the publishers think it right to pledge themselves to the public that they are laying before it a genuine work. The name and pretensions assumed by Ali Bey may induce some to be inquisitive as to his personal reality. The London publishers are therefore anxious that there should be no doubt or misconception on this subject; and they beg to assure the readers of the work, that they have become personally acquainted with this traveller; that he was well known to several individuals in this country before he began his journey; that he came to London in the summer of 1814 to make arrangements for the publication of this translation; and that he is now living on the continent much respected by the foreign literati.

The publishers do not feel themselves at liberty either to oppose or to state the personal reasons which have induced the author to write and print his Travels, under the name of Ali Bey.

As these reasons are personal to the author and his family, it is not necessary to lay them before the public; and indeed as he was always known abroad by the name of Ali Bey and by no other, there is no incongruity, and very little impropriety in continuing it. But as the publishers feel that the name may create impressions unfavourable to the belief of the genuineness both of the author and of his work, they think it right, out of respect to that public which it is their wish to please and their duty to satisfy, to state a few circumstances which they trust will remove all doubt of the reality both of Ali Bey and of his travels.

It was in 1802 that he visited this country with a friend who was to have accompanied him to Africa. He was at that time introduced to Sir Joseph Banks, the late Dr. Maskelyne, Major Rennell, Mr. Mendoza, Sir William Blizard, Mr. Sharon Turner, and to the present publishers, and others. He stated his object to be to visit Africa; to enter it in Morocco, and to penetrate into the interior as far as he should find it to be practicable. Ali Bey was indebted to Sir William Blizard for important surgical attentions. He was master of the Arabic language, and had carefully studied the mathematical and natural branches of science and knowledge.

In June 1803 he sailed from Spain to Morocco. We are enabled to authenticate this fact to our readers, by the permission we have received to copy two letters written to Mr. Sharon Turner, who had taken an interest in his expedition; one, from the author himself, dated at Algesiras; the other from two gentlemen in the war office at Madrid, who transmitted the letter of Ali Bey. The first was,

“ Alxeciras, June 26, 1803.

Mon respectable ami: Je vais m'embarquer pour Tanger; je prends congé de vous pour entrer dans mon champ de bataille; offrez mes respects à tous nos amis, et ne doutez point de l'attachement de votre tres aff. serv.

A. B.

J'ai laissé a Cadix mon aide C. avec mes effets, qui me suivront apres.”

The other letter, which accompanied the preceding, was as follows:

“ De Madrid, ce 18 Juillet, 1803.

Nous avons l'honneur de vous remèttre, Monsieur, en qualité d'amis et charges des affaires du courageux voyageur, sa lettre ci-jointe; et d'après les bontés que vous avez eú pour lui pendant son sejour dans cette capitaie, nous nous flattons que vous saurez avec plaisir qu'il vient de faire heureusement et sous les meilleurs auspices, son premier pas dans sa périlleuse et intéressante entreprise.

Quand à nous, en qualité de ses amis, nous vous prions de vouloir bien agréer les temoignages de notre sincère estime et réconnoissance dont nous sommes pénétrés pour tous les secours et lumieres qu'il a obtenu de vous. Dans le cas que vous vouliez bien répondre au voyageur ou lui communiquer des avis que vous jugiez lui être utiles, vous aurez la bonté de nous adresser vos lettres, mettant la premiere enveloppe: a Monsieur Amorós, Commis au Bureau de la Guerre; et la seconde ou celle de dessus: a son Excellence le Secretaire d'Etat et du Département de la Guerre a Madrid.

Nous saisissons, Monsieur, avec empressement cette occasion de vous dire, avec les plus sinceres sentimens de respect, &c.

Vos tres humbles et très dévoués serviteurs,

FRAN^{co} AMOROS.

F. DE GILMAN.

P. S. A mesure que nous recevrons de nouvelles de notre ami Ali Bey, nous ne manquerons pas a vous les faire savoir; nous flattant avec raison que si le succès couronne son expedition il en resultera des grands avantages aux sciences, et des lumieres qui nous manquent sur l'interieur de l'Afrique."

That Ali Bey was afterwards at Alexandria, we have the evidence of M. Chateaubriand, who met him there, and who thus notices the incident in his *Itineraire de Paris a Jerusalem*, Tome Troisieme, page 37.

"J'eus encore a Alexandrie une de ces petites jouissances d'amour propre dont les auteurs sont si jaloux, et qui m'avaient deja rendu si fier a Sparte. Un riche Turc, voyageur et astronome, nommé Ali Bei el Abbassi, ayant entendu prononcer mon nom, pretendit connaitre mes ouvrages. J'allai lui faire une visite avec le Consul. Aussitot qu'il m'apercut, il s'ecria: *Ah, mon cher Atala et ma chere Rene!* Ali Bei me parut digne, dans ce moment, de descendre du grand Saladin. Je suis meme encore un peu persuadé que c'est le Turc le plus savant et le plus poli qui soit au monde, quoiqu'il ne connoisse

pas bien le genre des noms en français, mais *non ego paucis offendar maculis*.— The principal date of his travels may be briefly noticed from the present publication. He continued in Morocco from June 1803 to October 1805, when he embarked at Larisch for Tripoli. In January 1806, he sailed for Cyprus, where he stayed two months. He arrived at Alexandria in May in that year. In October he went to Cairo. In December to Suez, and from that place sailed to Jeddo. He proceeded on the Mahometan pilgrimage to Mecca, where he arrived in January 1807. He returned to Cairo in June of that year; went with the caravan to Jerusalem in July, and from thence to Acre, Mount Carmel, Nazareth, the Sea of Gallilee, the river Jordan, Damascus, and Aleppo. At the end of October 1807, he visited Constantinople.

In the autumn of 1813 he was at Paris, and at the sittings of the national institute, on the 15th and 20th November 1813, he read to its scientific and also to its historical classes, a memorial on his travels, which excited great interest.

That he has been accredited at Paris, will satisfactorily appear by the following letter of the celebrated Humboldt to Mrs. Helen Maria Williams, who was requested by the publisher to revise and complete the present translation.

“ J'ose recommander a mon excellente amie Mademoiselle Williams le fameux voyageur, qui sous le nom d' Ali Bey a été a la Mecque. Il fait faire a Paris meme une traduction de son itineraire qui est extremement curieux. Mr. Longman doit imprimer cette traduction, mais il desire que vous ayez la

grace de jeter les yeux sur ce qui est fait pour juger d'après votre profonde connaissance de la Littérature Anglaise, si la traduction pourra être publiée à Londres, sauf quelques corrections. Vous ne me'n voudrez pas, mon excellente amie, de ma prière indiscrete, A. B. est aussi distingué par ses connaissances que par son courage.

Ce Mardi.

Signé HUMBOLDT."

The publishers will end the authentication of the reality of Ali Bey with the letter which they have received from a distinguished member of the institute, M. De L'Isle de Sales.

" Messieurs Longman et Comp^o.

Paris, 17 Novembre 1811.

Ma correspondance avec un Pair d'Angleterre, qui m'honore depuis plusieurs années de son amitié, m'annonce que vous êtes sur le point de publier les voyages d'Ali Bey, qui, j'ose le dire, sont attendus avec empressement, de tous ceux à qui la science et le goût, dans les recherches Orientales et Musulmanes, sont chers encore: c'est un vrai service que vous rendrez à la République entière des Lettres, que la Révolution Française a été sur le point d'anéantir.

Personne ne le connaît mieux que moi. Ses connaissances géographiques et astronomiques avouées par des scavants du plus grand poids, tels que les Delambre et les Mechain, et dont les recueils scientifiques, tels que la *Connaissance des Tems* font d'utiles mentions, sont au dessus de mes éloges.

J'ai entendu moi-même dans le corps Académique dont je suis membre, les Mémoires pleins d'intérêt, dont on nous a fait la lecture: j'ai distingué surtout

la description du temple de la Mecque, et celle du magnifique édifice religieux, erigé dans Jérusalem, sur les ruines du Temple de Salomon. Il regne dans ces Memoires un intérêt majeur, que son genie seul pouvait imprimer a tout ce qui sort de sa plume.

Recevez, Messieurs, l'assurance de ma consideration distinguée.

DE L'ISLE DE SAILES,

Membre de l'Institut Royal de France,

Académie des Belles Lettres.

a Paris, Rue de Sèvres,

Hotel de Lorges, No. 95."

The publishers will not presume to anticipate the judgment of the public on the merits of the travels themselves. They will be found to possess one peculiarity that increases their interest. The author travelled as a complete Mahometan, and was every where received and treated as such. By this means he was enabled to identify himself with the habits and feelings of the countries he visited, and from this circumstance his narrative will be found to give one of the most faithful and lively pictures of the Mussulman manners, state of society and ideas, that has been hitherto laid before the public.

In his visit to the isle of Cyprus he surveyed some curious remains of antiquity that have been usually overlooked. Having been admitted in his character of a Mahometan prince to sweep the interior of the Caaba at Mecca, the most sacred office that a Mussulman can perform, and to visit it repeatedly, he

has given, from personal inspection, a more minute and exact account of the temple of Mecca than other travellers could lay before the public. His notice of the venerated mountain beyond Mecca, the last and principal object of the pilgrimage to that city, and his description of the interior of the temple of Jerusalem, which no Christian is permitted to enter, will be found to contain much new information. But the publishers are desirous to abstain from any panegyric of a work, of which, however curious in their estimation, an enlightened public will be desirous to form its own impartial judgment. To that judgment they commit it, having been principally anxious by these remarks to prevent the title under which the author travelled from operating to the prejudice of his narrative.

Geographical Positions determined by the Astronomical Observations of Ali Bey.

Geographical Positions determined by the Astronomical Observations of Ali Bey.		North Latitude.		Longitude west of the ob- servatory at Greenwich.	
		°	'	°	'
Tangier,	- - -	35	47 54	5	53 45
Laraisch,	- - -	35	13 15	6	1 30
Alcassar,	- - -	35	1 ^h 10	5	49 30
Wazen,	- - -	34	42 29	-	-
Ouschda,	- - -	34	40 54	1	47 45
Teza,	- - -	34	9 32	3	40 0
FEZ,	- - -	34	6 3	4	58 15
Rabat,	- - -	34	4 27	6	37 15
Mequinez,	- - -	35	58 30	5	30 0
Darbeida,	- - -	33	37 40	7	29 45
Azamor,	- - -	33	18 46	8	4 0
MOROCCO,	- - -	31	37 31	7	35 30
Souera or Mogador,	- - -	31	32 40	9	35 30

Ali Bey determined the longitudes in the annexed table, by alternate observations of the chronometrical differences of the lunar distances to the sun and stars, and of the eclipses of the satellites of Jupiter. The longitudes of Tangier and Fez are also compared with the results obtained from a calculation of two eclipses of the sun, which our traveller observed in those towns—observations which were published in the *Connoissance des Temps*, at Paris, and in the *Nautical Almanac* of the Isla de Leon, in Spain.

The latitudes are the result of a great number of observations of the passage of the sun, and some circumpolar stars, over the meridian.

Almost all these observations were made by means of an entire reflecting circle of ten inches diameter, with four verniers, mounted on a stand, made in London, by Troughton, an achromatic telescope, of 2½ feet, by Dollond, a chronometer, by Brooksbanks, and another by Pennington.

Although the positions of Alcassar and Mequinez are determined solely by the geodesical estimates of Ali Bey, they may nevertheless be regarded as sufficiently exact, considering their very trifling distance from geographical points astronomically determined.

The original observations, and the calculations, of Ali Bey, will be inserted and discussed in the scientific part of his travels, which will appear after the publication of the *historical and descriptive part*.

The other points, in the routes of Ali Bey, are determined by his geodesical estimates, after a greatly approximated measurement of the angles of the rhumbs to the compass, as also of the length of the lines, made by numerous comparisons of the time with the rate of march of his caravans; and we possess nine route maps, made from day to day by Ali Bey, on a large scale, containing the development of the lines travelled over by him, in the kingdom of Morocco, and marked on this map.

The chain of the mountains of Atlas was seen by Ali Bey from Morocco, and along the road from Fez to Ouschda. We hence ascertain its direction between those two extremities of the empire. The rest of the chain is traced, according to information given to our traveller by natives of the country. These mountains are covered with perpetual snow.

The other points in the map are marked, in conformity to a great number of notices obtained from the inhabitants of the country by Ali Bey; and we have several sketches of his, which, by means of right lines, forming triangles with known points, mark their site and respective distances, in days' journeys and hours.

The rivers flowing south from the mountains of Atlas enter the Sahara, or Great Desert. It is evident that they do not fall into any known sea, since they cannot return toward the Mediterranean, on account of the obstacle formed by that very chain; and, on the other hand, we know pretty nearly the source of the waters which Africa pours into the Atlantic ocean. It is said these rivers lose themselves in lakes in the midst of the desert. This must be the case; but until, the fact is ascertained, we shall merely indicate by points the extremity of their course.

The projection of the coasts is marked according to the spherical map of that enlightened Spanish mariner, Mr. Varela: it is the best that we know; but the points are adjusted with reference to the geographical positions determined by Ali Bey, which, by the circumstances of the observations, appeared to us to deserve the preference.

An *h* before a vowel, in the proper names, must be gently aspirated, as in the word *hero*: when there are two *hh*, they must be strongly aspirated, like the German *ch*.

Geographical Positions determined by the Astronomical Observations of Ali Bey.

Geographical Points determined by the Astronomical Observations of Ali Bey.						
	North Latitude.			Longitude east of the meridian of the observatory of Greenwich.		
	°	'	"	°	'	"
MECCA, - - - -	21	28	9	40	15	0
Djedda, - - - -	21	32	42	39	6	0
Tual, - - - -	22	5	46			
Omelmusk, - - - -	22	18	35	38	51	15
Dounibatz, - - - -	22	37	0			
Araboh, - - - -				38	52	0
El Hhabt, - - - -				38	39	0
Ras Abiad C. - - - -	23	30	0			
Yenboa el Bahhar, - - - -	24	7	6	37	32	30
Djebel Hazen I. - - - -	25	2	6			
Isles of Ham ^a ra, {	25	15	24			
	25	27	0			
	25	45	47			
El Wadjih, - - - -	26	13	39			
Libeyat, - - - -	26	28	25			
Zouida, - - - -	26	36	34			
Kalaat el Miilah, - - - -	27	28	30			
Ras Abumohamed C. - - - -	27	50	0			
Tor, - - - -				33	33	10
El Wadi Tor, - - - -	28	18	51			
Al Marhha, - - - -	29	1	41			

Ali Bey fixed the longitudes of the annexed table, by observations of the lunar distances, and of the eclipses of the satellites of Jupiter. The positions of Mecca and Djedda, in particular, have been verified by a multitude of observations, the mean term of which is very little distant from the extremes.

At the Wadi Corondel, Ali Bey observed several contacts of a lunar eclipse, the calculations of which have not been met with among his papers.

The latitudes were fixed by a great number of passages of the sun and stars over the meridian.

All these observations will be discussed in the *scientific part* of the Travels of Ali Bey. They were made with the same instruments which he employed at Morocco, except the chronometer of Brooksbank, which was broken, and that of Pennington, which was stolen at Mina, beyond Mecca. These two accidents prevented Ali Bey

from multiplying his observations of longitude on his return from Mecca.

Ali Bey, having been made prisoner by the Wehhabites, at a short distance from Medina, thinks he is enabled to fix the geographical position of that city, such as it is seen on this map, without any considerable error.

It will be seen, that the Beléa el Haram, that is, the Forbidden Land, or Holy Land of the Mussulmans, the entrance into which is forbidden to every individual not a Mussulman, and the capital of which is Mecca, is a country almost entirely mountainous; yet the mountains are not very elevated, and the country is almost wholly arid. The high mountains form a line, in a direction nearly from south-east to north-west: they run by Taif, Medina, and Yenboa en Nahhal, and terminate on the sea-coast, near the islands named Djebel Hasen, and the isles of Ham^ara.

EXPLANATION OF THE PLATES.

- I. THE Portrait of Ali Bey.
- II. A map of Africa, showing Ali Bey's rout.
- III. *a* A Moorish soldier on his march. He always carries his long musket in his hand.
b A Moorish soldier attacking.
c Ali Bey at Mogadore.
- IV. 1 Plan and elevation of an ancient Temple at Amathante. The position of the Sanctuary towards the north is worthy of observation. The scale is in Paris feet.
2 Cluster of Columns. There are in Egypt several villages wholly composed of columns of this description.—
- V. 1 The obelisk of Cleopatra.
2 Pompey's Pillar
- VI. 1 Arab Music.
a Mariner's song on the Red Sea. The mate begins alone, and the sailors respond. This music exhibits the singularity of a bar divided into five equal portions, a thing which J. J. Rousseau conceived to be practicable, but was never able to accomplish.

- b* Song of a Mina woman.
- e* Song of some women met together at Mecca.
- d* Song sung by several men met together at Djedda.
- e* A sailor's song on the Red Sea.
- 1 View of a Dao, the largest kind of Arab ships on the Red Sea.
- 2 *a* The upper horizontal surface or deck.
 - b* Section of the length.
 - c* Section of the breadth.
 - d* The helm.
 - e* Shape of the sail.
- VII. 1 Bedouin huts in the desert of Mecca.
 - 2 The skeleton of a hut.
 - 3 Front view of the wooden stairs leading to the Kaaba.
 - 4 Side view of the same object.
 - 5 El Makam Ibrahim, or Abraham's Place. A kind of Tomb, covered over with a magnificent pall, and surrounded by a grating, marks the spot where the stones used in building the Kaaba issued miraculously. They were received by Ishmael, and by him handed to his father Abraham, who piled them in their places.
 - 6 Plan and elevation of the detached arch near the Kaaba, called Relies Selem.

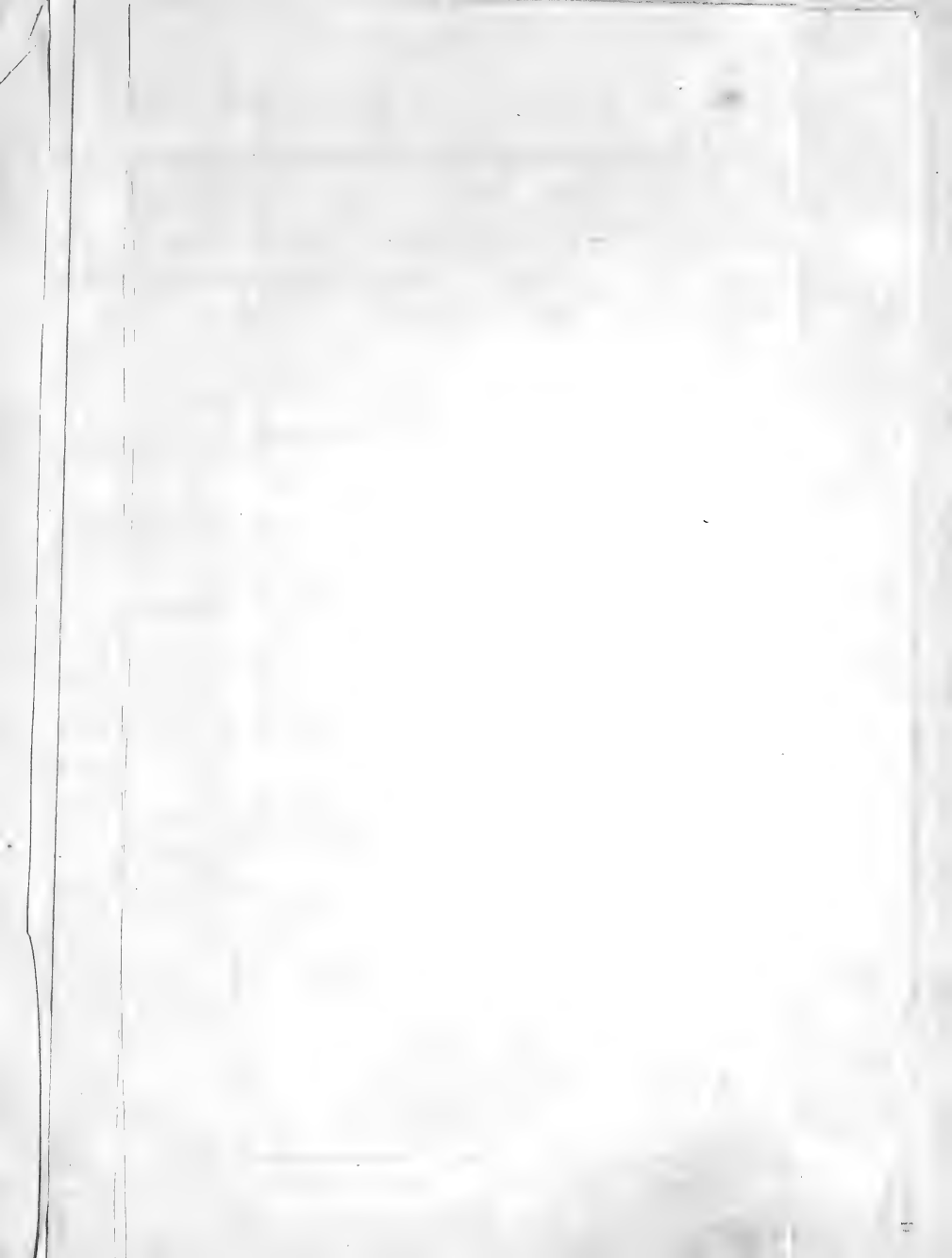
- 7 El Monbar, or the Tribune of the Preacher, made of beautiful white marble.
- 8 Small brass pillars which surround the Kaaba.
- 9 Makem Maleki, or the place of prayer for the sick so named.
- 10 Golden lamps suspended in the interior of the Kaaba.
- 11 Glass lamps suspended between the small brass pillars.
- 12 The end of the Rey of the Kaaba.
- 13 Brazier used in perfuming the interior of the Kaaba.
- 14 Form of the pitchers at the well Zemzem.
- 15 Form of the Capitals of several of the columns of the Temple.

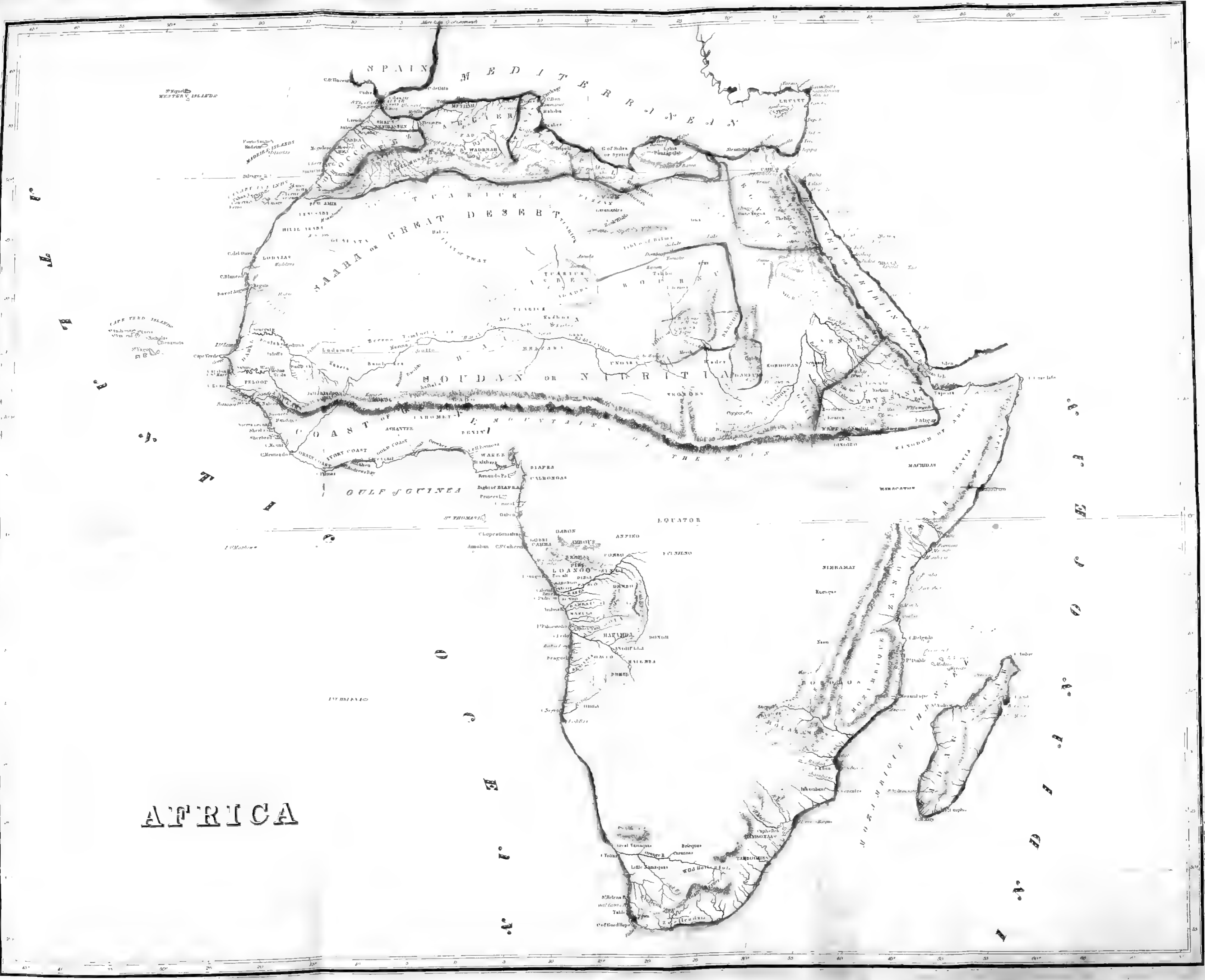
VIII. A sacred place, called Saffa, formed by three arches in one of the streets of Mecca.

It was on the mountain in the back ground, which is denominated Djebel, Aborkonbis, that the black stone of the Kaaba descended from heaven.

- IX. A sacred place, called Meroua, formed by three great walls, and situated in another of the streets of Mecca. The houses ascend nearly to the summit of the hill of Mecca. In the streets are seen the barbers, who shave the heads of the Pilgrims when they have completed the seven journies between Saffa and Merou.
- X. View of the Kaalat el Moilah, or the Arabian Coast.

- XI. 1 A Triumphal arch, with a beautiful ancient pavement, on Mount Taurus.
- 2 Chariots of Caramania.
- 3 Huts elevated upon pillars, of which Ali Bey saw a whole village in Caramania.
- 4 Huts of Turkish herdsmen.





AFRICA

SPAIN MEDITERRANEAN SEA

MAHARA OR GREAT DESERT

SUDAN OR NUBIA

GULF OF GUINEA

EQUATOR

SIBIRIA

INDIA

CHINA

AMERICA



V.





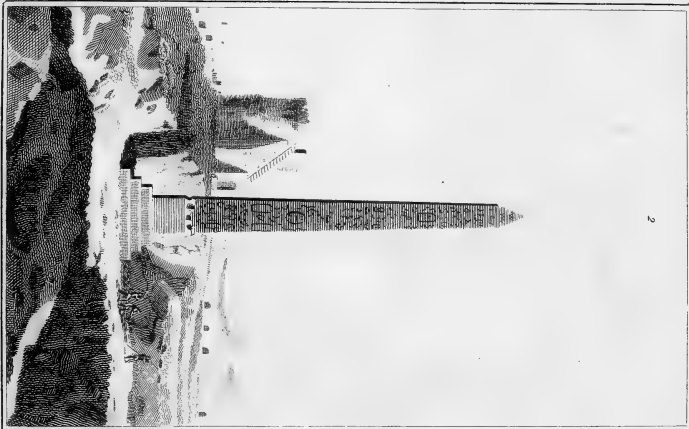
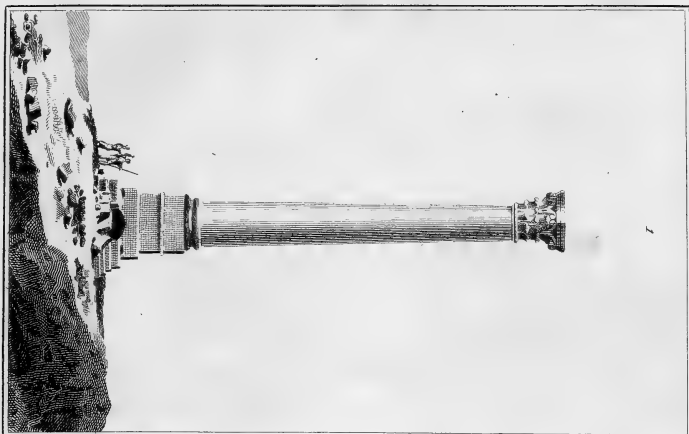
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All Day del.

Jacob J. Plocher Sc.





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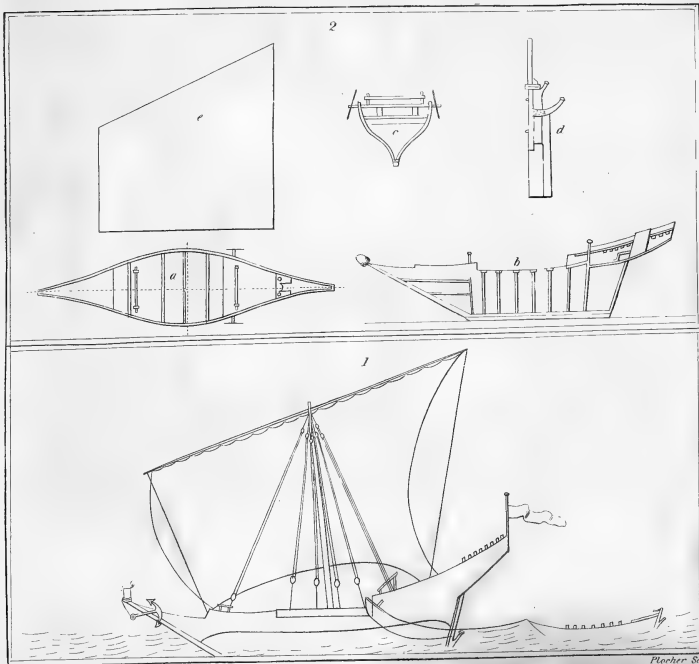
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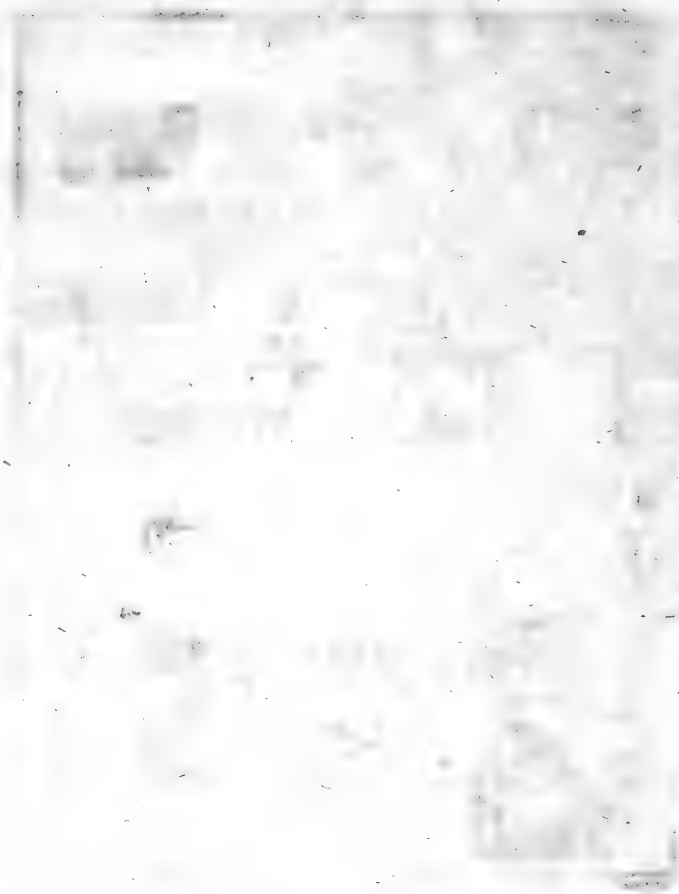
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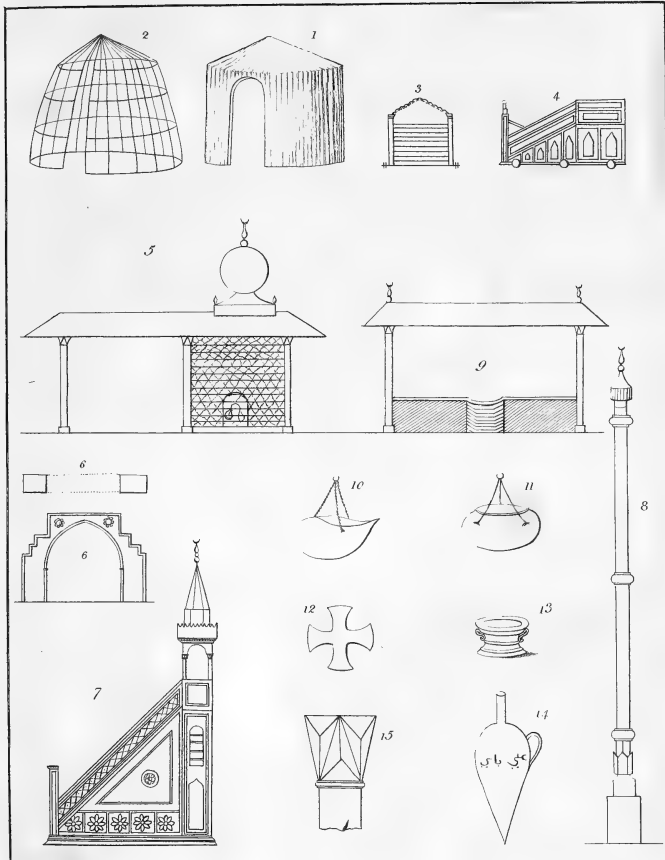
VI.

a $\frac{5}{4}$ $\frac{5}{4}$
 b $\frac{2}{4}$
 c $\frac{3}{8}$
 d $\frac{6}{8}$
 e $\frac{3}{4}$





VII.

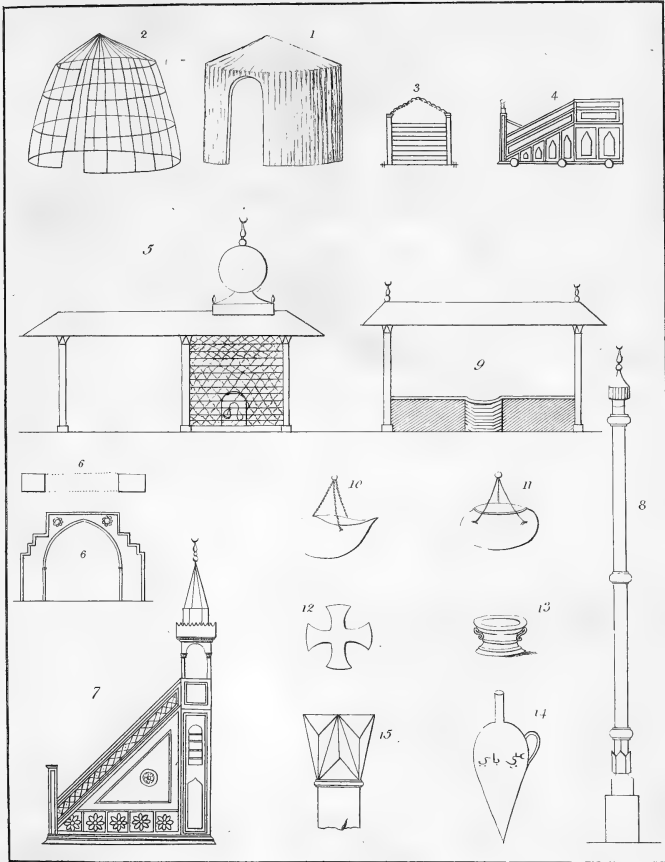


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Jacob, A. Pfister, Sc.



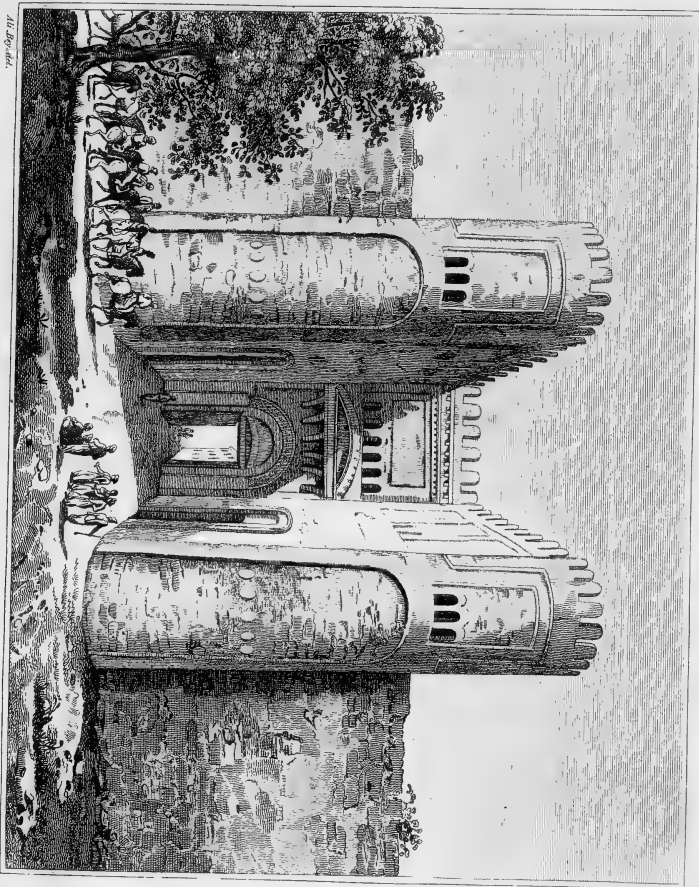
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Jacob J. Pflüger Sc.

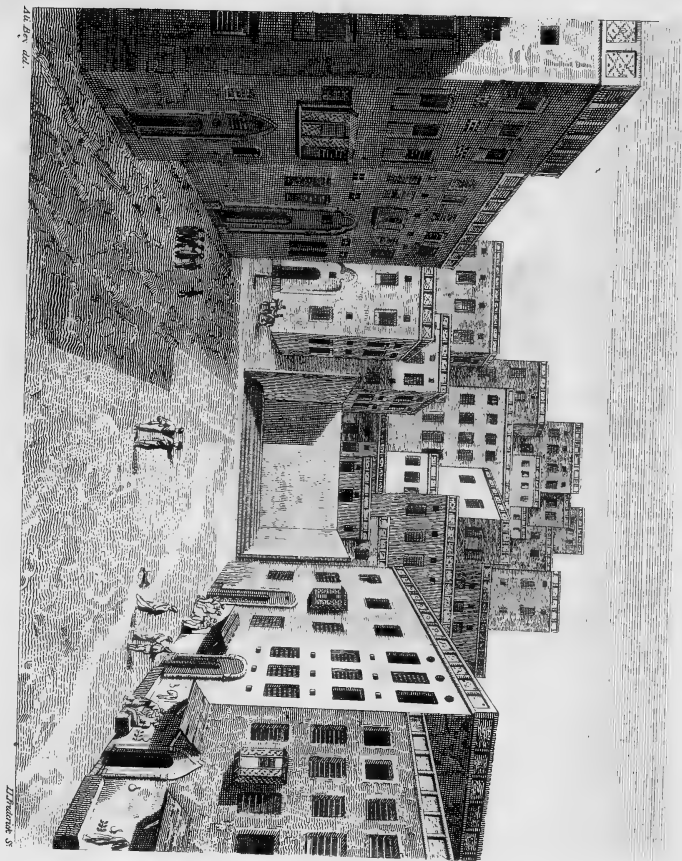




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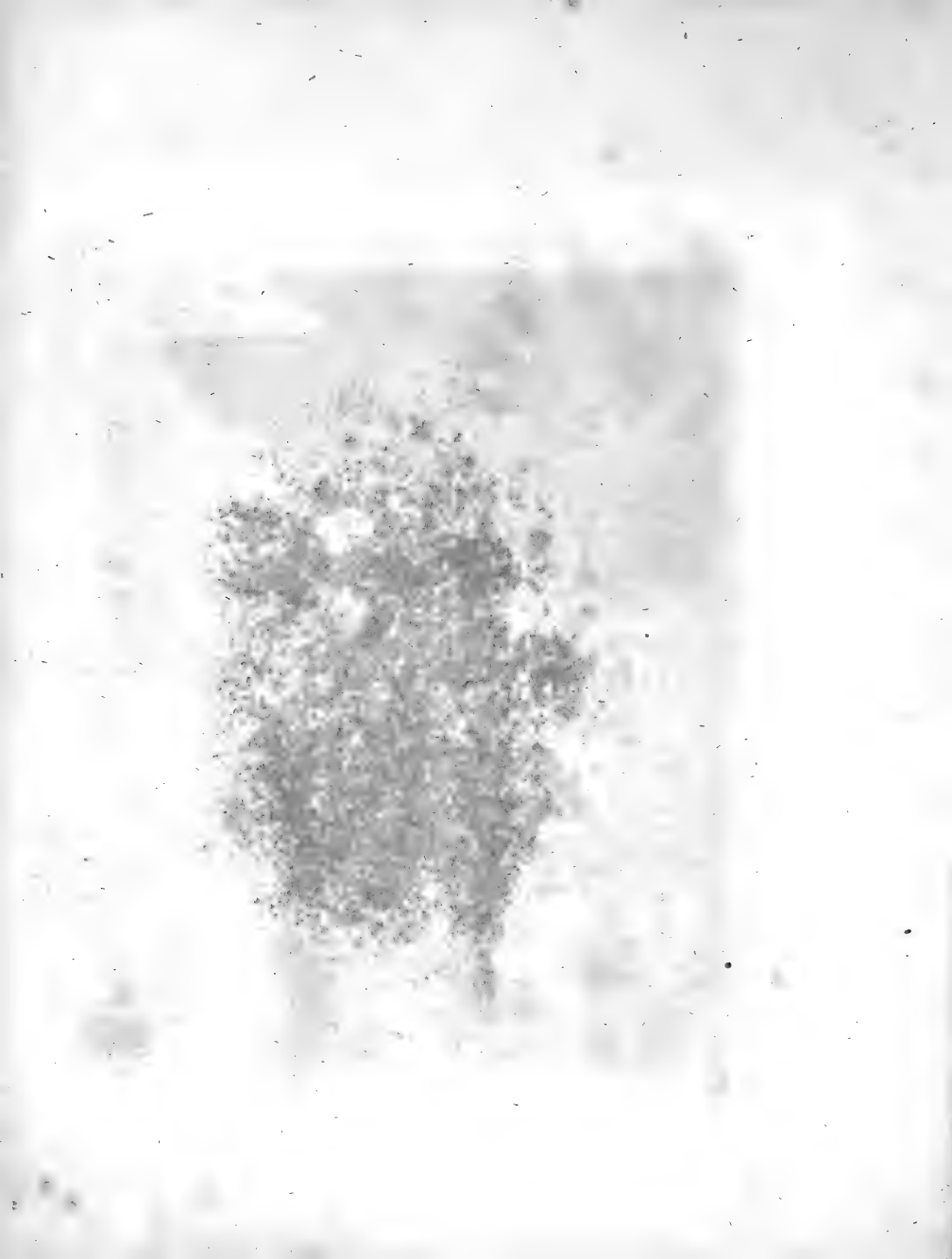
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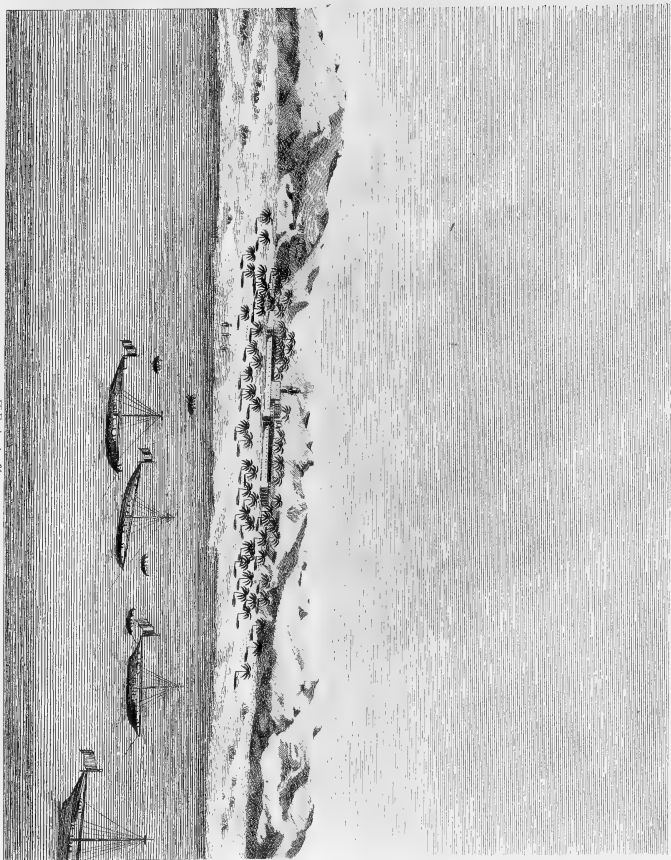




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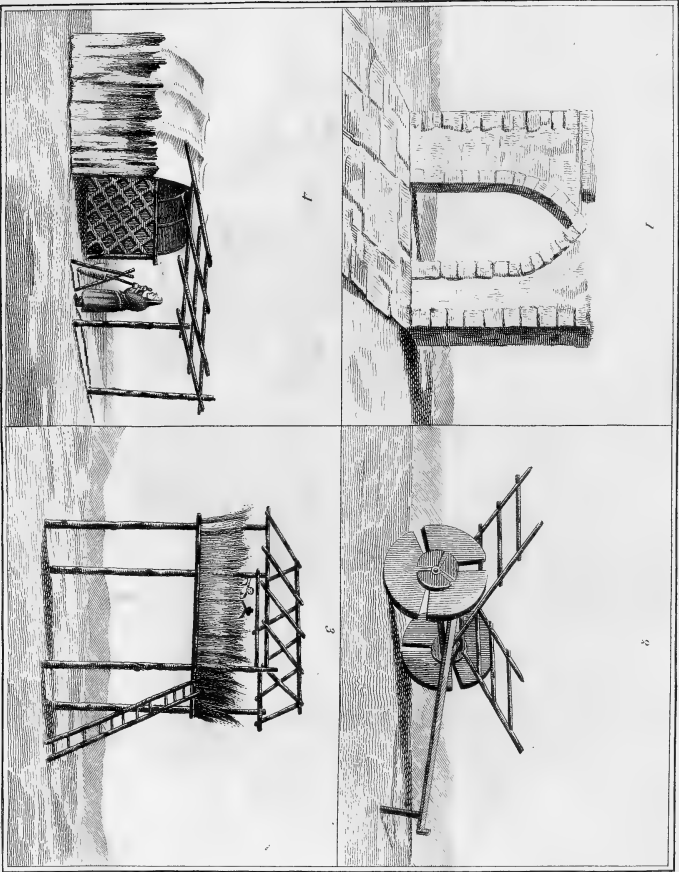
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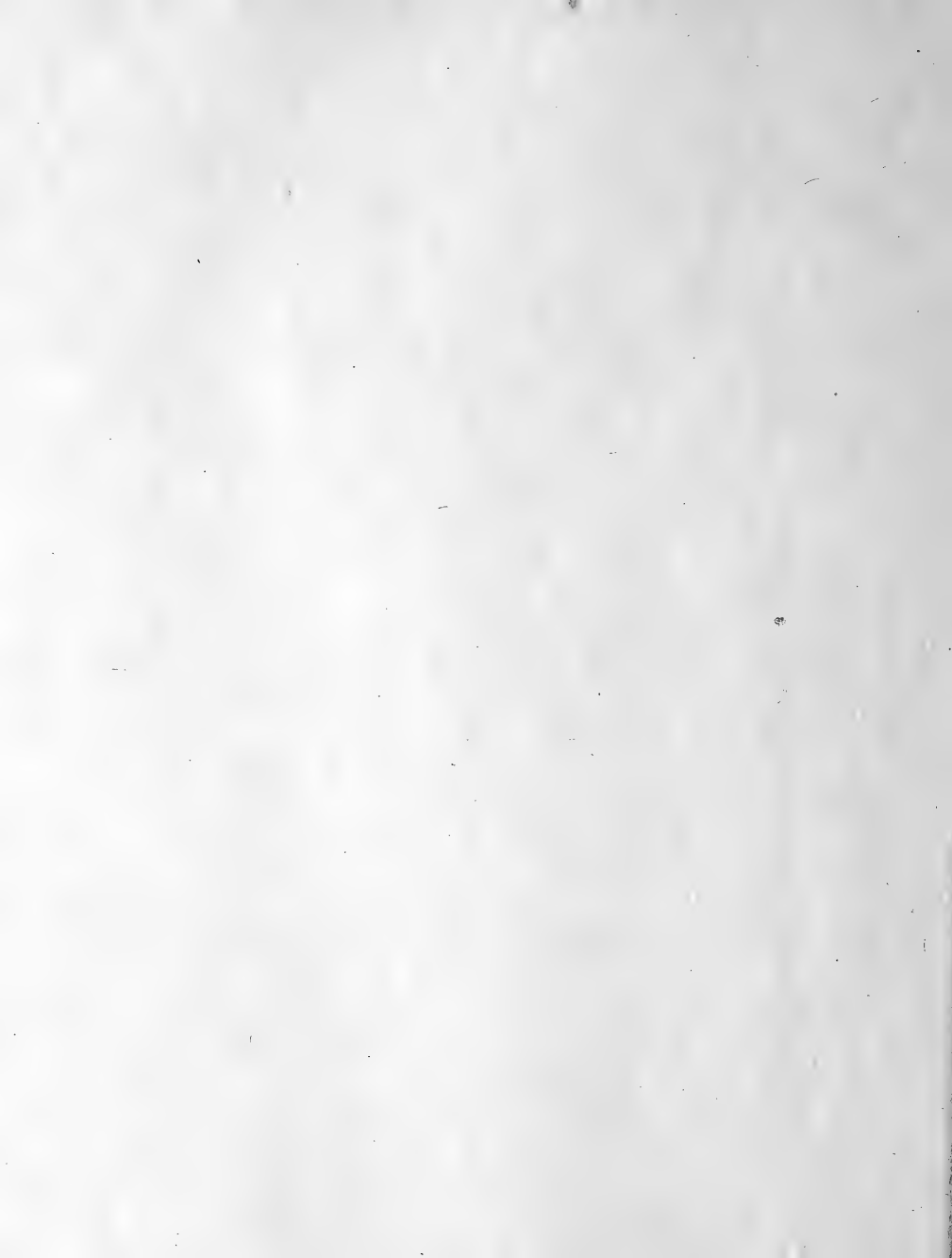


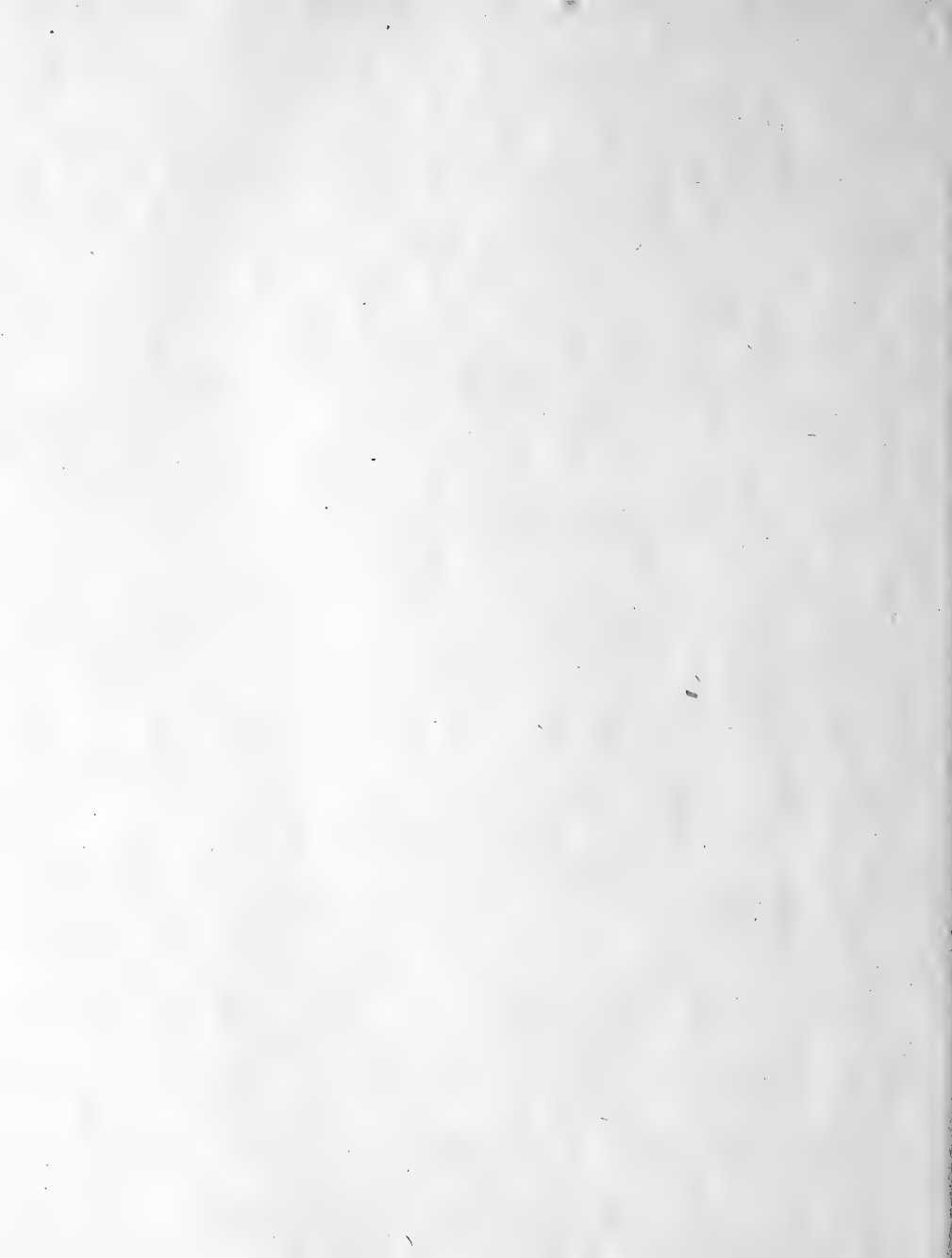
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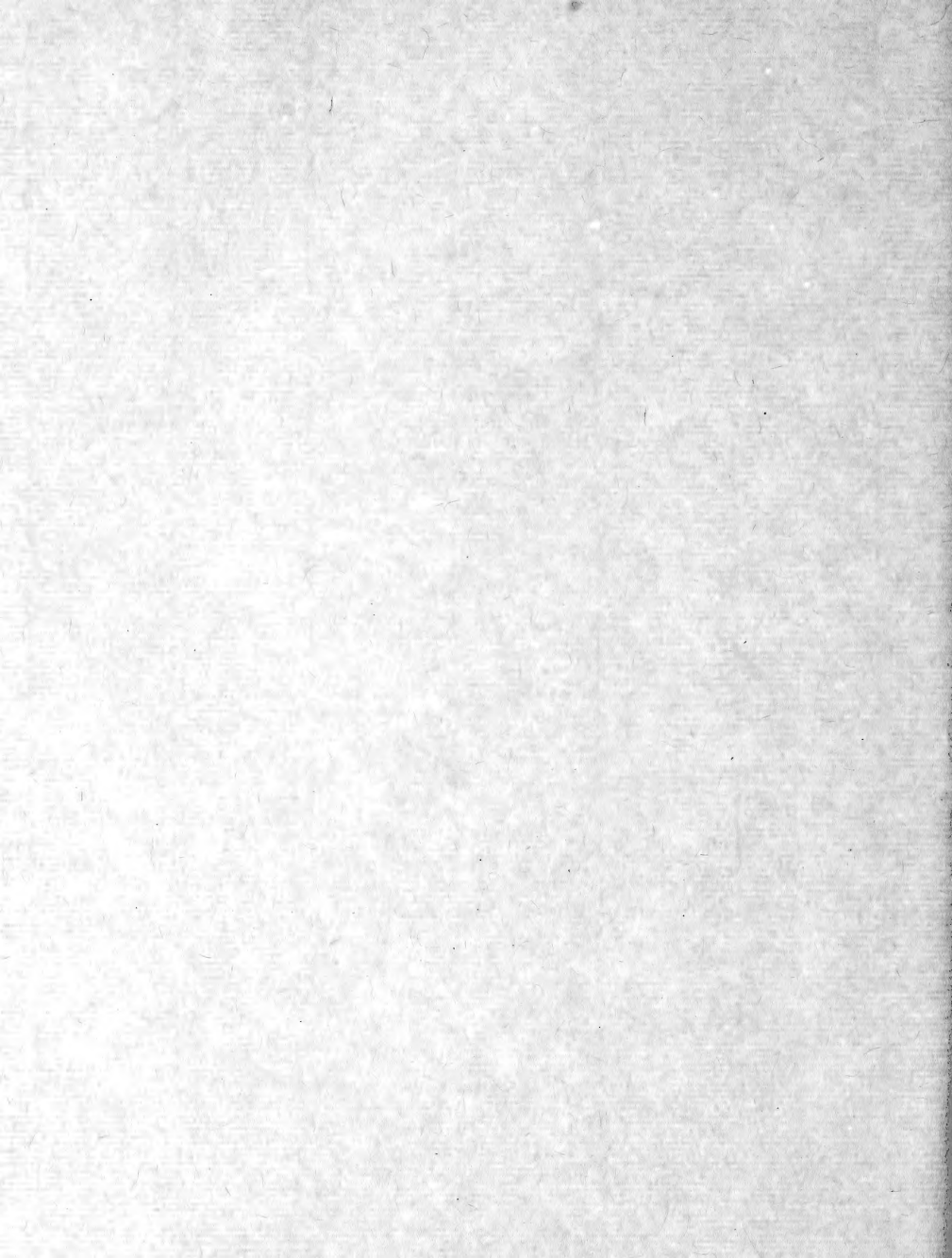
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