

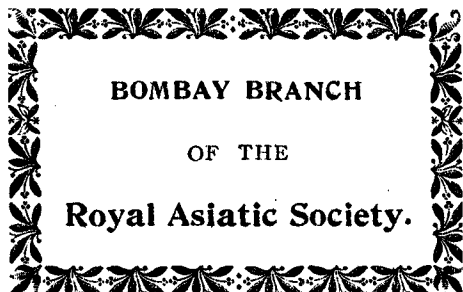
GENERAL OBSERVATIONS

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GENERAL OBSERVATIONS,

ON THE PROVINCES

ANNEXED TO THE RUSSIAN EMPIRE,

UNDER THE DENOMINATION OF

THE TERRITORY OF ARMENIA :

TRANSLATED FROM THE FRENCH,

WITH NOTES,

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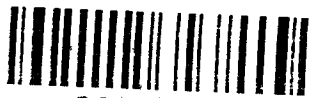
BY

SAMUEL MARCAR.

MADRAS,

PRINTED AT THE COMMERCIAL ADVERTISER PRESS

1847.



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PREFACE.

The first part of the following pages was translated some time ago by way of exercise, from a small Pamphlet, printed at Venice, in 1828, under the title of “Aperçu Général sur les Provinces nouvellement conquises par les Russes et appellées par eux mêmes Territoire d’ Armenie” As a first attempt of this kind, it cannot be presumed to have no faults. The Notes inserted at the end, illustrative of the Geographical and Historical data of the text are necessarily brief but succinct,—considering the puny size of the work: for, it is to be remarked that the Archæology of Armenia is a subject so fructuous and interesting in its various branches, that it would require volumes to treat each topic in full detail.

S. M.

MADRAS, }
December 1847. }

GENERAL OBSERVATIONS

ON THE

TERRITORY OF ARMENIA.

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A part of the vast country, bordering on the Caucasus, and which the Russians recently included under the denomination of the Territory of Armenia, had already reverted to the Emperor of Russia in the time of Erekli Khan, who ceded to him his states. Because the countries to which the dominions of that Khan extended comprise only a part of Georgia, with a portion of Armenia Major. The other parts were conquered from the Persians during the last war.¹

These two divisions, united under the denomination of the Territory of Armenia,² formed at first a peninsula bounded on the east by the river Kur—³ the ancient Cyrus—and on the south by the Araxes.⁴ It extends as far as the confluence of these two rivers below the town of Partav,⁵ and very near the town of Chavat.⁶ It is this confluence of the two streams that, as it would appear, forms the peninsula.

Within the whole extent of this peninsula there are three lakes, Paravan,⁷ Palat,⁸ and Sevan⁹ the largest, in which is an island of the same name. There are two considerable towns here: Tifis,¹⁰ on the Kur, and Erevan¹¹ near the Araxes, which latter was the residence of the Persian Khan: and also many other celebrated towns, such as—Shaki,¹² Shirvan,¹³ Shamakhi,¹⁴ Nakhitchevan,¹⁵ Astabad,¹⁶ Lori,¹⁷ Ganzasar,¹⁸ Genjah,¹⁹ Partav. The most considerable fortress, besides that of Erevan,²⁰

is the impregnable Shushi,²¹ to the south of the Kur, in a mountainous region, which presents on the whole the aspect of a fortress, isolated, and less the work of art than of nature. It was within these natural fortifications that the Armenian princes formerly sheltered themselves, when harassed by the incursions of the Persians and Arabs.

This peninsula contained in ancient times the following provinces of Armenia Major—namely—Taik²² and Gargark²³ on the north on the river Kur; Ararat²⁴ and a part of Vaspuracan²⁵ on the Araxes; Seunik²⁶ and Artsakh²⁷ in the centre of the peninsula. It is in this last province that are situated those inaccessible fortresses spoken of above, and which became of so great celebrity in the ancient history of Armenia. At the confluence of the Araxes and Kur was situated the province of Uti,²⁸ called Otene by Pliny, and Motene by Ptolemy. In the same province was the country of Sacassene²⁹ of which Strabo speaks eulogistically; and also the town of Partav, now called Perta.

There are in the same region three monasteries much celebrated among the Armenians. The first is Etchmiatsin,³⁰ or the "Three Churches," built in the time of St. Gregory,³¹ the Illuminator of the Armenians, in the fourth century; and which is the seat of the Catholicus,³² or supreme Patriarch of Armenia. The two others are Haghbat³³ and Samahin³⁴ erected in former times, opposite to one another, but which were afterwards rebuilt and enlarged by the order of Khosrovanoosh³⁵ Queen of Armenia, in the year 961.

Although this peninsula is large enough in itself, nevertheless its limits do not comprise the whole of the new conquests of the Emperor: these extend, on the south, as far as the Araxes, and include a portion of the provinces of Ararat and Vaspuracan, that belonged formerly to the Khan of Erevan. On the east these limits extend to the confluence of the Kur and Araxes; and in traversing the steppes of Moughan,³⁶ unite with the Caspian Sea. The ancient frontiers of Armenia Major also extended to that sea, ac-

ording to the testimony not only of Moses of Chorene,³⁷ an Armenian historian of the fifth century; but also of Pliny.³⁸ For, one of the fifteen provinces of Great Armenia, Paitacaran,³⁹ stretched from the confluence of the Kur and Araxes as far as the above mentioned sea, towards the embouchures of those two rivers that flow into it.

These countries recently conquered are, for many considerations, deserving the attention of all persons, especially on account of their antiquity and the utility arising therefrom. Unfortunately they have been till the present moment inaccessible to the curious researches of enlightened Europe, and have remained buried in profound oblivion for want of writers, able to bring them to the notice of the public.⁴⁰

With respect to antiquities these countries boast of Artaxata,⁴¹ a very famous town, according to a crowd of ancient testimonies, of which even foreign writers, Greeks and Romans, make frequent mention: and which was taken by Corbulo, General of the Roman Army, in the year 58, according to Usher. The inhabitants of the country call it at present Khor Virap, that is to say, a subterraneous place or deep pit, into which St. Gregory was cast. Besides, the Armenians look upon Nakhitchevan as a very ancient city of the world: they believe it to be the primary residence of mankind, founded and inhabited first by the Patriarch Noah and by his children after the Deluge; after they had quitted the Ark on Mount Ararat,⁴² which is denominated Masis.⁴³ Some vestiges of this national tradition are found in a passage of Josephus,⁴⁴ the Jewish historian, who states that the place where the family of Noah, issuing from the Ark, settled themselves was called by the inhabitants *Apobaterion*, which is almost the translation of the name of Nakhitchevan.

We will now say a few words on the antiquity of the other small towns or villages, which the tradition of the country, supported by the signification of names, have traced

back to the days of Noah;—such as Erevan, an Armenian word that signifies “discovery” or “they appeared:” they also make that the spot whence Noah had a sight of the first mountain of Masis over the waters of the Deluge, according to Genesis c. viii. v. 5. Marand,⁴⁵ where they believe the second mother of mankind, the wife of Noah, was buried; Arnoiotn, which is said to be the tomb of the Patriarch himself, as Tavernier had also remarked in his Voyage, book i. c. 8. Arcuri, or Arkori,⁴⁶ which is supposed to be the site of the first vineyard planted by Noah, &c.

If the principal source of the influence and utility of a country be the fertility of its soil, as the chief and affluent parent of many others, Armenia possesses it beyond contradiction above most other countries. For the fecundity of its land is generally surprising and is much noticed in almost all works ancient and modern:⁴⁷ besides some of her provinces are more distinguished than others in this respect. Shirac,⁴⁸ for example, the present Shorekeul, a region of Ararat, is one of so prodigious fertility that according to Moses of Chorene,⁴⁹ it became proverbial among the ancient Armenians to say to gluttons—“If you have the stomach of Shara, we have not the granaries of Shirac.” Shara,⁵⁰ in the fabulous era of Armenian history, was a voracious prince, whom nothing could satisfy but the fruitfulness of this province, which owing to that alone bears his name.

The province of Ararat, in general, is much celebrated on account of its fertility, by the Armenian writers. Lazarus Pharpensis,⁵¹ an historian of the fifth century, describes the whole of that vast region as “a delightful province, abounding in all that is useful and necessary for the wants of life. rich in sources of all pleasure, of all enjoyment, and of every thing agreeable.” In another passage, the same author compares all the other western provinces of Armenia with that of Ararat, as the standard.

We will not however be considered unjustified if we have the confidence to assert boldly that this fine country has

enough of what merits the attention of the Emperor no less than that of the learned world. The Literary Public has good reason to hope to benefit by the researches of the Academy of St. Petersburg⁵² in the country newly made patent to the republic of literature:—an end, which it can easily obtain, by sending thither persons capable of carrying out its design.

A botanist will there discover a new world of wonders in that department of science. The different species of the excellent apricots⁵³ of Vanand⁵⁴ are alone sufficient to charm the attentive botanist, or observer of nature: but still more so the mandrake,⁵⁵ called *Loshtac* by the Armenians, which we ourselves have seen perfectly resembling the human figure: for it is found as large as a man in the country of *Etchmiatsin*.

A new Marsigli⁵⁶ ought to observe and describe the fishes of the *Araxes*,⁵⁷ of which there are a quantity of different species. The fish *Chanar* is noted for its whiteness and its size, which sometimes increases to the length of two cubits: the *Leuk* is again larger than the *Chanar*, and the *Mourz* is a kind, which has mustaches or whiskers.

We expect the learned men of the above-mentioned illustrious Academy to ascertain by measure the precise height of *Mount Ararat*⁵⁸ or *Masis*, which has not been taken up to this day. The Armenians suppose that it is higher than *Chimborazo*, the peak of the loftiest of the *Cordeliers* or *Andes*: so, they make the summit of it the most elevated of the surface of the whole globe. Be this as it may, it is incontestable, that one third of it is perpetually covered with snow and eternal ice, and they perceive its top, when up a certain distance on the *Caspian Sea*.

We expect a description of the divers species of plants that are found on this famous mountain. *Tournefort*, the celebrated traveller, has already firmly deposed⁵⁹ that towards the high regions of this mountain, he had discovered the plants of *Laponia* and of other northern climates of Europe, in the middle region those of the more temperate climates

of Europe; and lastly, towards the foot of the mountain those of the climates the most meridional or southerly of Europe.

The people of commerce are impatient to know the most advantageous produce of the country: among others the precious cochineal,⁶⁰ which, according to the national writers, may be found in swamps covered with reeds in the immense plain of Ararat. They are flattering themselves to be able one day to obtain the knowledge of the route which the Romans followed, whilst they transported the merchandise of the Indies to the Caspian Sea, and thence, traversing Armenia, conducted them to the Black Sea: which could have been performed much more easily by entering the Caspian Sea by the mouth of the Araxes, and proceeding up by the river Kur as far as the river of Rion or Phasis, which would have conducted them to the Black Sea.

The mineralogists themselves will not want for numerous objects interesting and worthy of their study.⁶¹ For it is known that the rich mines of Armenia, and in particular those of gold, copper, iron, and precious stones, have largely contributed to the luxury and splendour of the courts of the ancient kings of the country.⁶² Lazarus Pharpensis bears indisputable testimony to this in a passage of his history.

NOTES

BY THE TRANSLATOR.

1.—The frequent disorders and revolutions in Georgia, attended with injurious consequences, made the intervention of Russia a justifiable measure. Under Heraclius the Bagratide in 1785, General Paul Potemkin ratified a treaty between that prince and Catharine II. of Russia, by the tenor of which Georgia became a dependent kingdom of Russia, and a pension of 60,000 silver roubles was settled on the King of Khartli, as Heraclius was styled. The reign of Goorgen Khan, who succeeded his father Heraclius in 1798, being disturbed by the rebellion of his brother Alexander, the Emperor Paul to compose the differences incorporated in 1800 Georgia with the Russian empire, to which power it still belongs. The transition from Georgia to Armenia was comparatively an easy task: and accordingly, owing to some misunderstandings with the Court of Persia, the Russian army victoriously invaded Armenia, and annexed a great part of that celebrated country to the dominion of that powerful empire.

2.—Armenia Major in her classical period was divided into fifteen provinces, the names of which were—(1) Upper Armenia. (2) Fourth Armenia. (3) Alznik. (4) Turuberan. (5) Mock. (6) Corchaik. (7) Persarmenia. (8) Vaspuracan. (9) Seunik. (10) Artsakh. (11) Paitacaran. (12) Uti or Outi. (13) Gugark. (14) Taik. (15) Ararat. Of these, eight are under the sway of the Russian empire. Of Geographical works on Armenia, the first, in point of time, is the Compendium of Universal Geography of Moses of Chorene, which was printed at various places, and also translated into Latin by the Whistons, and inserted at the end of the History of Armenia, London, 1736. A description of Armenia is likewise contained in Dr. Vardan's Geography, a French translation of which with notes may be found in M. St. Martin's "Memoire sur l'Armenie," Vol. II. pp. 406—471, who has also given in the first volume of that work, a very succinct account of the provinces, chief cities, rivers, mountains, &c. of Armenia. The Geographical Dictionary by the Abbè Mekhithar, Venice 1769, furnishes some interesting matter; but the fullest description of almost all the places of that country mentioned by classic

writers is contained in a valuable work by the Rev. Dr. Lucas Inchichean, entitled "Topography of Ancient Armenia," printed at Venice in one volume, 1822. Among foreign authors Strabo in his eleventh Book (pp. 527--533 ed. Casauboni) has given a passably correct description of Armenia:—the account of Pliny (b. VI. c. 9, ed. Harduini) is unhappily too brief and meagre. I omit Pomponius Mela and the other minor Geographers for their brevity. The chapter on Armenia Major in the Ancient Geography of Cellarius is a mere compilation from the writings of the Greek and Latin authors.

3.—The river Kur, in Georgian Mtkvari, in Persian Kour, and the Cyrus of the Greeks and Romans, has its source from Mount Barkhar in the province of Taic, north of the canton of Basen. It flows in a north easterly direction, traversing the Armenian provinces of Taic and Gugark, and passing by Gori and Tiflis, descends in a south-westerly course: when it passes through Armenia and here joined by the Araxes, empties itself by many mouths into the Caspian Sea. (Mekhithar, Dict. *sub voce.*) In its course the Kur receives a number of streams, that descend from Georgia and Shirvan. See Inchichean, Antiquities of Armenia, Vol. I. pp. 121-123, a valuable repertory of Haican Archæology, printed at Venice in 3 Vols. 1835.

4.—The Armenian name of the river Araxes is Eraskh, and according to Moses Chorenensis it obtained that appellation from Armenak who so denominated it from his grandson Erast (b. I. c. 11.). By the Georgians it is called Rakshi, and by the Persians, Arabs and Turks, Aras or Ras. It rises in the mountains of Carin, called by the ancients Abos (Strabo, XI. p. 527) and by the moderns Binguel, whence also flows the Euphrates. (Pliny, V. c. 24.) Running eastward through the province of Ararat it receives the following rivers—Akhurean, Kasag, Hrazdan or Zenghy, Metsamor or Azat, and the Orotu and Kur, besides many other streams. With these tributaries the Araxes passes through Paitacaran, and falls into the Caspian Sea. Some have considered the Araxes to be the Gihon one of the four rivers mentioned by Moses as flowing through Paradise. See Mekhithar, *sub voce.* St. Martin, Memoire &c. I. pp. 38-42. Inchichean, Antiq. I. pp. 111-121. The current of this noble river was so impetuous, that it had destroyed many ancient bridges erected on its stream. The words of Virgil referring to the bridge of Augustus, "pontem indignatus Araxes" (*Æneid* b. VIII. v. 728), will immediately occur to the reader. On the banks of the Araxes have appeared some of the most famous warriors of antiquity—Xerxes, Alexander the Great, Lucullus, Pompey, Mithridates, Anthony, and others.

5.—Partav or Bartav, was a celebrated town and capital of the province of Uti. In the eighth century it was the seat of the kings of the Affghans. According to the Leb-Tarik the founder of this town was Alexander the Great: but Gelaleddin Asiouti, quoted by Assemanus in his

Life of Jacob Baradæus (Bibliotheca Orientalis Clementino-Vaticana II. p. 67.) says it was built under the Caliph Abdalmalech, the son of Merwan, by Abdalaziz ben Naaman al Behaly, in the 85th Hegira, or A. D. 704. The latter account however is not correct, since Moses of Chorene, in the fifth century, makes mention of this town (Geogr. p. 361, ed. Whiston): besides this, the name of Shup'hagheshay occurs in a council held in 488, as Archbishop of Partav. (Chamchean, History of Armenia, II. p. 219.) In the time of the Mahomedan geographer Ebn Haukal, it appears, to have been a place of great consequence in all Aran, with the exception of Rey and Ispahan—(Ouseley's Translation, p. 157.)

6.—The name of this town is written in various forms—Djavaghk Djavakh, &c. It is situated in the province of Gugark. (Inchic. Topog. p. 365.)

7.—This lake is situated in the province of Gugark beyond the mountains of Vanand, on the right bank of the Kur. (St. Martin I. p. 63.)

8.—The ancient name of this lake, also near Vanand, was Palakatsis (Chamch. II. 907. Table) under which name it occurs in the Map of DeLisle. In vulgar instances it was called Palat (Ibid—p. 62). By the Armenian writers of the early period it is denominated "the northern sea." Aristakes Lastivertsi, apud Inchic. Antiquit. I. p. 162.

9.—The Lake or more properly the sea of Sevan falls in the province of Seunik. It bore also the name of Gegham from king Gelam the son of Amasia, who built a number of towns on the borders of that sea. From a monastery, built upon an island in it, it received its present appellation; in the Tartarian dialect it is called Gokchai. This religious establishment enjoyed a high reputation with all Armenians for the sanctity of its inmates; but now it is partly deserted and the building gone to ruins. (Parrot's Journey to Ararat, p. 88). It is supposed to be the lake Lychnites mentioned by Ptolemy. The Turks and Persians call it *Koukchedaria*, or the *blue sea*. (St. Martin, I. p. 61.)

10.—The city of Tiflis the capital of Georgia is written by the Armenians Thiftez; and sometimes Tepkhiz. "The Georgians," says St. Martin, "call it *Tp'hilisi*, or *Tp'hilis*—*K'halak'hi*, or the *hot town*, on account of the warm baths. Abulfeda speaks of the thermal waters of this city which resembled those of Tiberiad, in the instance that the water boiled without the aid of fire. It was founded about the year 469, by King Vakhtang I. The first Greek author who mentions it is Theophanes of Byzantium, who lived in the sixth century of our era. He calls it Tiphlis." (Memoire, II. pp. 223—24.)

11.—Erevan, in Persian Rewan, was an ancient and celebrated town of Armenia Major in the province of Ararat, on the eastern side of the river Hrazdan or Zenghy, near Etchmiatsin. (St. Martin I. p. 116.) In the seventh century it was a place of considerable importance.

12.—Shaki, a province of Armenia, the ancient Gugark. (Vardan,

apud St. Martin, II. 415.) It was reduced to the Russian empire by Zizianoff in the spring of 1805.

13.—Shirvan is the modern name of the ancient province of the Alans, between the river Kur and the Caspian Sea. (Chamchean, Hist. of Armen. I. p. 71.)

14.—Shamakhi was the capital city of Shirvan. (St. Martin, *ubi supra*).

15.—A celebrated town of Armenia in the province of Vaspuracan. It is called by the Arabs Neshouy or Nakdjewan, and by the Turks and Persians Nakhdjewan. It is a very ancient town, and situated to the north of the Araxes, on a small branch of that river.—(Mekhithar, Dict. *in voce*.) It is mentioned by Ptolemy under the name of Naxuana. (Geogr. V. c. 13.)

16.—An extensive town in the canton of Golthn in Upper Armenia, on the river Araxes, between the town of Nakhitchevan and Old Julpha.—(Mekhithar, Dict. *in voce*.)

17.—Lori was a noted town of Gugark in the small canton of Aghout. In the eleventh century it was the residence of the Bagratide princes of the branch called Corikean.—Lori was taken and re-captured by the Georgians and Turkish Emirs: it afterwards became the principal town of the Orbelian race of nobles, and at present forms the capital of the five circles into which Georgia is divided, after it had been united to the Russian empire. (St. Martin, I. 85.) According to the Geographer Vardan it was built by David, surnamed Anhoghin, that is, Sansterre or Lackland, king of the Armenians. (Inchic. p. 261.) The strong fort of Lori is now in a ruined condition inhabited by a few Armenian families, who take much care of their bees, and have an immense quantity of excellent honey. (Parrot, Journey to Ararat, p. 264.)

18.—This town falls in the northern part of the province of Artsakh, to the west of Ganjah, and situated on the summit of a mountain. It had a strong fortress, which is now in a ruined condition: it serves as a monastery which was the residence of the patriarch of the Afghans. (Mekith, *in voce*—Shamir c. 6. p. 125—Chamch, Table 141.)

19.—The ancient name of this town was Ganzak, and was situated on the frontiers of the province of Uti, at a little distance from the Kur. It is called by the Persians and Turks Kandjah or Gandjah. After the destruction of the Arsacidæ it was occupied by the Afghans, Aghovans or Alans, on which account it was denominated Ganjah of the Aghovans, to distinguish it from another Ganjah in Atropatene. (Mekhithar, *et alii*.) In the tenth century it was taken by the Seljukides, and in 1235 by the Mogols or Tartars. (Chamchean III. p. 206.)

20.—In 1804 General Zizianoff at the head of a Russian Army invested Erevan, the Persian Governor of which, Mahomed Khan Kajar, so protracted the warfare, that the General found it necessary to make a hurried retreat after raising the siege, General Paskevitch, however, took

it, October 19, 1826. By the treaty of Turcomanchai in 1828, Persia was made to cede to Russia the wealthy province of Erevan including this strong fortress.

21.—Shushi or Sheesha, the chief place in the province of Karabaugh, was occupied in 1805 by General Zizianoff. Mr. Mesrop David Talatin, who has visited most part of Armenia and the East, and whose Travels, in Armenian, are now publishing at Calcutta in monthly parts, describes in the year 1821 the fort of Shushi as an extremely strong building, defended on three sides, by craggy hills for bulwarks, and streams running by as trenches—p. 286.

22.—Taic, one of the fifteen provinces of Armenia Major, was bounded on the East by Gugark, on the West Egeria, on the North Georgia, and on the South by Ararat. It contained a great many cantons, fortresses and towns. After the destruction of royalty in Armenia the province of Taic fell into the hands of the Emperors of Constantinople, but finally to the Georgians with whom it ever remained. In common cases the Armenians call Taic the country or land of Akheltskha.—(Mekhithar, Dict. *in voce*.—St. Martin, I. p. 74.—Inchichean, p. 368.)

23.—Gugark was one of the fifteen provinces of Armenia Major, and a considerable satrapy from the time of Tiridates the Great to that of Arsaces. It had Georgia on the North, Artsakh on the South, and Taic on the West, and was divided into a number of Cantons. The province of Gugark was well known to the ancients: it is called Gogarene by Strabo (Geogr. XI. p. 528) who places it near the Kur, in the northern part of Armenia. In Ptolemy (Geogr. V. c. 13.) it is written Tosarene, and in Stephen of Byzantium (De Urbibus, *in voce* Otene) Obarene. These are faults, without doubt of the transcribers, and may be easily rectified into the proper name of Gogarene.—See passim—St. Martin I. p. 79—Inchich, p. 353.

24.—Seunik, one of the fifteen provinces of Armenia Major, obtained that name from Sisak the son of King Gegham, to whom this part of the country fell as a patrimony. The proper appellation of this province however was Sisakan, preserved by the Persians, but the name of Seunik was adopted by the Armenians for the sake of brevity.—(Moses Choren, Hist. of Arm. I. c. 11.) It was bounded on the North by Gugark, on the East by Artsakh, on the South by Vaspuracan and Atropatene, and on the East by Ararat. Seunik was a province of great antiquity and celebrity; in the eighth and ninth centuries of the Christian era the princes of this province were politically connected with the Byzantine Court; and in the acts of the imperial chamber were distinguished by the title of—*Archon tou Sunes*. (Constantine Porphyrogenita, de Cæremoniis Aulæ Byzantinæ, I. p. 397.)

25.—The province of Ararat is situated in the centre of Armenia, being bounded on the North by Taic and Gugark, on the East by Seunik on the South by Vaspuracan and Turuberan, and on the West by Upper

Armenia.—(Mekhithar, *sub voce.*) During the reign of the Arsacidæ Ararat was divided into twenty small cantons, and contained a great many towns and villages; such as Basen, Vanand, Ani, Valarshapat, Erevan, Devin, &c., and others. It is very extensive and fertile in the extreme; the Turks possessed the Western part of it, and the Persians the Eastern. (St. Martin, I. p. 106.) It obtained that name from Arah, king of Armenia, who reigned about the year 1769 before Christ.—(Moses Choren. Hist. Arm. I. c. 15.)

26.—Vaspuracan was the largest of the fifteen provinces of Armenia Major. Its boundaries on the north were the provinces of Ararat and Seunik, on the East Aderbeyjan and Moughan, on the South Pers-Armenia, Corchaik and Mock, and on the West Turuberan. (Mekhithar, Dict. *in voce.*) In the glorious era of the Arsacidæ government Vaspuracan contained 37 small cantons, some of which were places of consequence. This province was well-known to the Greek Emperors of Constantinople. By the Byzantine historians it is frequently mentioned under the names of *Basparakan*, *Basparakaka*, *Asprakanian*, (Constantine Porphy, de Cærem. Aul. Byz. I. p. 396.—Ibid, de Administrando Imperio. c. 43 p. 139.—Cedrenus, II. p. 711.) which, though somewhat corrupted, preserve the sound of the Armenian word. Vaspuracan was for a long time under the house of the Ardzrunian princes until abandoned by them in the year 1018. Under the Turkish rule it composed a grand portion of the Pashalic of Van. (St. Martin I. p. 125. Inchich. p. 156)

27.—Artsakh, one of the fifteen provinces of Armenia Major, was bounded on the North by Uti, on the East by Paitacaran, on the South by Moughan and Atropatene, and on the West by Seunik. (Mekhithar, Dict. *sub voce.*) A very extensive part of this province belongs to the Russian Empire. (St. Martin I. p. 148.)

28.—Uti, one of the fifteen provinces of Grand Armenia, is situated South-east to Paitacaran. By the Oriental Geographers it is called Aran, and sometimes also Karabaugh, under which is included the Georgian districts of Shamcor and Shamshatil. (St. Martin I. p. 86.) The passage where Pliny mentions Uti as Otene is in his Natural History, (b. VI. c. 13 sect. 16.) There seems to be an error in Ptolemy (Geogr. V. c. 13.) very likely committed by his transcribers, for Motene should on all accounts be changed for the correct reading Otene.

29.—Sacassene, mentioned by Strabo in book XI. p. 528. is a small canton in the province of Uti called in Armenian Shacashen.—The Greek Geographer speaks of its extreme fertility (b. II. p. 73.) In Pliny the name of the province is written Sacassani, (b. VI. c. 9) and in Ptolemy (IV. c. 13.) Sacapene, which is doubtless a fault of the copyist.

30.—This is a very celebrated town of Armenia: it was here that a Christian Church was built for public worship by order of King Tiridates and through St. Gregory the Illuminator in the early part of the third century. The building erected on that spot in so early a period is still

remains having thus withstood the wreck of time for a period of more than fifteen centuries, and has been the topic of commendation by travellers who visited Armenia. The word Etchmiasin signifies in Armenian, "the descent of the Only-Begotten:" it received the other appellation of the "Three Churches" from the Turkish "Utch Kilissa", owing to three religious edifices within reach of one another. See an interesting description of this part in Tournefort's Travels, Vol. III. Letter 7. p. 169, &c. But what that wandering botanist says that Jesus Christ himself drew the plan of the Church in the presence of St. Gregory, is not warranted by National History. According to recent calculations Etchmiatsin lies 3,035 feet above the Black Sea, in the great valley which is formed between the mountains of Taurus in Asia Minor, by their separating into two parallel arms, a northern and a southern, near Erzerum. "Etchmiatsin," says Professor Parrot, "is the seat of the Patriarch of the holy Synod, and dignitaries of the Armenian Church; the centre from which issue the radiations of its influence and towards which, the fruits of gratitude and veneration are so copiously reflected from every point of the earth in which its members exist, that the riches and splendour of this metropolitan residence might, under ordinary circumstances, speedily vie with those of the Roman papacy itself." (Journey to Ararat, p. 86.) It was here that the embers of the Christian faith were nourished by the Armenians for a length of centuries, even in despite of the cruel persecutions from the Mahomedan powers. With respect to the appellation of the "Three Churches," Professor Parrot is of another opinion. "It would appear to me," writes that intelligent traveller (p. 91) "more reasonable to suppose that the appellation Uch-Kilissa has some reference to the Trinity; a tenet that may have struck the Mahomedans as constituting a wide distinction between the Christian faith and their own. In this view of the question, I am the rather confirmed, from the Uch-Kilissa of Bayazed being styled, by the Armenians themselves, Yeritz-Vank—the monastery of the Three—not the three monasteries; which would have been expressed by Yerek-Vank."

31.—Concerning the Life and Writings of St. Gregory, the Apostle of Armenia, consult my Bibliographia Armeniaca, under the article.

32.—The title of Catholicus, a word of Grecian origin signifying *universal, general*, is applied to the spiritual ruler of the Armenians. His residence is in the convent of Etchmiatsin, three leagues from Erevan. Speaking of the Pontiff Gregory in the eleventh century, Gulielmus Tyriensis, or William of Tyre, an historian of the Crusades, writes, "Quem (Gregorium) maximum Armeniorum Pontificem, immo omnium Episcoporum Cappadociæ, Mediæ, Persidis et utriusque Armeniæ principem et doctorem eximum, qui *Catholicus* dicitur." (De Bello Sacro, XV. c. 18. *apud* Bongars, Gesta Dei per Francos p. 883.) The name of the present Catholicus is Nerses, who is the sixth of that name.

33.—Haglibat, a celebrated monastery, about twenty leagues to the south of Tiflis; and which was the residence of one of the principal Archbishops of the Armenians.—(Chamchean II. p. 838.)

34.—Sanahin, a small village to the north-east of Lori at a little distance from the above; the monastery erected there was the residence of an Armenian Archbishop.—(Ibid.)

35.—Khosravanoosh was the wife of Ashot the Third, King of Armenia, surnamed the Charitable. She was no less humane and benevolent than her husband; she built the above monasteries and other eleemosynary edifices with a view of carrying out her charitable designs. Some place the erection of Haghat and Sanahin in the year 964.—(Ibid, p. 838, 839, 850.) These monasteries produced many learned and pious individuals.

36.—The *steppe* or plain of Moughan called Mugano-Tschol by the natives of that part, is thus described by Artemi, an Armenian of Valarshapat, an English translation of whose Memoirs was published in London in 1822. "Throughout all Persia," writes he, "there is not so extensive a *steppe* as that of Mugan: but the army (of Russia) could not have tarried there at any other than this very season of the year (winter), for it was completely clothed with the most beautiful herbage, which was rendered the more salubrious by the saline particles communicated to it by the soil, which abounds in nitre, and which imbibes the snow as fast as it falls. From spring till the beginning of autumn this plain is the abode, I may say the domain, of innumerable serpents and other venomous reptiles of various kinds. The air is then heavy and almost suffocating, so that it is utterly impossible to live in it for any length of time; and the buzzing of insects, and the hissing of serpents may be heard at a great distance, in short, during the whole of the spring and summer no human being nor even any domestic animal can approach the spot." (Memoirs, p. 311.)

37.—Great Armenia, according to Moses Chorenensis, extends to the mouth of Araxes near the Caspian Sea. (Geogr. p. 357, *vers* Whiston.) For an account of this celebrated historian and his writings consult my Bibliographia Armeniaca.

38.—Pliny describes Armenia Major in book VI. c. 9, of his Natural History.

39.—The province of Paitacaran comprehends the country situated between the two rivers Kur and Araxes, to their mouth;—namely, the southern part of the country of the Aghovans, or Shirvan, and the modern plain of Moughan. (St. Martin, I. p. 153.) It was in this province that a prince named Sanatruk, of the Arsacidæ branch, from a governor, became independent, and assumed the royal insignia in the fourth century. (Choren Hist. Armen. b. III. c. 3.) Paitacaran was divided into thir-

teen cantons; the capital of the province bore the same name. (Inchich, Top. of Anc. Arm. p. 317.)

40.—It is much to be regretted that no work has been produced in any of the European languages illustrative of the antiquities of Armenia. The travellers who have visited that country during the last century supply meagre information with respect to many particulars. This deficiency must no doubt be attributed to a want of requisite acquaintance with the writers of that nation. Chardin, Tavernier, and Tournefort, although they surprise us with their ponderous volumes of researches, are led, sometimes, owing to the above reason, into numerous errors and misconceptions in the description of Armenia. Among modern tourists however, the accounts of Jaubert, Sir Gore Ouscly, Mr. Morier, and especially the Travels of Sir Robert Ker Porter deserve to be mentioned in honorable terms. Still, much has been left that is to be known: and I doubt not that every lover of learning will unite in the opinion of Mr. Neumann, that "A literary journey to Armenia, undertaken by an active laborious scholar, who unites the knowledge of the Armenian language with classical studies, would prove of the greatest importance to the knowledge of ancient history and the advancement of general literature."

41.—Artaxata was a celebrated town in the province of Ararat, and was for a long time the capital of Armenia. According to Plutarch, in his Life of Lucullus, Hannibal, the Carthaginian General, having retired to Artaxas or Artaxias I, king of Armenia, after the defeat of Antiochus, gave him a great deal of good advice; and that among others, having observed a place, which lay neglected, very proper for building a city, he drew a plan for it, shewed Artaxias the ground, and persuaded him to build a city. Artaxias, it is said, was much pleased with the proposal, and desired Hannibal himself to undertake the direction of the work. The request of the king was complied with, and from this circumstance rose a large and beautiful city, which, in honor of the founder, was named Artaxata. A similar account is given by Strabo (b. XI. p. 527.) The above narrative being attended with numerous difficulties, chronological as well as historical, Dr. Inchichean is not disposed to credit the relations of the Greek writers. (Topog. of Anc. Arm. p. 48 & c.) The capture of Artaxata by Corbulo is mentioned by Tacitus (Annals. b. xiii. c. 41.) who relates further that it was owing to a miracle that the Roman General was determined to destroy the town. Some time after, Artaxata was rebuilt by king Tiridates who, according to Dio Cassius (apud Xiphilin) called it Neronea in honor of the Emperor Nero, from whom he received at Rome many marks of civility, upon his going thither to pay him homage in the year of Rome 819.

42.—That the Ark of Noah rested on Mount Ararat in Armenia, is attested, omitting national writers and tradition, by the unanimous opinion of all profane and sacred writers.—Of the former class may be men

tioned the Chaldean Berosus, the Egyptian Hieronymus, Nicholas of Damascus, Mnaseas, Apollodorus and others, whose testimonies are preserved in Josephus (*Antiquities* b. I. c. 3 § 6) and Eusebius (in *Chronico*). Among the early eminent Christian divines, and Fathers of the Church may be cited—Epiphanius (*Adv. Hæres* lib. I. p. 4 and 5,) St. Cyril (*advers. Jul.* I. p. 8.) St. John Chrysostom (*Homil. XXV.* in *Genes.*) Theophanes Antiochenus (*ad Antolicum*, lib. 3 § 19.) Isidorus Hispalensis (*Origenes*, lib. XIV, c. 18.) and many others too numerous to be mentioned in this place. The theory of Captain Wilford (in the 6th volume of the *Asiatic Researches*) that the Ararat of the Scriptures is the mountain of *Aryavarta*, or *Ariawart* in India, is too bold to be embraced without fear of contradiction, much more the sciolous opinion of Dr. Shuckford who places the Deluge and Settlement of Noah in the Chinese Empire. Connected with Ararat is the question if any remains of the Ark could be found on its summit at this time, to which Professor Parrot has given the following satisfactory explanation. "Should any one now enquire," says that intelligent traveller, "respecting the possibility of the remains of the Ark still existing on Ararat, it may be replied that there is nothing in that possibility incompatible with the laws of nature, if it only be assumed that immediately after the Flood the summit of that mountain began to be covered with perpetual ice and snow, an assumption which cannot be reasonably objected to. And when it is considered that on great mountains accumulated coverings of ice and snow exceeding 100 feet in thickness are by no means unusual, it is obvious that on the top of Ararat there may be easily a sufficient depth of ice to cover the Ark, which was only 30 ells high." (*Journey to Ararat*, p. 180.)

43.—Mount Ararat obtained the name of Masis from king Amasia, who reigned in Armenia about the year 1940 before Christ (*Moses Choren.* *Hist. Armen.* I. c. 11.) It is better known to the Armenians by the name of Masis than that of Ararat. The name of Masis occurs in Strabo as *Masion oros*. (*Geogr.* XI. p. 527.)

44.—See Josephus, *Antiquities of the Jews*, b. I, c. 3 § 5.—The Greek word *Apobaterion*, rendered as the *Place of Descent*, is a close translation of the word *Nakhitchewan*, which in Armenian signifies the *first place of Descent*.—The French traveller Tavernier is evidently in error when he derives the name as *descent of the ship*. The authors of the *Ancient Universal History* are likewise in fault in supposing the word to have been derived from the Persian, signifying the *picture of the world*!

45.—Marand in Armenian signifies *Mater ibi* or mother is there; and is a town situated near lake Van, or Urumiah. According to tradition, the wife of Noah called *Noemzara* by the Armenians, is said to be buried there. Marand is mentioned by Ptolemy under the name of *Morunda* (VI. c. 2), and it is surprising that names of such antiquity are preserved in ancient foreign writers, which is a proof, I should think, that they are not the inven-

tion of later ages. The Patriarch, however, rests in Arnoiotn, situated on the East of Mount Ararat, and signifies—at the foot of Noah. The following description of Marand is taken from Tavernier. “The next stage,” says he, “is Marante, famous for the burying place of Noah’s wife. The town is not very big; resembling rather a thicket than a city: but the situation is very pleasant, in the middle of a fertile plain adorned with several well-peopled villages. This plain does not extend above a league round about Marante, the country beyond it being all barren.” (Travels I, c. IV., p. 20. Engl. Transl.)

46.—The correct name of this ancient village is written Arcuri, which is derived from the Armenian words *arc* “he (Noah) planted,” and *uri* “the vine.” “In a religious point of view,” says Professor Parrot, “Arguri has an especial claim on the veneration of every devout Armenian. This is the place, according to tradition, where Noah after he came out of the Ark, and went down from the mountain, with his sons, and all the living things that were with him, had “builted an altar unto the Lord, and took of every clean beast, and of every clean fowl, and offered burnt-offerings upon the altar.” (Genesis, VIII. 20.) The exact spot is alleged to be where the church now stands; and it is of the vineyards of Arguri that the Scriptures speak (Genesis, IX. 20), when it is said, “And Noah began to be an husbandman, and he planted a vineyard.” It is a remarkable coincidence, that the building of the Church must be referred to an unascertained, but still very remote date; and also, that the Armenian name of the village contains a distinct allusion to that occurrence: *arghanel*, in that language, means, to set or plant, whence *argh*, he planted; and *urri*, the vine; so that the tradition cannot be a modern fabrication, at all events.” (Journey to Ararat, p. 122.) M. Brosset, in tom. VIII. of the *Bulletin Scientifique de St. Petersburg*, erroneously rejects the above derivation of Arcuri. In the summer of 1840 Armenia was visited by a violent earthquake, which shook Ararat to its foundation. The immense quantities of loose stones, snow, ice, and mud then precipitated from the great chasm immediately overwhelmed and destroyed the monastery of St. James and the village of Arcuri, and spread destruction far and wide in the plain of the Araxes. Although Ararat is formed of volcanic rocks, yet no allusion to its volcanic activity at any period, no mention of an eruption, is made by any of the native historians, who record, nevertheless, several earthquakes more or less calamitous.—Editor’s Appendix, Ibid, p. 371.

47.—Numerous are the testimonies in national historians regarding the fecundity of Armenia.—Among others Lazarus Pharphensis has particularly taken notice of the fruitfulness of the land of Armenia.—Strabo calls it the productive country of Armenia (XI. p. 511.)

48.—Shirac was a canton in the province of Ararat in Armenia Major. It was the place of the Bagratian race of princes, and contained the

splendid city of Ani, which was the royal residence of the later Armenian Kings, and whose stupendous ruins attract the attention of travellers, and attest the splendour of her habitants.

49.—See Moses Chorenensis (b. I. c. 11) who has noticed this particular as a common expression in the mouths of the vulgar.

50.—Shara was the son of King Armais, who ruled in Armenia about the year 1984 before Christ.—Shara appears to be the Pantagruel of Armenian History.

51.—For an account of Lazarus Harpensis and his writing, consult that article in my *Bibliographia Armeniaca*.

52.—The Emperor of Russia has not been unmindful of the advantages that might accrue to the republic of Literature by a survey of the newly acquired kingdom of Armenia. He has with this object, deputed Professor Parrot to visit Armenia and take a precise measure of the mountain of Ararat. The narrative of this expedition entitled “A Journey to Mount Ararat,” has been translated into English by Mr. Cooley, and is a very valuable performance. Professor Abich of Dorpat has likewise made a tour a few years ago to Armenia, but his account has not as yet been made available to us in the English language.

53.—That apricots were the produce of the country of Armenia is testified by ancient writers. Pliny (b. XV. 13) enumerating different kinds of apricots mentions one species *Armenica*, of a very odorous smell, “quæ sola et odore commendantur.”—From the above circumstance it is styled by botanists *Prunus Armeniaca*. The Armenians call it *Tsivan*. Apricot trees were planted in England in 1540.

54.—Vanand is a canton in the province of Ararat, northeast of Shirac. About 120 years before Christ a colony of Bulgarians under the command of one Vound settled here, from whom the place obtained the name of Vanand. (Moses Chonen b. II. c. 6.) As the name of that people occurs very late in other writers the Bulgarians of Chorenensis might have been in all probability a tribe of migratory Sarmatians. In Vanand was the plain of Erevan, where a memorable battle was fought between Arsaces III. King of Armenia Proper, and Chosroes king of the Persian part, in 389 in which the latter proved victorious. *Ibid.* b. III. c. 46.

55.—Chorenensis mentions *mandragor*, or mandrake as growing in the province of Moch. (*Geogr.* p. 359.) But Dr. Inchichean supposes it to be different from what the modern Armenians term *Loshtac*. This plant, however, grows very common in Erzerûm and Etchmiatsin. The learned doctor says (*Antiquities* I. p. 176,) that he had seen one brought from the former place to Constantinople in 1814 the top of which was of the size of the head of a child, eight years old, and contained distinct delineations of the nose, mouth, eyes, lips divided into two, and hairy like substance growing on the head. The *Loshtac* it appears is used for medicinal purposes, and Dr. Inchichean who has tasted of the infusion, mentions it to

be exceedingly bitter.—Josephus says (Antiquit b. VIII. c. 2§5,) that King Solomon had a root like this that drove away demons.—Pliny, in his Natural History (b. XXV. c. 13,) gives direction how the plant should be dug, as also Josephus (Wars, b VII c 8 § 3.)

56.—Ludovico Fernando, Count of Marsigli, was of an illustrious family of Bologna, and signalized himself by his military services, in the beginning of the eighteenth century.—He was the author of a most valuable work entitled "*Danubius Pannonico—Mysicus*," published at Amsterdam in 6 vols. in 1726, which contains the natural history of the river Danube, in its course through Hungary and Turkey.

57.—The Araxes produces a great quantity of fishes especially of the salmon-trout kind. An ichthiologist will not fail to discover many new species of fishes in the numerous streams and waters of Armenia. Pliny relates (b. XXXI. c. 2, sect. 19) a curious particular of a description of fish in that country. "Ctesias," says he "writes that there is a fountain in Armenia, that breeds black fishes, which if eaten cause immediate death."—The same thing is related by Antigonus Carystius, in his "Collectanea Historiarum Mirabilium" c. 181. A good description of the Fishes of the Araxes is given by Mr. M. D. Taliatin, in his Travels, p p. 63.—71.

58.—According to the measurement of Professor Parrot the following are the heights of the two peaks of mount Ararat.

The summit of the Great Ararat lies in $39^{\circ} 42'$ north latitude, and $61^{\circ} 55'$ east longitude, from Ferro; it has an elevation of 17,210 feet perpendicular, or more than three miles and a quarter above the sea, and 14,320 feet, or nearly two miles and three quarters, above the plain of Araxes.

Little Ararat is in $39^{\circ} 39'$ north latitude, and $62^{\circ} 2'$ longitude east from Ferro. Its summit rises 13,000 feet or nearly two miles and a half, measured perpendicularly, above the level of the sea; and above the plain of Araxes, it is 10,140 feet, or nearly two miles.

"The impression made by Ararat," adds that intelligent traveller, "upon the mind of every one who has any sensibility for the stupendous works of the Creator, is wonderful and overpowering; and many a traveller of genius and taste has employed both the powers of the pen and of the pencil in attempts to portray this impression. But the consciousness that no description, no representation, can reach the sublimity of the object thus attempted to be depicted, must prove to the candid mind that whether we address the ear or eye, it is difficult to avoid the poetic in expression, and the exaggerated in form, and confine ourselves strictly within the bounds of consistency and truth." (Journey p 135.)

Not to multiply quotations, Mr. Morier in page 312 of his second Journey to Persia, Armenia, &c. writes in the following terms, "After we had crossed the plain from Abbasabad to Nakhjuwan, we had a most splendid

view of mount Ararat. Nothing can be more beautiful than its shape—more awful than its height. All the surrounding mountains sink into insignificance when compared to it. It is perfect in all its parts: no hard rugged feature, no unnatural prominences; every thing is in harmony, and all combines to render it one of the sublimest objects in nature.”

59.—Those who are desirous of being acquainted with the botany of Armenia will find interesting matter for study in the seventh Letter of Tournefort, in the third Volume of his Voyage to the Levant.—Omitting the notice of minor shrubs or flowers I shall here add from that Volume a list of the plants discovered by that traveller both on the way to Mount Ararat and in Armenia—adding thereto the page, for the sake of easy reference.

- 1.—*Ranunculus Orientalis, Aconiti Iycoctoni folio flore magno albo.* p. 82.
- 2.—*Echium Orien. verbas ei folio flore maximo campanulato.* 83.
- 3.—*Vitis Idæa Orien. maxima cerasi folio flore variegato.* 84.
- 4.—*Onobrychis Orien. frutescens, spinosa, Tragacanthæ facie.* 85.
- 5.—*Gundelia Orien, Acanthi aculeati folio, capite glabro,*—a beautiful plant. 86.
- 6.—*Papaver Orien. hirsutissimum flore magno,* a fine species of poppy. 114.
- 7.—*Morina Orien. carlinæ folio,* one of the most beautiful description of plants. 118-119.
- 8.—*Chacrys Orien. Ferulæ folio, fructu alato plano.* 123.
- 9.—*Betonica Orien, angustissimo et longissimo folio, spica florum crassiori.* 133.
- 10.—*Elephas Orien. flore magno proboscide incurva* a very fine plant. 136.
- 11.—*Cassida Orien. chamædryos folio flore luteo,* a singular species of the genus Cassida. 143.
- 12.—*Lepidium Orien. Nasturtii Crispi folio,* between the monastery and the river Araxes. 176.
- 13.—*Carduus Orien. Costi Hortensis folio,* in the monastery of Khor Virap. 186.
- 14.—*Dodartia Orien. flore purpurascente,* a new plant. 188.
- 15.—*Polygonides Orien. Ephedræ facie,* a singular kind, in Acourlu. 194.
- 16.—*Lychnis Orien. maxima, Buglossi folio undulato,* a new plant. 199.
- 17.—*Geum Orien. Cymbalariae folio molli et glabro, flore magno albo,* a very fine species. 199.
- 18.—*Ferula Orien. Cachryos folio et facie.* 217.
- 19.—*Lychnis Orien. Buplevri folio.* Ibid.

20.—*Artemisia Orient, tanacetii folio in odora*, a new species of plant. 222.

21.—*Caryophyllata aquatica, nutante flore*, near Erzerum. 223. The following are the plants found by Professor Parrot on Mount Ararat, the correct botanical names of which were given by Professor Ledebour. —About 12,000 or 13,000 feet above the level of the sea were discovered. 1. *Cerastium*, of the Alpine species. 2. *Saxifraga muscoides*, with small leaves. 3. *Aster alpinus*—a very pretty plant. 4. *Draba incompta*. 5. *Arenaria recurva*. 6. *Aster pulchellus*, of lilac tint. 7. *Campanula saxifraga*—resembling the *Campanula cespitosa* on the Pyrenees. 8. *Pyrethrum Caucasianum*. 9. *Tragopogon pusillum*. 10. *Saxifraga hirculus*. 11. *Astragalus mollis*, with very large seed vessels. 12. *Potentilla*, a species of the *grandiflora* as on Caucasus. Between 10,000 or 12,000 feet above the level of the sea, besides the foregoing, the following plants were also found. 13. *Anthemis rigescens*. 14. *Ziziphora media*. 15. *Scorzonera Coronopifolia*. 16. *Veronica Telephii folia*. 17. *Dianthus petraeus*. 18. *Stratice echinus*. 19. *Hedysarum Caucasianum*. 20. *Trifolium trichocephalum*, with large clusters of violet flowers contracted with extremely small leaves. 21. *Pulsatilla albana* B. 22. *Centaurea pulcherrima*. 23. *Centaurea ochroleuca*. Of shrubs only two were discovered in the lower region about 7,000 or 8,000 feet above the sea. 24. *Juniperus oxycedrus*, and 25. *Cotoneaster uniflora*.—(Journey to Ararat, pp. 302-204.)

“It is not easy,” adds that traveller, “to determine the limits of arborescent vegetation on Ararat, since the checks of climate are there not more powerful than the local hindrances of every kind which prevent the increase of trees on the mountain. Tall wall-nut trees, apricots, willows, and Italian poplars (these last, however of diminished size) can still grow, well, at the height of 6,000 feet above the sea, provided they find soil and moisture, as is seen at St. James’s. That birches, also, though no longer straight and tall, are yet not overpowered by the climate at the height of 7,800 feet, is proved by the wood at the foot of Little Ararat.”

60.—That the insect called cochineal which produces the excellent dye is the produce of Armenia is attested by Moses of Chorene, (Geogr. p. 361.) who mentions it in the description of the province of Ararat. And this is supported by the account of Dioscorides who says, that cochineal was also collected in Armenia. In Armenian the animal is termed *karmir ordn* or the red insect, and the modern general appellation of *kermes* is, no doubt, a corruption of that name.—“To what language the word *kermes* originally belongs,” says Professor Tychsen, “cannot with certainty be determined. There are grounds for conjecturing several derivations from the Arabic, for example, *karasa*, *extremis digitis tenuit*, which would not ill-agree with *stonux*; and *karmis* signifies *imbecillus*; but this word may be derived from the small insect, as well as the insect from it.

As all these derivations, however, are attended with grammatical difficulties, and as the Arabians, according to their own account, got the dye and the word from Armenia, it appears rather to be a foreign appellation which they received with the thing signified, when they overran Upper Asia. Ibn Beithar in Bochart, Hierozoicon, II. p. 625, calls kermes an Armenian dye; and the Arabian lexicographers, from whom Giggeus and Castellus made extracts, explain the kindred word *karmasal*, *coccineus*, *vermiculatus*, as an Armenian word.—See the interesting Article Cochineal, in the first volume of Professor Beckmann's History of Inventions and Discoveries, Bohn's edition. Professor Parrot discovered in Armenia, great quantities of these insects, collected together in large nests, round the roots of a short, hard species of grass the *dactylis littoralis*, which grows in abundance in the vicinity. "The male," says Professor Parrot, "as is well known, is a winged insect, not used at all in dyeing; the female is roundish, about the size of the kernel of a cherry, provided with very short legs, for creeping. She is quite soft, like a berry, and of the finest dark amaranth colour throughout, though soft and subdued, even in the strongest light, owing to the unwrinkled and somewhat velvety surface of the insect. When dried, they shrivel up to the size of a grain of millet, and become covered with a bluish mould. The true scarlet colour is produced by infusion, with the addition of acids; just as the purple is, by a solution of potash.

"The nests, which we found imbedded among the roots of the grass to which I have alluded, consisted of three, four, ten, and twenty, very hard cells, formed of a paper like material, to suit the size of the animal, and irregularly arranged against each other. After falling into the chrysalis state, the insect dies, in the winter, and the young ones make their appearance from the nests in the spring. I did not fail to make a report of this discovery, upon my return, to the Commander-in-Chief, Count Paskevich, of Erivan, and to present him with some specimens of the plants and insects; as I also did to the Chamberlain, M. Pelchinsky, who was making the tour of these provinces at the time, to examine into their industrial resources, under a commission from the government." (Journey to Ararat, p. 119-120.)

This is undoubtedly an article of considerable interest to the commercial speculations of Armenians under Russia, and one which, under proper management, might become a source of profitable occupation to these provinces. The value of these insects are well understood in Persia, where they are generally used for dyeing, and in fact throughout every part of Europe and the East; the prepared insects being sold, sometimes, at a very high price.

61.—The Geology of Armenia in general and of Mount Ararat in particular would present a variety of interesting specimens, but it is to be regretted that very little has been done in that department till of late.

The spirit of enterprize, which at present actuates literary individuals to visit foreign Countries, and examine the physical objects of the land, has also reached Armenia, and Professor Parrot, whom I shall now for the last time quote, has been the chief person to direct attention to that part of the globe. The various masses generally met with on Mount Ararat has been classed by that learned gentleman under the following denominations (p. 198.)

- 1.—Blackish porphyry lava, with occasional vitreous feldspath.
- 2.—A blackish cinder-like lava.
- 3.—A black pitch-like lava.
- 4.—Pitchstone-porphry.
- 5.—A dark-steel-grey, dense porphyry lava.
- 6.—A beautiful, medium grey, volcanic stone, with vitreous feldspath.
- 7.—Steel-grey clay porphyry, at a height of 9,000 or 10,000 feet.
- 8.—Pozzuolana, brown, porous, with vitreous feldspath.
- 9.—Black lava, very light, like pumice.
- 10.—Obsidian-porphry.
- 11.—True obsidian.

12.—In conclusion, M. von Behaghel found at the foot of the glacier in the dark glen, on the débris, a large mass of a salt which Professor Göebel has analysed, (Schweigger-Seidel, Journal für Chemie und Physik, 1830. part 12), and which was found to contain

Sulphate of aluminum	97. 3
Sulphate of Protoxide of iron	2. 7

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Besides the above, the existence of Magnetic Rocks has also been announced. In the Appendix to Professor Parrot's Journey, there are some excellent Scientific Papers by M. von Behaghel on the Geology of Mount Ararat and the surrounding districts, which may be consulted with advantage.

The following extract from a new publication, styled Travels in Syria, Milyas, and the Cilyratis, by Lieutnt. Spratt, and Professor Forbes, 2. vols. London, 1847, sets forth the advantage that may result from a more extensive Geological research of Armenia. The passage may not be altogether inappropriate in this place.

“Very recently the existence of rocks of Palæozoic age in the neighbourhood of mount Ararat has been made known. M. de Verneuil has announced to the Geological Society of France, that Professor Abich of Dorpat, commissioned by the Emperor of Russia to investigate the geology of the trans-Caucasian countries, has discovered on the northern flanks of the great Ararat, in the valley of Aras, ancient limestones containing such fossils as *Spirifer speciosus* and *ostiolatus*, *Catenipora escharoides*, and species of *Orthis*, *Lingula*, and *Favosites*. This discovery will

probably afford a key to the history of the older rocks of Asia Minor, and we may now look forward to the eventual and not far distant construction of a complete Geological map of that classic and interesting region." (vol. II p. 209.)

62.—In ancient times Armenia contained mines of gold, silver and other metals, as is testified both by native and foreign writers. The existence of gold mines is alluded by Moses of Chorene, (Hist. I. c. 23) Lazarus Pharpensis, (p 20, 203, et passim) and also by Strabo, who mentions the gold of Hispiratides in Armenia. (b XI. p 529.) Pharpensis takes notice of the copper, and iron mines of that country. Hence very likely is to be accounted the 8,000 talents of coined money, that Plutarch relates Lucullus to have found in Tigranocerta. Of precious stones, Moses of Chorene (Geogr. p.) speaks of beryl in the fourth Armenia. Theophrastus, and Pliny (b XXXVI. c. 7. sect. 10.) mention the *cobes*, a kind of stone, as being brought from Armenia. Every thing relating to the Metals and Minerals of Armenia may be found, classed under appropriate heads, in the Antiquities of Armenia, by Dr. Inchichean, vol. I pp. 178-195, who has collected a great many authorities—native and foreign. The utmost reliance can be placed upon the account of Lazarus Pharpensis, who has described with the candour of an eye witness, the waning glory of the Armenian kingdom in the fifth century.

THE END.



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on 05 October, 2018

