
Ancient Trading Centres of the Persian Gulf: IV Maskat

Author(s): Arthur W. Stiffe

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The ground, as we left the lake to the east, was covered with bushes, and I saw quantities of the spoor of hares.

From here to the smaller oasis there are five days' travelling across the most desolate waste, destitute of water, and even of the usual desert vegetation, so the camels had to live on the dates we carried for them. On leaving the lake there is a long track of wackla, or swamp, encrusted with salt. The track has to be carefully kept by the camels, for it is easy for them to flounder into depths from which it would be impossible to extricate them.

The only difficulties of the road began now. Dau lost his way on the evening of the next day, and as we could only carry just enough water to take us to the oasis without any delays, things looked rather black. We were not cheered by stumbling upon a man, woman, and child, and their donkeys, all lying dead—evidently of thirst. They were not all together. The woman, her child in her arms, had died first; near her lay one donkey. The man had struggled on some little way, and lay on the sand face upwards, his clenched hand stiffened in a last convulsion. The poor wretches had tried to quench their thirst with lemons, the skins of which lay scattered on the ground.

We went on climbing sandhill after sandhill, always hoping for the sight of some Al-haman, or landmark. Dau became very melancholy. I tried to take a cheerful view of things, though I cannot say that I felt in high spirits; but my attempts were considered irreverent by Dau, who thought the Prophet would be more likely to help us if we acknowledged the straits we were in. We still had some water, but we dared not drink it. Not knowing in the least where we were, we could not judge what chance there was of getting to the oasis before it was exhausted. On the late afternoon of the third day we suddenly came upon the Bacher, a group of rocks which we knew to be near the small oasis. Our difficulties were then at an end, and that night saw us encamping with my old friend the Omdeh of Mindescha.

ANCIENT TRADING CENTRES OF THE PERSIAN GULF.

By Captain ARTHUR W. STIFFE, R.I.M.

IV. MASKAT.*

THIS place is still an important place of call, and of trade with India, the Red Sea, and Zanzibar, chiefly only transshipment. It is the capital of the Arab country of Omán, and the residence of the prince, now designated Sultan or Seyyid, but formerly called the Imám of Maskat.† The country has long been in an unsettled state, owing to civil wars and dissensions, and has declined in importance, especially since the separation of the Zanzibar dependencies. It is now under British influence, and a Political Agency is established there. The town lies in a cove, one of a series close together on the north-east point of Arabia, which are all surrounded by precipitous rocky hills rising to several hundred feet abruptly from the water's edge. At the inner end of each cove is a small sandy beach, at the mouth of the little valley, or wadi, which forms the inland continuation of the

* The accent should be on the first syllable. Map, p. 660.

† This title has a religious significance, and is not now assumed by the sovereign of Omán.

cove. The rocks are dark-coloured serpentine, here and there showing foliation well marked,* and it is part of an area of depression, the coves being submerged valleys, which had been excavated by subaërial agencies before the submergence took place. The bed of the sea sinks rapidly to a depth of upwards of 2000 fathoms at a distance of 10 or 12 miles from the coast.

The appearance of the coast from the sea is extremely picturesque, the rugged dark hills rising one range above another, until apparently joining the great back range, elevated about 6000 feet. Although from seaward the country appears utterly barren and desert, without any sign of vegetation, the valleys lying among the hills are more or less fertile where irrigated, which is done by means of wells, with so-called Persian water-wheels, and kanáts, or subterranean aqueducts. It produces fruits and vegetables, and many date-palms are grown. The coves abound with fish of excellent quality. The small cattle of the country are noted, and flocks of sheep or goats are numerous.

The map of the group of coves is from a survey by the author. Each one has a village or town at the head, built on the sandy beach close to the water's edge, so that the sea even washes the base of the houses, which extend back as far as the rugged ground will permit. They all may be considered suburbs of Maskat. The intervening hills are so rugged that, although there are some passes over them, much of the intercourse is carried on by water in large canoes. The houses fronting the water are mostly of two or three stories, and coated with white cement. The hills and passes are all crowned by small towers or forts for defence, with walls and gates across the passes. Maskat itself and Matrah, the place next in importance, are enclosed on the land side by walls, with towers at intervals. From Matrah only is there any pass into the interior of the country.

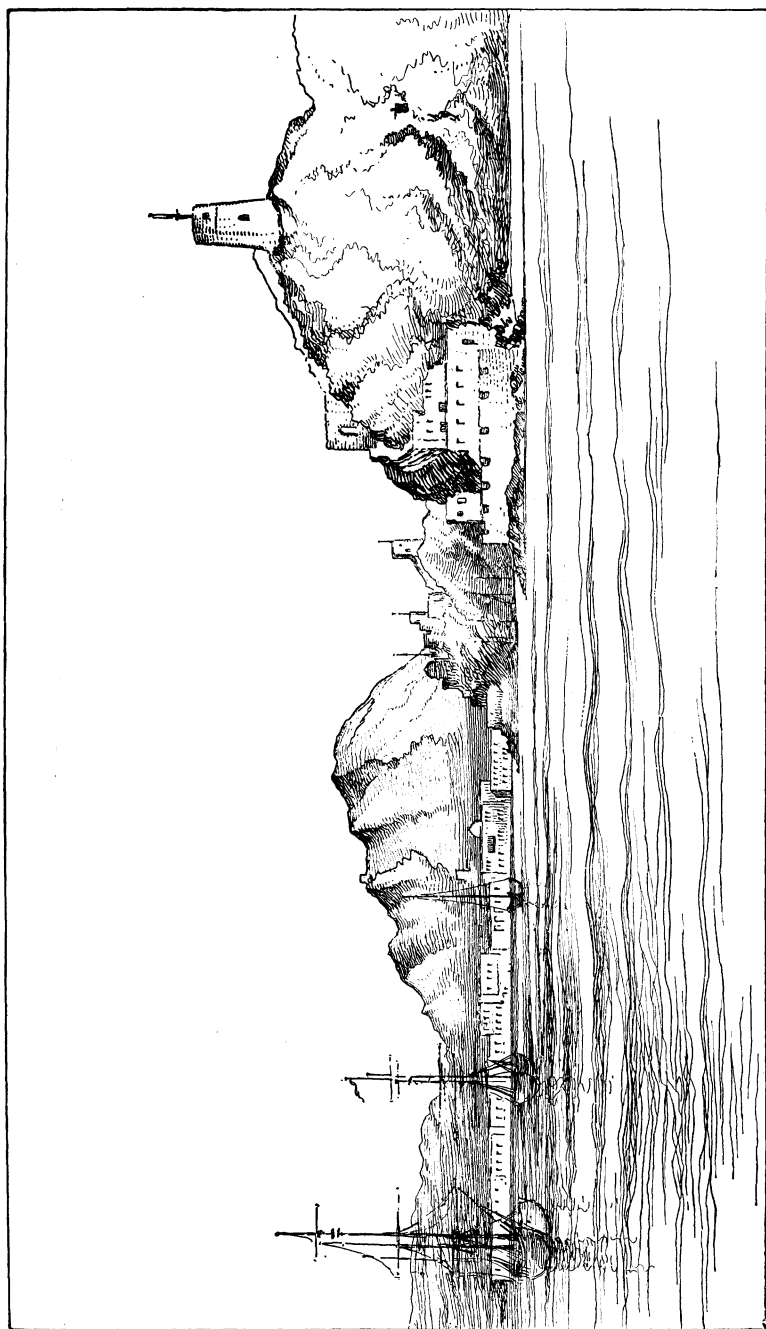
There are two large forts, built by the Portuguese, one on each side of the cove, on the summits of the hills overlooking the town, and two outer and less important, called Sírah, on the next projecting points of the cove; they are all in a very ruinous condition. The east side of Maskat cove is formed by three detached masses of rock; the outer, commonly called Maskat island, rises 350 feet above the sea, and can only be climbed with difficulty at a few points; it is much the largest, being 1400 yards in length, and is separated by a shallow strait, only a foot or two deep, from the second and smaller hill, and this again by a still shallower passage from the third, which is crowned by one of the great forts (Jaláli), and has a low sandy isthmus between it and the rocks surrounding the town, on which isthmus now stands the British Residency.

Outside the wall of Maskat there is a large suburb, occupying all the available ground in the valley, and consisting of huts of the usual material of Arab villages, viz. matting made of the stems and leaves of palm fronds.† Here there is a bazar, which is a busy scene in the morning. A curious kind of auction goes on constantly. Men walk about calling out the last bid made for some article they carry for sale, which seems to go on until some offer is made which they will accept.

Of the two principal forts, the eastern, Jaláli, already mentioned, occupies the whole of the top of the rock on which it stands. Its front is a long curtain wall with two tiers of embrasures, with a round tower with flagstaff at each end, the only access being by a flight of steps cut in the rock on the harbour side. This

* W. T. Blanford, 'Records of the Geological Survey of India.' 1872.

† Of the date tree, and largely of a dwarf palm called pish, brought from Makrán.

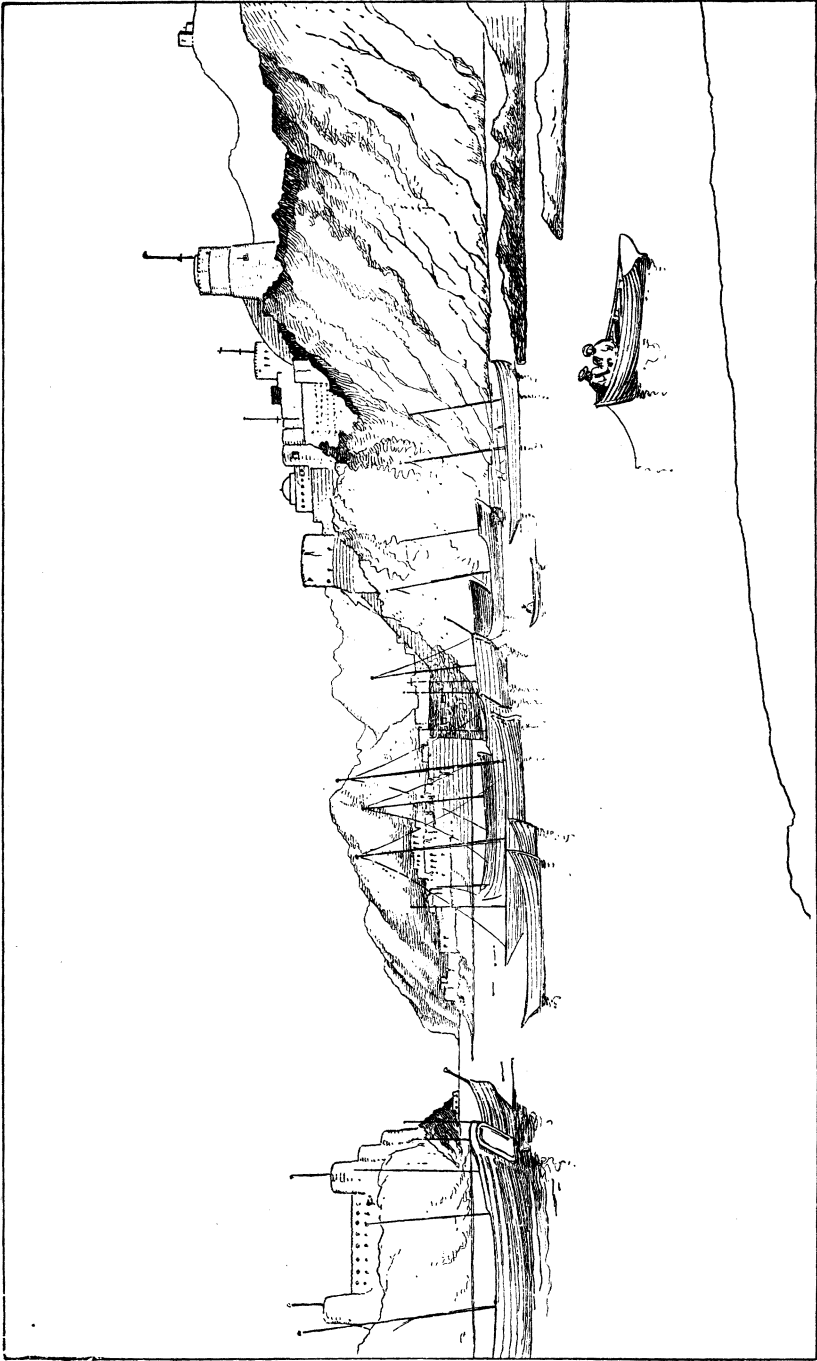


Sultan's palace.

Merani fort.

Strah fort, the western or el-Gharbi.

MASKAT, FROM THE ANCHORAGE OUTSIDE THE FORTS.



Maskat, from Makallah Bay, the anchorage for small vessels.

Jakli fort.

fort was much damaged by artillery fire during a civil war some years since (about twenty, I believe), and remains in a most dilapidated state, as the Arabs appear never to repair anything. We had given the Sultan of that time two guns of position—24-pounders, I think—and these were used with great effect by one side in the quarrel—I think, by the rebels, *i.e.* the unsuccessful party. This fort was built by the Portuguese in 1587, and called by them San Joao.

Opposite to this, on a hill overhanging the town, stands the other principal fort, now called Merani. It has a ruined battery near the water, above which rises the body of the fort, occupying the top of the hill. It is an irregular structure adapted to the available space, and has two large round towers, with tall flagstaffs, as in all Arab forts, the higher tower being connected only by a double wall with the

REINAODHOMVAEFOHEPOED.
 RORO·F·PRME·ROEDS·ENOME·R·
 HE·S·NOSONOH·OV·KVO·ANOED·
 SEVRÊA·DONACROADEPOR·W
 Q·MANDOV·POR·DNDAREEDM
 ENERESSEWROR·DINDIA·SEFI
 RESE·ESA·FOR·LE·R·MA·E·SE·IC·H·R
 A·S·PRME·RO·A·PI·A·OE·FN·D·DRIS88

INSCRIPTION OVER GATEWAY IN FORT MERANI.

main fortress. The guns mounted are very old, mostly Spanish or Portuguese, and the carriages dropping to pieces. The iron guns are all dangerously unserviceable. The brass guns are in better order; one bears the inscription, "Don Philippe rey de Ispaña," and another the inscription, "Don Juan de Acuña de su consejo de cuera y su Capitan general de la artilleria año 1606." This fort was built in 1588, according to an inscription over the inner gateway in old Portuguese, which has been rendered for me as follows: "Reigning the most high and most faithful Henry, powerful and first of that name. King Henry our lord, in the eighth year of his reign on the crown of Portugal, ordered by Don Duarte de Menezes, his viceroy of India, that should be erected this fortress, of which Belchior Caleça was its first captain and founder, 1588."*

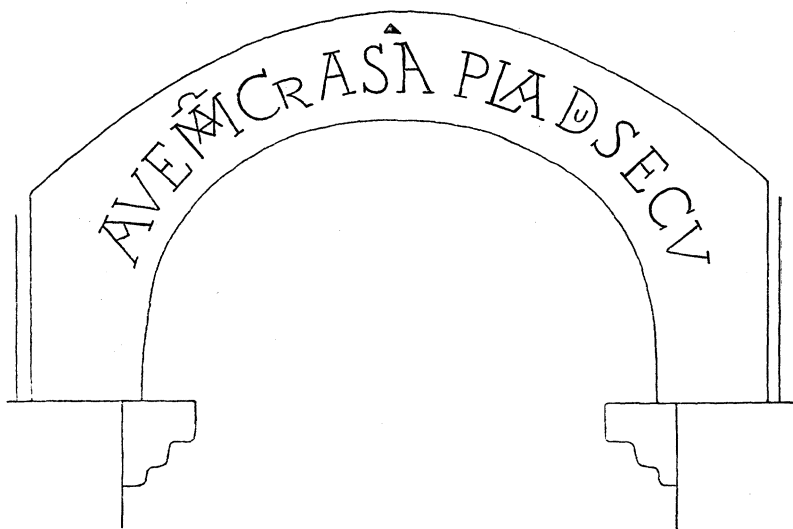
I cannot understand this date (unless it is the date of *completion*; it may well have taken many years to build, being so extensive), as Henry died in 1579, and did not reign eight years. It was named by them Fort Capitan.† In 1581 the news of the seizure of Portugal by the Spaniards reached India. The fort is only strong from the difficulty of access, and the old entrance gates, one within the other, are still carefully guarded. Over an arched window, 30 inches span, cut out of one stone, is carved, in letters $3\frac{1}{2}$ inches long, an Ave Maria (copy attached). The two smaller outer forts, which had also batteries near water-level, are still more ruinous.

* A facsimile is attached.

† A fort was commenced on this site by Da Lisboa thirty years previously, in 1552.

The Sultan's residence is a large three-storied building near the centre of the town, a quite plain, rectangular block. It is a relic of the Portuguese occupation, having comprised the governor's residence, factory, chapel, warehouses, and barracks. The Arabs call it El Jereza, a corruption of Igreja (church). On an old wooden gate of the custom-house is cut "Anno 1624."

The wadi extends up behind the town for a mile or more, and is cultivated in patches, with vegetables and a few date trees. The wells, worked by bullocks, are about half a mile from the town wall, and are defended by a square tower or fort, loopholed for musketry. A small cemented aqueduct, generally out of repair, has



INSCRIBED OVER A WINDOW IN FORT MERANI.

been made to bring the water down to the landing-place for shipment. The water-course draining this valley passes through a culvert under the town wall into the sea. It is quite dry except after rain.

From Matrah there is a track or way winding through the hills into the interior, and, after following it about half a mile, you come on a plain among the hills with a small village, called El-Felej, where there is a castellated country residence of the sultan, very dilapidated, with a grove of date and other trees, and some cultivation. The water is brought from the upper part of the valley by an underground channel, or *kanát*. This is the only approach by land to Matrah, whence Maskat is generally reached by water.

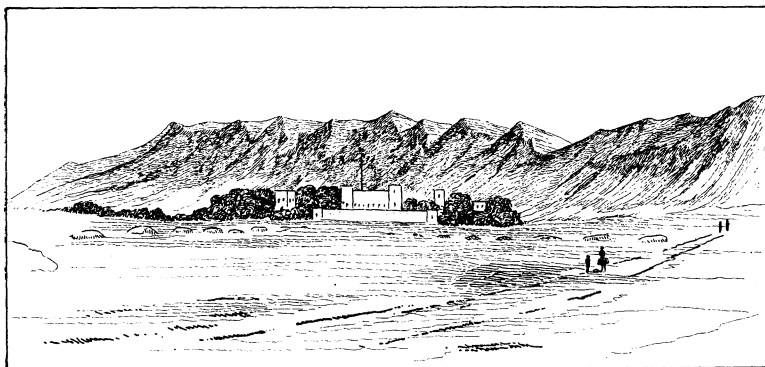
As regards the actual productions of the place, they are unimportant; it being chiefly a port for transfer of trade. The speciality is the manufacture of *halwah*, a sweetmeat much in request, and of which large quantities are exported. It is made chiefly of the gluten of maize. Large quantities of dates brought from the coast of Batinah are exported. It is a port of call for the Gulf mail steamers, and some English merchants are established here, also many Hindus (Banians), all traders.

The climate of Maskat is extremely hot, even in the winter, and there is but little rain, which falls in the winter. It is out of the track of the cooling south-west monsoon, which is cut off by Ras-el-Hadd; but in that season light south-

easterly airs at times temper the heat. Abd-er-razzak,* 1442, says that in May "the heat of the sun was so intense that the sword in its scabbard melted like wax," etc. I can almost pardon him his exaggeration.

HISTORY.—Turning to the history of the place, it is only speculation to inquire whether the Moscha and Omana mentioned in the Periplus † are the Maskat and Omán of the present day. Dean Vincent argues that they are not, but it is possible they may be intended for these places, and misplaced in the itinerary, some confusion in the application of names having arisen. The description given of the places seems more applicable to Maskat, than any other part.

We have a brief glimpse of the place ‡ in the ninth century, indicating it as the last port of call for the Arab vessels proceeding to India, which is all I have been able to trace of its earliest history.



PORT OF FELEJ.

Colonel Taylor, formerly political agent in Turkish Arabia, and, I believe, a great Arabic scholar, gives a short account of the history § of Omán "from authentic sources of Arabian tradition," but does not specify any authorities. He says nothing about the period between the eighth and seventeenth centuries, and does not mention the long Portuguese occupation. His account says that the first native Arabian who entered Omán was one Malik bin Fakham of Nejd, four centuries before the Christian era, || who, with some hundred followers of the Hiuávi tribe, settled at Jaalan or Bahla, two towns in the interior some 70 miles to south-westward of Maskat; and fortified Rastag, an ancient city in the mountainous district of Omán, 30 miles westward of Maskat. Successive additions to the numbers of these Arabs enabled them, after obstinate resistance, entirely to expel the Persians from the province. His successors continued in power until the mission of Mohammed.

* Hakluyt Society, vol. 22, 'India in the Fifteenth Century.'

† 'Periplus of the Erythrean Sea.' W. Vincent, D.D. 1800.

‡ *Geographical Journal*, vol. vi. No. 2, August, 1895, p. 169.

§ 'Bombay Government Records,' No. 24, New Series, 1856.

|| Colonel Ross says the probability is that Malik bin Fahm entered Omán in the early part of the second century A.D., and that the part he played is probably exaggerated. The country up to his time was under the Persians, the date of whose conquest is not known.

In 571 A.D. a powerful prince of the dynasty, named Jalanda, equipped a fleet and seized Hormúz island, which was established as a rendezvous of a piratical fleet. They were converted to Islam in 621 A.D. by invitation of the Prophet.

Dr. Badger (Hakluyt Society, vol. 44, 1871) gives a translation of an Arab history of Omán, containing the period between 661 and 1856, by Salih-ibn Razik.

I propose here, however, to touch chiefly on the Portuguese occupation of the seaboard of Omán. The above Arab author gives only a short space to the period 1154 to 1557, and does not mention the Portuguese conquests; nor is there any record of the overlordship of Hormúz, which existed at the time of the appearance of the Christians. He admits a hiatus in the annals from 1154 to 1429, and these are also said to be obscure up to 1560.* His account of the recapture of the places from the Portuguese will be referred to later on.

Marco Polo (1260-95) does not mention Maskat *by name*, Kalatu † (Kalhát) is mentioned as frequented by numerous ships from India, and as "subject to Hormos." "Many good horses are exported to India; the number from this and the other cities is something astonishing." The probable reference to Maskat is that "the Melic of Hormos has a castle which is still stronger than this city (Kalhát), and has a better command of the entrance of the gulf." Abulfeda (1273-1331) also does not mention Maskat by name. Ibn ‡ Batuta (1324-25) went by sea to Omán, and arrived at the city of Kalhát, "which is situated at the foot of a mountain. The inhabitants are Arabs and schismatics, which they keep secret, because they are subjects to the king of Hormúz, who is of the Súnni sect." He mentions the markets and a fine mosque, "whose walls are covered with coloured tiles."

Edrisi (1153) mentions in Omán, first Kalhat and Súr, and then Sohár, which he says is one of the most ancient cities of Omán, and of the richest. Maskat is mentioned as a populous town.

We may, I think, gather from all this, that in the thirteenth and fourteenth centuries Maskat was a less important place than Kalhát.

The first appearance of the Portuguese on the coast of Omán was that of D'Albuquerque,§ who with six ships left Socotra on August 10, 1507, and sailed up the coast of Arabia. He anchored, says the chronicle, at Calayate (Kalhát), an anchorage on the coast, about 25 miles to north-westward of Ras-al-Hadd, and there got some supplies. It was badly populated, with many old edifices, the sea beating against it; on the land side was a wall, about the height of a lance, reaching to the sea, not a single tree, and all supplies came from the interior. It was under Hormúz,|| and they fished as far as Ras-al-Hadd, and it was the seat of the

* In Colonel Sir E. C. Ross's 'Annals of Omán' (translation of Kishf-al-Ghummeh. Calcutta: 1874), there is a similar hiatus from 1153-1406. Nor is there any mention of the Portuguese conquests, or of Hormúz.

† Colonel Yule's 'Marco Polo,' vol. ii. p. 448.

‡ 'Voyage d'Ibn Batoutah. Trad. de C. Depémeret et B. R. Sanguinetti.' Paris: 1895. The translation of Rev. Sam Lee (1829) appears less accurate.

§ The Commentaries of the great Afonso D'Albuquerque, translated from the Portuguese edition of 1874 (Hakluyt Society, 1875-84), from which I abstract largely.

|| Confirmed by Marco Polo, 1271-94 (see *ante*). Colonel S. B. Miles says the supremacy existed since 1270. Colonel Miles was Political Agent in Maskat, and wrote a valuable report on the Portuguese in Eastern Arabia in the Administration report for 1884-85, printed in No. cxxvii., 'Selections from the Records of the Government of India, Foreign Department' (Calcutta: 1885). He does not always quote the authorities he has consulted. I have quoted in one or two places from this report.

chief governor from Hormúz. They next anchored off Curiate (Karyát), stormed and took it, and put all to the sword who tried to escape, including women and children*; they plundered and burnt it, "so that not a house was left standing, not even the mosque, one of the most beautiful ever seen." They cut off the noses and ears of the prisoners, and sent them to Hormúz. Thirty-eight ships, great and small, were burned. It was a large town, and contained about 5000 to 6000 men, an entrepôt of ships which came to collect dates.

Thence the squadron went to Maskat, where the people submitted to be vassals of the King of Portugal, being aware of the destruction of Curiate, and agreed to pay tribute and furnish supplies. A "captain" having arrived with 10,000 men from the interior, hostilities ensued, and the town was taken after a stout resistance. D'Albuquerque put men, women, and children to the sword, sacked the town, and burnt it to the ground, including the large and beautiful mosque, and thirty-four "ships" in all. Some men and women who had been taken alive had their ears and noses cut off, and were then released. "It is," says the account, "a large and populous city, supplied from the interior with much wheat, maize, barley, and dates for lading ships. It is part of the kingdom of Ormus."

The unhappy "Moors" returned when the Portuguese embarked, to try and put out the flames. "The Moors call the interior the *island* of Arabia.† It is a very small land (!) governed by a king called the Benjabar"—this is the name of a tribe in the vicinity (Beni-jábar).

At Maskat the Portuguese got "Moorish" pilots, and, passing six desert islands—the Daimániyah group—came to Soor,‡ where they were at first defied by the "Alcaide;" but who, on the Portuguese preparing to attack, submitted to be vassals of the King of Portugal. They took possession of the fort, hoisted the Portuguese flag on it, and left the "Alcaide" in charge. The fort was of a square shape, with six towers round it, and two very large towers over the gate. There were about six thousand inhabitants and one hundred "cavaliers," the greater part "armed with steel armour: plates arranged after the manner of a roof tiled with slates. The fore quarters of the horses were similarly defended."

The last place in Omán they visited was Orfacão (Khor-Fakán), which was attacked and taken with the usual mutilation of captives and merciless slaughter, after which the place was burnt. It was a large town, with a wall on the land side, and lies at the foot of a very high mountain. Now it is a small fishing-village, and I saw no remains of the old town; it lies in a small cove at the northern end of the Bátinah district.

So much for the first visit of a Christian power to this country. The invaders thence sailed to Hormúz.

In August, 1508, Albuquerque returned to the coast *en route* to Hormúz, "intending to attack Calayate," which had been spared the previous year. It was taken after some fighting, and the town sacked and burnt, including the mosque, "which the Moors took much to heart, for it was a very large building with seven naves, all lined with tiles, and containing much porcelain hung upon the walls." It was burnt to the ground; twenty-seven ships, large and small,

* I must express my horror at the barbarous cruelty of the "great" commander, both here and throughout this cruise, towards people whose only offence seems to have been that they were of a different race and religion. The details are stated in the Commentaries in a matter-of-fact manner.

† As they do now, Jezíret-el-'Arab.

‡ Sabár, still the principal town on that part of the Omán littoral, called Bátinah.

were also burnt; and then Albuquerque ordered them to cut off the noses and ears of all the Moors whom they had captured, and left them on the shore and returned on board, "*giving many thanks to our Lord.*" They then apparently proceeded to Maskat. Faria y Souza* says Calayate was burned "to be revenged for some injuries done to some Portuguese." Albuquerque also touched at Maskat, on his way to Hormúz, in 1815.

In 1522† a concerted rising took place simultaneously at Hormúz, Bahrain, Maskat, Karyát, and Sahár. Many Portuguese were killed; the number is given as one hundred and twenty. It was, however, suppressed, and Sahár destroyed with "fire and sword" by Dom Luis de Menezes, who was sent from Maskat with two ships to relieve Hormúz, then closely besieged. In 1526, Lope Vaz de Sampayo, on his way to Hormúz with five ships, reduced the "towns of Calayate and Muscate, which had revolted;" but no particulars are given. In 1550-51 "the great Turk," being offended at the proceedings of the Portuguese, fitted out a naval expedition‡ consisting of sixteen thousand men, in "strong galleys" and other vessels, under the command of Pirbec (Pir Beg), who is described by our author as an "old pirate," but who was apparently the Turkish admiral, who attacked and took Maskat after a siege of a month; and, having failed in his siege of Hormúz fort, was beheaded after his return. He did not attempt to hold Maskat permanently, but sacked the place and removed all the ordnance. The garrison were made to work in the galleys, but were mostly released at Hormúz.

In 1581§ another Turkish expedition under Alibec (Ali Beg), "a Turk used to robbing," consisting of three galleys, was fitted out at Mocha, and surprised Maskat. He landed his main force at Siabo,|| while "the galleys entered the port with those that remained, and began to 'play' their cannon furiously, so that he might come in on their backs; which succeeded, and he entered and plundered the town." His land force advanced through the narrow pass from Sudáb to Maskat, "so narrow that two men cannot pass it abreast; no one imagining he would attempt it." The Portuguese fled to Matero (Matrah), a town a league distant, and, not thinking themselves safe there, went to Bruxel,¶ a fort 4 leagues inland. They returned to Maskat after the departure of the Turks.

It was in 1588, according to the old inscription referred to already, that the fortress now called Meráni was completed, which strengthened the hold of the Portuguese on the place and country. Sahár, which had been taken and burnt by the Portuguese in 1522 (see *ante*), appears to have revived, for in 1616 its trade "much lessened the customs of Ormus and Mascate;" and an expedition was despatched from Maskat, which, with the aid of twelve hundred Arab auxiliaries, took and plundered the place, and left a garrison in the fort. It was retaken by the Imám in 1643.

After the loss of Hormúz in 1622, Maskat became the most important place held by the Portuguese, and was the headquarters of their fleet.

* 'The Portugues Asia.' Translated by Captain Jno. Stevens. In 3 vols. London: Printed for C. Brown, 1695, at the Sign of the Gun, at the west end of St. Paul's.

† 'Manuel de Faria y Souza,' *ante*.

‡ This expedition came from Egypt. Colonel Miles (*op. cit.*) calls him Pir Pasha, and says he was Capudan of Egypt, and that the expedition consisted of thirty sail

§ Faria y Souza, *op. cit.*

|| This must be Sudáb, which answers to the description in the chronicle.

¶ This may be Boshier, a place visited by the author in December, 1859 (*Trans. Bombay Geog. Soc.*, vol. xv.).

In 1640, the garrison of Maskat, which had been much reduced, repulsed an attack on the place by the Imám's* forces. In 1648 Maskat was again besieged, and the Portuguese had to accept humiliating terms, being confined to Maskat, and giving up their other possessions in the country. Finally, in 1650, after another siege, Maskat also was surrendered, and the Portuguese finally expelled from Omán.

In the account given by Dr. Badger's author (already quoted), a detailed account is given, showing that the loss of the place was due, in part at least, to treachery on the part of a Hindu trader, "a worshipper of the cow,"† whose daughter had attracted the attention of the Portuguese commandant. In a note to Colonel Ross's book (*op. cit.*), he says, "One story current is that the Arabs entered Maskat in the guise of peaceful peasants, hiding their arms in bundles of firewood, and that they took the opportunity of the Portuguese garrison being assembled without arms at chapel to attack and massacre them."

Captain Hamilton,‡ in his 'New Account,' gives a long and circumstantial account of the final scene, which he had "from a very old renegade who was at the tragedy, being then a soldier, who reckoned himself about a hundred years old, and by his aspect could not be much less." This story gives as the cause of the final hostilities a gratuitous insult offered by the commandant to the "king of that province." He says only those of the garrison were spared at the final surrender who "consented to embrace" Mohammedanism.§

During the reign of Nadir Shah, between 1736 and 1741, the Persians occupied Omán,|| having, in the first-named year, gained a footing under the pretence of assisting one of two rival claimants to the Imámate, but they appear to have been finally driven out in the latter year.

The subsequent history of the country is not of sufficient general interest to relate at length. The fortunes of the country culminated under the great ruler Seyyid Said-bin-Sultan, 1804-56,¶ since whose death it has rapidly declined, owing to intestine wars and the loss of the African dominions (Zanzibar, etc.), which fell to another son, and has since remained a separate state.

About 1800 the French attempted to gain over the Imám in furtherance of their designs on India, but this was frustrated by the British. Seyyid Said continued throughout his reign our loyal ally, and co-operated with our forces in the expedition against the independent piratical ports in 1819, and in the disastrous Benu-bu-'Ali affair in 1820.

* Nassir bin Murshid, who appears also to have recovered Karyát, and all Omán except Maskat and Matrah, and was one of the strongest rulers Omán ever had.

† Colonel Miles (*op. cit.*) says that one of the several objections to this romantic story is that the Banians have never brought their wives to Arabia, much less their unmarried daughters.

‡ 'Pinkerton's Voyages,' vol. viii.

§ Wellsted gives the date of the final capture of Maskat as 1658, which is incorrect. He was not an accurate observer. The date has been the subject of controversy, but is now fixed by Mr. Danvers from Portuguese records ('The Portuguese in India,' by F. C. Danvers. 1894).

|| As well as Bahrain and other islands in the gulf.

¶ Dr. Badger's author. Colonel Hamerton says 1807, and is more likely to be correct ('Bombay Government Records,' No. 24, New Series, 1856).

Ras al Hamar
(Red Cape)

Ras al Abyaz
(White Cape)

MASKAT AND MATRAH
IN
OMAN, ARABIA.

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