[page 235]

XI. *Zant* (formerly *Zacynthus)* is another Island belonging to the *Venetians,* and one of the richest in the *Streights,* abounding with Wine and Oyl, but mostly noted for *Currants,* of which there is such plenty that many Ships are yearly fraughted with them for divers Ports of *Europe.* And such Advantage is that Currant-Trade to the Republick of *Venice,* that the Profits redounding from thence, do serve (according to the Testimony of a late Traveller) to defray the Charges of the *Venetian* Fleet. In this Island are several remark|able Fountains, out of which there bubbles up a pitchy Substance in great quantities. In the Monastry of *Sancta Maria de la Croce,* is the Tomb of *M. T. Cicero* and *Terentia,* his Wise, with two seve|ral Inscriptions (one for him, and the other for her) found upon a Stone, which, some time ago, was dug out of the Ground, nigh the place of the aforesaid Tomb. The Inhabitants (reckoning both *Greeks* and *Jews)* amount to about 20 or 25000, and are go|vern'd by a Noble *Venetian,* sent thither with full Power from the Senate.

[page 379]

**§. 3. *Cuba.***

THIS Island (discovered by the *Spaniards, Anno* 1494.) is term'd by the *Italians, Spaniards, French,* [**Note:** Name. ] *Germans,* and *English, Cuba.* Which Name is the same it had when first discover'd, being so call'd by the Natives and neigh|bouring Islanders; what may be the Etymology of that *Indian* Ap|pellation, we know not.

The *Air* of this Island (considering its small Lati|tude) is very temperate, being mightily qualifi'd by [**Note:** Air. ] Vapours that daily ascend from the Earth. The oppo|site Place of the Globe to *Cuba,* is that part of the *East-Iudian* Ocean, lying between 110 and 120 Degrees of Longitude, with 20 and 23 Degrees of South Latitude.

This Island (lying in the same Climate with the Northern Part of *New Spain)* is not so fertil in Grain [**Note:** Soil. ] as Wood, being generally cover'd over with Trees, some of which do drop the purest Rozin: Here is great plenty of Fish and Flesh; and in some Parts are divers kinds of excellent Fruits. The length of the Days and Nights in *Cuba,* is much the same as in the North of *New Spain,* they both lying under the same Parallels of Latitude.

The chief *Commodities* of this Island, are Gold, Ginger, Cassia, Mastick, Aloes, Cinamon, Su|gar, [**Note:** Commodities. ] *&c.*

The most remarkable thing in this Island, is a noted Bituminous Fountain, out of which there flows a sort [**Note:** Rarities. ] of Pitchy Substance, commonly us'd for calking of Ships. Here also is a Valley full of Flint-Stones of different sizes, and those by nature so round, that they may serve as Bullets for most sorts of Cannons. Vid. *Heylin*'s *Cosmog.* page 1079.

In this Island is one *Bishoprick, viz.* that of St. *Jago,* Suffragan to the *Archbishop* of St. *Domingo* [**Note:** *Archbishopricks,* &c. ] in *Hispaniola.*

The Inhabitants of this Island, being for the most part *Spaniards,* are the same in *Manners* with those on [**Note:** Manners. ] the Continent.

The *Spaniards* here residing, do still retain and com|monly use the *Spanish* Tongue. [**Note:** Language. ]

This Island was formerly govern'd by certain *Ca|ciques* or Captains, but is now wholly subject to the [**Note:** Government. ] King of *Spain,* who still keeps a particular Governor 380 in it, whose ordinary Residence is in that Great and Populous City, *Havana.*

The *Spaniards* here residing, are of the same *Religion* [**Note:** Arms. ] with that establish'd and universally profess'd in *Spain.* [**Note:** Religion. ]