

The addition of exotic species to the number of known plants was indeed going on rapidly during the interval which we are now considering. Francis Hernandez, a Spaniard, who visited America towards the end of the sixteenth century, collected and described many plants of that country, some of which were afterwards published by Recchi.²⁴ Barnabas Cobo, who went as a missionary to America in 1596, also described plants.²⁵ The Dutch, among other exertions which they made in their struggle with the tyranny of Spain, sent out an expedition which, for a time, conquered the Brazils; and among other fruits of this conquest, they published an account of the natural history of the country.²⁶ To avoid interrupting the connexion of such labors, I will here carry them on a little further in the order of time. Paul Herman, of Halle, in Saxony, went to the Cape of Good Hope and to Ceylon; and on his return, astonished the botanists of Europe by the vast quantity of remarkable plants which he introduced to their knowledge.²⁷ Rheede, the Dutch governor of Malabar, ordered descriptions and drawings to be made of many curious species, which were published in a large work in twelve folio volumes.²⁸ Rumphe, another Dutch consul at Amboyna,²⁹ labored with zeal and success upon the plants of the Moluccas. Some species which occur in Madagascar figured in a description of that island composed by the French Commandant Flacourt.³⁰ Shortly afterwards, Engelbert Kæmpfer,³¹ a Westphalian of great acquirements and undaunted courage, visited Persia, Arabia Felix, the Mogul Empire, Ceylon, Bengal, Sumatra, Java, Siam, Japan; Wheler travelled in Greece and Asia Minor; and Sherard, the English consul, published an account of the plants of the neighborhood of Smyrna.

distinction to the *Virginian* Potato, at the time of Gerard's Herbal. (1597?) Gerard's figures of both plants are copied from those of Clusius.

It may be seen by the description of *Arachidna*, already quoted from Theophrastus, (above,) that there is little plausibility in Clusius's conjecture of the plant being known to the ancients. I need not inform the botanist that this opinion is untenable.

²⁴ *Nova Plantarum Regni Mexicana Historia*, Rom. 1651, fol.

²⁵ Sprengel, *Gesch. der Botanik*, ii. 62.

²⁶ *Historia Naturalis Brasilicæ*, L. B. 1648, fol. (Piso and Marcgraf).

²⁷ *Museum Zeylanicum*, L. B. 1726.

²⁸ *Hortus Malabaricus*, 1670-1703.

²⁹ *Herbarium Amboinense*, Amsterdam, 1741-51, fol.

³⁰ *Histoire de la grande Isle Madagascar*, Paris, 1661.

³¹ *Amœnitates Exoticæ*, Lemgov. 1712. 4to.