



UNIVERSITÄTS-  
BIBLIOTHEK  
PADERBORN

## **Universitätsbibliothek Paderborn**

### **Travels into several remote nations of the world**

in 4 pt.

**Swift, Jonathan**

**London, 1726**

Chap. I. The Author gives some account of himself and Family: his first Inducements to travel. He is shipwrack'd, and swims for his Life: Gets safe on shoar in the Country of Lilliput: Is made a ...

[urn:nbn:de:hbz:466:1-48497](https://nbn-resolving.org/urn:nbn:de:hbz:466:1-48497)





# TRAVELS.

## PART I.

### A Voyage to LILLIPUT.

#### CHAP. I.

*The Author gives some Account of himself and Family, his first Inducements to travel. He is shipwrecked, and swims for his Life, gets safe on shoar in the Country of Lilliput, is made a Prisoner, and carried up the Country.*



MY Father had a small Estate in Nottinghamshire; I was the third of five Sons. He sent me to *Emanuel College* in *Cambridge*, at fourteen years old, where I resided three years, and applied my self

VOL. I.

close



close to my Studies; but the Charge of maintaining me (although I had a very scanty Allowance) being too great for a narrow Fortune, I was bound Apprentice to Mr. *James Bates*, an eminent Surgeon in *London*, with whom I continued four years; and my Father now and then sending me small Sums of Money, I laid them out in learning Navigation, and other Parts of the Mathematicks, useful to those who intend to travel, as I always believed it would be some time or other my fortune to do. When I left Mr. *Bates*, I went down to my Father; where, by the Assistance of him and my Uncle *John*, and some other Relations, I got forty Pounds, and a Promise of thirty Pounds a year to maintain me at *Leyden*: There I studied Physick two years and seven months, knowing it would be useful in long Voyages.

SOON after my Return from *Leyden*, I was recommended by my good Master Mr. *Bates*, to be Surgeon to the *Swallow*,



to LILLIPUT. 3

low, Captain *Abraham Pannell* Com-  
mander; with whom I continued three  
years and a half, making a Voyage or two  
into the *Levant*, and some other Parts.  
When I came back, I resolv'd to settle in  
*London*, to which Mr. *Bates*, my Master,  
encouraged me, and by him I was recom-  
mended to several Patients. I took Part  
of a small House in the *Old Jury*; and  
being advis'd to alter my Condition, I  
married Mrs. *Mary Burton*, second Daugh-  
ter to Mr. *Edmond Burton* Hosier in  
*Newgate-Street*, with whom I received  
four hundred Pounds for a Portion.

BUT, my good Master *Bates* dying in  
two Years after, and I having few Friends,  
my Business began to fail; for my Con-  
science would not suffer me to imitate  
the bad Practice of too many among my  
Brethren. Having therefore consult'd  
with my Wife, and some of my Acquain-  
tance, I determin'd to go again to Sea.  
I was Surgeon successively in two Ships.  
and made several Voyages, for six Years,



to the *East* and *West-Indies*, by which I got some addition to my Fortune. My hours of Leisure I spent in reading the best Authors, antient and modern, being always provided with a good number of Books; and when I was ashore, in observing the Manners and Dispositions of the People, as well as learning their Language, wherein I had a great facility by the strength of my Memory.

THE last of these Voyages not proving very fortunate, I grew weary of the Sea, and intended to stay at home with my Wife and Family. I removed from the *Old Jury* to *Fetter-Lane*, and from thence to *Wapping*, hoping to get Business among the Sailors; but it would not turn to account. After three years Expectation that things would mend, I accepted an advantageous Offer from Captain *William Prichard*, Master of the *Antelope*, who was making a Voyage to the *South-Sea*. We set sail from *Bristol*, *May* 4th, 1699, and our Voyage at first was very prosperous. Ir







longer, being already spent with Labour while we were in the Ship. We therefore trusted our selves to the Mercy of the Waves, and in about half an hour the Boat was over-set by a sudden Flurry from the North. What became of my Companions in the Boat, as well as of those who escaped on the Rock, or were left in the Vessel, I cannot tell; but conclude they were all lost. For my own part, I swam as Fortune directed me, and was pushed forward by Wind and Tide. I often let my Legs drop, and could feel no bottom: But when I was almost gone, and able to struggle no longer, I found myself within my Depth; and by this time the Storm was much abated. The Declivity was so small, that I walked near a mile before I got to the Shore, which I conjectur'd was about eight a-clock in the Evening. I then advanced forward near half a mile, but could not discover any sign of Houses or Inhabitants; at least I was in so weak a Condition that I did not observe them. I was extremely

tired,



to LILLIPUT. 7

tired, and with that, and the heat of the Weather, and about half a Pint of Brandy that I drank as I left the Ship, I found my self much inclined to sleep. I lay down on the grass, which was very short and soft, where I slept sounder than ever I remember to have done in my Life, and, as I reckoned, about nine hours; for when I awaked, it was just day-light. I attempted to rise, but was not able to stir: For as I happen'd to lie on my Back, I found my Arms and Legs were strongly fastened on each side to the Ground; and my Hair, which was long and thick, tied down in the same manner. I likewise felt several slender Ligatures across my Body, from my Armpits to my Thighs. I could only look upwards, the Sun began to grow hot, and the Light offended mine Eyes. I heard a confused Noise about me, but in the Posture I lay, could see nothing except the Sky. In a little time I felt something alive moving on my left Leg, which advancing gently forward over my Breast,



came almost up to my Chin; when bending mine Eyes downwards as much as I could, I perceived it to be a human Creature not six inches high, with a Bow and Arrow in his Hands, and a Quiver at his Back. In the mean time, I felt at least forty more of the same kind (as I conjectured) following the first. I was in the utmost Astonishment, and roared so loud, that they all ran back in a fright; and some of them, as I was afterwards told, were hurt with the Falls they got by leaping from my sides upon the Ground. However, they soon returned, and one of them, who ventured so far as to get a full sight of my Face, lifting up his Hands and Eyes by Way of Admiration, cried out in a shrill, but distinct Voice, *Hekinal Degul*: The others repeated the same Words several times, but I then knew not what they meant. I lay all this while as the Reader may believe, in great Uneasiness: at length, struggling to get loose I had the fortune to break the Strings and wrench out the Pegs that fastened my

let



left Arm to the Ground; for, by lifting it up to my Face, I discover'd the Methods they had taken to bind me, and, at the same time, with a violent pull, which gave me excessive Pain, I a little loosened the strings that tied down my Hair on the left side, so that I was just able to turn my Head about two inches. But the Creatures ran off a second time, before I could seize them; whereupon there was a great Shout in a very shrill Accent, and after it ceased, I heard one of them cry aloud, *Tolgo Phonac*; when in an instant I felt above an hundred Arrows discharged on my left Hand, which pricked me like so many needles; and besides they shot another Flight into the Air, as we do Bombs in *Europe*, whereof many, I suppose, fell on my Body, (though I felt them not) and some on my Face, which I immediately covered with my left Hand. When this shower of Arrows was over, I fell a groaning with Grief and Pain, and then striving again to get loose, they discharged an-



other Volley larger than the first, and some of them attempted with Spears to stick me in the Sides; but, by good luck, I had on me a Buff Jerkin, which they could not pierce. I thought it the most prudent Method to lie still, and my design was to continue so till Night, when my left Hand being already loose, I could easily free my self: And as for the Inhabitants, I had reason to believe I might be a match for the greatest Armies they could bring against me, if they were all of the same Size with him that I saw. But Fortune disposed otherwise of me. When the People observed I was quiet, they discharged no more Arrows: But by the Noise I heard, I knew their Numbers encreased; and about four Yards from me, over-against my right Ear, I heard a knocking for above an hour, like that of People at work; when turning my Head that way as well as the Pegs and Strings would permit me, I saw a Stage erected, about a foot and a half from the Ground, capable of hold-

ing



ing four of the Inhabitants, with two or three Ladders to mount it: From whence one of them, who seemed to be a Person of Quality, made me a long Speech, whereof I understood not one Syllable. But I should have mentioned, that before the principal Person began his Oration, he cried out three times, *Langro Debul san*: (these words and the former were afterwards repeated and explained to me.) Whereupon immediately about fifty of the Inhabitants came and cut the strings that fastened the left Side of my Head, which gave me the Liberty of turning it to the right, and of observing the Person and Gesture of him that was to speak. He appeared to be of a middle Age, and taller than any of the other three who attended him, whereof one was a Page that held up his Train, and seemed to be somewhat longer than my middle Finger; the other two stood one on each side to support him. He acted every Part of an Orator, and I could observe many Periods of Threatnings;



and others of Promises, Pity and Kindness. I answered in a few words, but in the most submissive manner, lifting up my left Hand and both mine Eyes to the Sun, as calling him for a Witness; and being almost famished with Hunger, having not eaten a Morsel for some hours before I left the Ship, I found the demands of Nature so strong upon me, that I could not forbear shewing my Impatience (perhaps against the strict rules of Decency) by putting my Finger frequently on my Mouth, to signify that I wanted Food. The *Hurgo* (for so they call a great Lord, as I afterwards learnt) understood me very well. He descended from the Stage, and commanded that several Ladders should be applied to my Sides, on which above an hundred of the Inhabitants mounted, and walked towards my Mouth, laden with baskets full of Meat, which had been provided and sent thither by the King's Orders, upon the first intelligence he received of me. I observ'd there was the Flesh of several Animals,

but



but could not distinguish them by the taste. There were Shoulders, Legs and Loins shaped like those of Mutton, and very well dressed, but smaller than the Wings of a Lark. I eat them by two or three at a mouthful, and took three Loaves at a time, about the Bigness of Musket Bullets. They supplied me as they could, shewing a thousand marks of wonder and astonishment at my Bulk and Appetite. I then made another sign that I wanted Drink. They found by my eating, that a small Quantity would not suffice me, and being a most ingenious People, they slung up with great dexterity one of their largest Hogsheds, then rolled it towards my Hand, and beat out the top; I drank it off at a Draught, which I might well do, for it did not hold half a pint, and tasted like a small Wine of *Burgundy*, but much more delicious. They brought me a second Hogshed, which I drank in the same manner, and made signs for more, but they had none to give me. When I had performed these

Wonders,



Wonders, they shouted for Joy, and danced upon my Breast, repeating several times as they did at first, *Hekinah Degul*. They made me a sign that I should throw down the two Hogheads, but first warning the People below to stand out of the way, crying aloud, *Borach Mivola*, and when they saw the Vessels in the Air, there was an universal shout of *Hekinah Degul*. I confess I was often tempted, while they were passing backwards and forwards on my Body, to seize forty or fifty of the first that came in my reach, and dash them against the Ground. But the Remembrance of what I had felt, which probably might not be the worst they could do, and the Promise of Honour I made them, for so I interpreted my submissive Behaviour, soon drove out these Imaginations. Besides, I now consider'd my self as bound by the Laws of Hospitality to a People who had treated me with so much Expence and Magnificence. However, in my Thoughts, I could not sufficiently wonder at the Intrepidity

211077

trepidity



trepidity of these diminutive Mortals, who durst venture to mount and walk upon my Body, while one of my Hands was at liberty, without trembling at the very sight of so prodigious a Creature as I must appear to them. After some time, when they observed that I made no more demands for Meat, there appeared before me a Person of high Rank from his Imperial Majesty. His Excellency having mounted on the small of my right Leg, advanced forwards up to my Face, with about a dozen of his Retinue. And producing his Credentials under the Signet Royal, which he applied close to mine Eyes, spoke about ten Minutes, without any signs of Anger, but with a kind of determinate Resolution; often pointing forwards, which, as I afterwards found, was towards the capital City, about half a mile distant, whither it was agreed by his Majesty in Council that I must be conveyed. I answered in few words, but to no purpose, and made a Sign with my Hand that was loose, putting it to the other



other (but over his Excellency's Head, for fear of hurting him or his Train) and then to my own Head and Body, to signify that I desired my Liberty. It appeared that he understood me well enough, for he shook his Head by way of Disapprobation, and held his Hand in a posture to shew that I must be carried as a Prisoner. However, he made other signs to let me understand that I should have Meat and Drink enough, and very good Treatment. Whereupon I once more thought of attempting to break my Bonds, but again, when I felt the Smart of their Arrows, upon my Face and Hands, which were all in Blisters, and many of the Darts still sticking in them, and observing likewise that the Number of my Enemies increased, I gave tokens to let them know that they might do with me what they pleased. Upon this the *Hurgo* and his Train withdrew with much Civility and chearful Countenances. Soon after I heard a general Shout, with frequent repetitions of the Words, *Peplom Selan*, and  
I felt



I felt great Numbers of the People on my Left Side relaxing the Cords to such a degree, that I was able to turn upon my Right, and to ease myself with making Water; which I very plentifully did, to the great Astonishment of the People, who conjecturing by my Motions what I was going to do, immediately opened to the right and left on that side to avoid the Torrent which fell with such noise and violence from me. But before this, they had dawbed my Face and both my Hands with a sort of Ointment very pleasant to the Smell, which in a few Minutes removed all the Smart of their Arrows. These Circumstances, added to the Refreshment I had received by their Victuals and Drink, which were very nourishing, disposed me to sleep. I slept about eight Hours, as I was afterwards assured; and it was no wonder, for the Physicians, by the Emperor's Order, had mingled a sleepy Potion in the Hogshheads of Wine.

IT



IT seems that upon the first Moment I was discovered sleeping on the ground after my landing, the Emperor had early notice of it by an Express; and determined in Council that I should be tied in the manner I have related, (which was done in the night while I slept) that Plenty of Meat and Drink should be sent to me, and a Machine prepared to carry me to the capital City.

THIS Resolution perhaps may appear very bold and dangerous, and I am confident would not be imitated by any Prince in *Europe* on the like Occasion; however, in my opinion, it was extremely prudent as well as generous: For supposing these People had endeavour'd to kill me with their Spears and Arrows while I was asleep, I should certainly have awaked with the first sense of Smart, which might so far have rouzed my Rage and Strength, as to have enabled me to break the Strings wherewith I was tied; after which, as they



they were not able to make Resistance, so they could expect no Mercy.

THESE People are most excellent Mathematicians, and arriv'd to a great Perfection in Mechanicks, by the Countenance and Encouragement of the Emperor, who is a renowned Patron of Learning. This Prince hath several Machines fixed on wheels, for the Carriage of Trees and other great Weights. He often builds his largest Men of War, whereof some are nine foot long, in the Woods where the Timber grows, and has them carried on these Engines three or four hundred Yards to the Sea. Five hundred Carpenters and Engineers were immediately set at work to prepare the greatest Engine they had. It was a Frame of Wood raised three Inches from the Ground, about seven Foot long, and four wide, moving upon twenty two Wheels. The shout I heard was upon the Arrival of this Engine, which it seems set out in four hours after my Landing. It was brought  
 3 parallel



parallel to me as I lay. But the principal Difficulty was to raise and place me in this Vehicle. Eighty Poles, each of one Foot high, were erected for this purpose, and very strong Cords of the bigness of Packthread were fastned by Hooks to many Bandages, which the Workmen had girt round my Neck, my Hands, my Body, and my Legs. Nine hundred of the strongest Men were employed to draw up these Cords by many Pulleys fastned on the Poles, and thus, in less than three Hours, I was raised and slung into the Engine, and there tyed fast. All this I was told, for while the whole Operation was performing, I lay in a profound sleep, by the force of that soporiferous Medicine infused into my Liquor. Fifteen Hundred of the Emperor's largest Horses, each about four Inches and an half high, were employed to draw me towards the Metropolis, which, as I said, was half a Mile distant.

ABOUT



ABOUT four Hours after we began our Journey, I awaked by a very ridiculous Accident; for the Carriage being stopt a while to adjust something that was out of order, two or three of the young Natives had the Curiosity to see how I looked when I was asleep; they climbed up into the Engine, and advancing very softly to my Face, one of them, an Officer in the Guards, put the sharp end of his half-pike a good way up into my left Nostril, which tickled my Nose like a Straw, and made me sneeze violently: Whereupon they stole off unperceived, and it was three Weeks before I knew the cause of my awaking so suddenly. We made a long March the remaining part of that Day, and rested at Night with five hundred Guards on each side of me, half with Torches, and half with Bows and Arrows, ready to shoot me if I should offer to stir. The next Morning at Sun-rise we continued our March, and arrived within two hundred yards of the



City-Gates about Noon. The Emperor, and all his Court came out to meet us, but his great Officers would by no means suffer his Majesty to endanger his Person by mounting on my Body.

At the Place where the Carriage stopp'd there stood an antient Temple, esteem'd to be the largest in the whole Kingdom which having been polluted some Year before by an unnatural Murder, was, according to the Zeal of those People looked on as prophane, and therefore had been applied to common use, and all the Ornaments and Furniture carried away. In this Edifice it was determin'd I should lodge. The great Gate fronting to the North was about four foot high, and almost two foot wide, through which could easily creep. On each side of the Gate was a small Window not above Inches from the Ground: into that on the left Side, the King's Smiths convey'd fourscore and eleven Chains, like those that hang to a Lady's Watch in Europe.



and almost as large, which were lock'd to my left Leg with six and thirty Padlocks. Over-against this Temple, on t'other side of the great Highway, at twenty foot distance, there was a Turret at least five foot high. Here the Emperor ascended with many principal Lords of his Court, to have an opportunity of viewing me, as I was told, for I could not see them. It was reckoned that above an hundred thousand Inhabitants came out of the Town upon the same Errand; and in spight of my Guards, I believe there could not be fewer than ten thousand, at several times, who mounted upon my Body by the help of Ladders. But a Proclamation was soon issued to forbid it upon pain of Death. When the Workmen found it was impossible for me to break loose, they cut all the Strings that bound me; whereupon I rose up with as melancholy a Disposition as ever I had in my Life. But the noise and astonishment of the People at seeing me rise and walk, are not to be expressed. The Chains that held my

C 2

left



left Leg were about two yards long, and gave me not only the liberty of walking backwards and forwards in a Semicircle, but being fixed within four inches of the Gate, allowed me to creep in, and lie at my full length in the Temple.



CHA