

der will find after we have done with the general account of Denmark.

The AIR, tho' very cold in Denmark is not so sharp as in some places of Germany, that are Situate much more South; which may be attributed to the Seas flowing about it, which (as in England) keeps the Air warm in Winter, and by gentle breezes makes it cooler in Summer. The SOIL, tho' in most places Barren and beset with Mountains and Woods hath been of late much improv'd by the Inhabitants, and yields the Husbandman Corn, Hay and Pasture, wherein vast Herds of Kine are fed, and an excellent Race of Horses bred. The Rivers of Denmark cannot be brag'd of; for according to Mr. *Moldsworth*, there is not one Navigable; the *Eyder* is the best, the *Elbe* being to be reckon'd only a Boundary and not in this Country: There are indeed some Lakes that afford good quantities of Fish. The Forests are abundantly stock'd with Venison of all sorts, as Stags, Elks, Wild-Boars, Hares, Conies, &c. and Wild Fowl in great plenty.

The extent of Denmark cannot be exactly set down, because of the disjunction of its parts, and intervention of the Sea. It was much larger before *Schonen*, *Bleeking* and *Haland*, were taken from it by the King of Sweden, to whom these were granted for ever, at the Treaty of *Roschild*, in 1658. which was again confirm'd in 1660. We have already spoken of the extent of *Gotland*, and the Islands will be particularly describ'd hereafter.

The Commodities of Denmark for Exportation are very few, Cattle is the chief, which they vend to the *Netherlands*: But Manufactories they have none.

The first INHABITANTS of Denmark were the *Cimbri* and *Teutones*, who were also call'd *Dani* and *Cedani*, from whom (as *Clewerius* says) the Country derives its name. This Kingdom is thought to have been establish'd long before the Birth of Christ, but for want of good Histories, it cannot be precisely determin'd when it began, how long each of its ancient Kings Reign'd, or what great Acts they did. According to Mr. *Dauisfred* the *Cimbri* Inhabited *Gotland* and the *Teutones* the Isles. It is uncertain from whence they came into that Country: but finding it at last (says he) too little for them, resolv'd to seek themselves a more convenient Seat: And about 110 years before Christ, joyning all in one Body, they march'd into Germany, and having travers'd all that Country divided themselves into two Bodies and took different courses. The *Teutones* and *Ambrones*, march'd into *Gaul*, and committed great Ravage there. The *Cimbri* march'd against the Roman Army, Commanded by M. *Junius Cyllanus*, and both in that and several other Engagements, worsted the Romans, till *Marius* happily put a stop to the Carrier of their Victory, by Routing the *Teutones*, and *Ambrones* at *Aix in Provence*, as he did the *Cimbri* afterwards at *Verceil*.

After the *Cimbri* and *Teutones* had left the North, (as this Author continues) the *Jute*, a People originally of Germany, took possession of their Country, and chose for their King *Danus*, the Son of *Hamblus* King of *Gotbia*, who Reign'd about the year of the World, 3909. And after his Family was extinct, *Hoker* the Son of *Attila*, King of Sweden Reign'd, whose Posterity fail'd in the Person of *Haldan* III. But the History of those times being very Imperfect and Fabulous, we shall trouble the Reader no more with them.

It is evident, (as *Puffendorf* observes) the Danes are not so Warlike now as they were formerly. The Nobility is turn'd Lazy, and the Commons have follow'd their Example.

The Danish LANGUAGE, is no other than a corrupted High-Dutch, being manifestly a Dialect of the Old Teutonic; and High-Dutch it self is much affected by the Gentry, and ordinarily spoken in *Copeniagen*, and other Trading Cities.

The Popish Religion had been predominant here, till the time of *Frederick I.* who introduc'd the *Augsburg* Confession into all the Churches of his Dominions, and made a League with the Protestant Princes of Germany; whose Son *Christian III.* continu'd the work, and establish'd the LUTHERAN, which has ever since been the only RELIGION profess'd here, except one French Calvinist Church at *Copenhagen*, and one Popish Chappel at *Gluckstadt*.

The form of GOVERNMENT in Denmark, is mightily alter'd from what it was; formerly the States had all the solid and substantial part of Government and Management of Affairs, and left the King nothing but the appearance of Royalty. He could neither make Peace nor War without them, nor lay any Taxes on the Subject but by their consent. They oblig'd him to Swear at his Coronation, that he would consent to his own degrading if without their allowance or consent, he but touch'd the Publick Treasure which was kept in *Cronenburg*, and refer'd for the extraordinary necessities of State: And besides this, they had the disposal of all Offices and vacant Fiels, which created them many Dependants and Creatures. But the Case is now quite otherwise, for in the year 1660. the Crown was made Hereditary, and the King absolute. This remarkable Revolution is particularly related by Mr. *Moldsworth*, who tells us, that upon the finishing the War between *Suden* and *Denmark*, a large debt remain'd on the Nation; wherefore the States were assembled, to consider of the Ways and Means for Paying that, and re-establishing the Publick Affairs: But a difference happening between the Nobility and the Commons, the former pretending themselves Priviledg'd from Taxes, and the latter having Fought well during the War, and been very much exhausted by it; and withal the Nobility having always exercised a sort of despotick Power over their Tenants, and now in this Assembly express'd great contempt of the Commons; they were so far provok'd, that breaking up from the Assembly, the Commons, together with the Clergy, (which compos'd the other Estate) assembled themselves in another place, and in few Hours resolv'd to make the King a Present of an absolute Power, and his Family the Succession to the Crown, (that was before this Elective) which they accordingly the next day put in execution; and tho' at first the Nobility hesitated on the matter, they also were fain to comply, and in three days time the alteration was compleated: And since that the King Governs in such manner as he thinks fit, without the contradiction of the Nobility or Senate.

For the administration of Justice, there are 4 Tribunals in Denmark. 1. The *Byfogler's* Court, in Cities and Towns. 2. *Heredsfogler's* Court, of the same nature in the Country; from both which lies an Appeal to the 3 *Landstog* or general Head Court of the Province; but the 4th and Supreme Court is the *HIGH-RECHT*, which is held at *Copenhagen*, and compos'd of the Principal Nobility of the Kingdom, and