

CONTENTS
OF
THE SECOND VOLUME.

INTRODUCTION Page i

A Chronological Historical Table (with Observations) of the Grand-Masters and of the Hospitaller Order of St. John of Jerusalem, from the Reign of Gerard to that of L'Isle Adam; together with the Dates of the principal Events which took place during their respective Masterships, many of which are erroneously stated in the different Histories of Malta hitherto published, though in other Respects those Histories may be extremely accurate xiii

BOOK I.

FROM THE FIRST ESTABLISHMENT OF THE ORDER IN MALTA, TO THE FOUNDATION
OF THE CITY LA VALETTA.

CHAPTER I.

The Order of St. John first established at Jerusalem; afterwards in the Island of Rhodes. Rhodes besieged by Solyman. The gallant Defence made by L'Isle Adam. Number of his Troops. One of the principal Dignitaries of the Order put to Death for Treason. Surrender of the Island. Depredations of the Turks, which were almost immediately stopped, and the Arms and Escutcheons belonging to the Knights preserved. Solyman visits the Grand-Master: their Conversation. The Knights embark, together with the Inhabitants, and take with them the Archives of the Order and the Relics. Their Fleet is forced, by a Tempest, to take Shelter in the Island of Cyprus; after which it arrives on the Coast of Naples, and anchors at Messina. The Pope issues a Bull to prevent the Knights quitting the Grand-Master. Trial of those Knights who had

CONTENTS.

absented themselves during the Siege. The noble Manner in which a Knight named Newport, the Captain of an English Ship, devoted himself to the Service of the Order. The Knights driven, by the Plague, from Messina. They repair to Civita Vecchia, and settle at Viterbo - - - - 1

CHAP. II.

The Grand-Master sets off for Rome: his Reception there. It is proposed to give up the Islands of Malta and Goza to the Order. Difficulties which occur. The Grand-Master conducts the Duchess of Alençon into Spain, and acts as Mediator between the Emperor Charles the Fifth and Francis the First King of France. L'Isle Adam's well-judged Answer to the Emperor. The Rights and Privileges of the Order are acknowledged in Portugal. The Grand-Master goes to England, where he is honourably received by Henry the Eighth, who likewise acknowledges the Privileges and Immunities of the Order. The King and Queen of England make rich Presents to the Grand-Master - - - - 9

CHAP. III.

The Report of the Commissioners concerning the Situation of Malta, Goza, and Tripoli in Africa. Grant of the Emperor to the Order. Voyage of the Knights to Malta; their Reception. Miserable Situation of Malta and its Dependencies. Improvements soon made by the Knights. Troubles in Malta. The Knights in Arms against each other. Exemplary Punishment executed on the Offenders. Henry VIII. abolishes the Order in his Dominions. Death of L'Isle Adam. The English Knights provided for most generously. Mary, Queen of England, restores their Property: of which they are afterwards forever deprived under the Reign of her Sister Elizabeth. The Language of England continues to be constantly respected by the Order - - - - 15

CHAP. IV.

Peter Dupont appointed Grand-Master. Expedition of Charles V. into Africa. Acts of Valour performed by the Knights; one of whom presents the Keys of Tunis to the Emperor. Didier de St. Jaille succeeds Peter Dupont. A Corsair, surnamed *Chasse-Diable* (Drive-Devil), is repulsed from before Tripoli. John d'Omedes Grand-Master. An unfortunate Expedition to Algiers. Services rendered by the Knights and their Navy. Memorable Action by two Maltese Gallies. Capture of Africa; in which the Knights had a principal

CONTENTS.

Share. Descent of the Turks on the Island of Malta. They present themselves before the Old-City. Their Re-embarkation. They seize upon Goza, owing to the Cowardice of the Governor. The Punishment he received - - - 31

CHAP. V.

The Siege of Tripoli. Insurrection of the Troops. The Capitulation violated. Remarkable Defence made by one of the Servants-of-Arms. The French Ambassador at the Porte redeems the Slaves. The Grand-Master endeavours, by underhand Contrivances, to ruin the Ambassador and the Governor of Tripoli. Villegagnon, a French Knight, undertakes to defend their Cause. The Ambassador leaves Malta. The Governor of Tripoli, together with three Spanish Knights, imprisoned and tried. Infamous Conduct of the Judge. Many Members of the Council courageously oppose the Execution of the Sentence. Henry II., King of France, demands that Justice shall be done to his Ambassador. The Grand-Master prevents the Vindication being sent to France. Villegagnon discovers that the Grand-Master has suborned the Judge; and attacks the former upon the Subject in full Council. The Grand-Master is obliged to sign the Ambassador's Vindication, and to commit it into the Hands of Villegagnon. New Fortifications erected at Malta. Fort St. Elmo. La Sangle elected Grand-Master. Honours paid him by the Viceroy of Sicily. The Grand-Master fortifies the Burgh; which takes the Name of City La Sangle. Dreadful Ravages occasioned in less than Half an Hour, by a Siphon or Water-spout. The extraordinary Accidents it occasioned. Dragut makes a Descent on Malta; but is obliged to re-embark his Troops - - - 42

CHAP. VI.

La Valette elected Grand-Master. A new Expedition to Africa. The Knights send thither Vessels and Troops. Exploits of the Maltese Galleys. The Order of St. Stephen created by Cosmo, Grand-Duke of Tuscany. Council of Trent. An Ambassador sent thither by the Order. The Bishops dispute Precedence with him. Decision in his Favour. The Attention paid to Demands made by the Order. The Reason given for such Conduct. The Fortifications of Velez in Africa, though till then judged impregnable, destroyed by the Maltese Squadron. The Galleys take a large and valuable Turkish Galleon, which induces Solyman to besiege Malta - - - 63

CONTENTS.

CHAP. VII.

The Grand-Master prepares to stand the Siege. Number of his Forces. His Harangue to the Knights. Awful Ceremony which succeeded. The Turkish Fleet is discovered. The Infidels land and attack Fort St. Elmo. Misunderstanding between the Garrison and the Grand-Master. La Valette displays great Firmness and Skill in reconciling the Parties. Different Attacks. All Communication cut off between Fort St. Elmo and the Convent. The besieged reduced to the last Extremity. Their glorious Defence. The Knights all perish. Atrocious Conduct of the Turkish General. La Valette orders Reprisals to be made - - - - - 70

CHAP. VIII.

The Grand-Master disappointed of the Supplies promised by the Viceroy of Sicily. He harangues the Knights and the Inhabitants. The Siege of the Burgh, and of Fort St. Michael. Proposals sent by the Bashaw. The Grand-Master gives Orders to have the Envoy hanged, but permits him to return unmolested. A Turkish Flotilla conveyed by Land. Attack made from the Side next the Sea. Wonderful Acts of Valour performed by the Viceroy of Algiers, and his Lieutenant, Candelissa. Repeated Assaults. La Valette's Nephew killed - - 89

CHAP. IX.

The Turkish General and Admiral having formed fresh Plans of Attack, storm the Fort on the 2d and 7th of August. Intrepid Courage displayed by the besieged. The Women distinguish themselves by Acts of Valour. A successful Sally made from the Old City. The Turks' Hospital surprised and ransacked. Bloody Assault on the 18th of August: the Burgh narrowly escapes being carried. The undaunted Firmness of La Valette, who exposes his own Life, notwithstanding the repeated Entreaties of the Knights. The Assault continues the Whole of the Night, but without Effect. New Attacks on the 19th. A huge Machine, filled with Gunpowder and Grape-Shot, thrown among the Knights; who throw it back again before it catches Fire. The Explosion occasions dreadful Mischief. The Grand-Master is wounded. Gallant Conduct and Death of the Governor of Bosnia. The Fort most obstinately attacked on the 21st and 23d. The Knights informed beforehand of the last Assault, by a Note thrown into the Place. The Council of the Order agree to abandon the

CONTENTS.

Burgh, and retire to the Castle St. Angelo. The Grand-Master opposes their Plan - - - - - 104

CHAP. X.

The last Assault is made on the 7th of September. The Bashaw, being apprehensive of a Famine, and a Scarcity of Ammunition, makes an unsuccessful Attempt on the Old City. The besieged receive Reinforcements. The Troops land, and the Turks immediately re-embark. The Bashaw gives Orders for them to return and land a second Time; when they are beaten by the newly-arrived Troops. The Raising of the Siege occasions universal Joy among the Christian Powers. La Valette receives Presents and Congratulations from different Princes. The Arsenal at Constantinople is burned by Order of the Grand-Master, who lays the Foundation of the City La Valetta. Ceremonies observed on the Occasion. Several Spanish Knights revolt. Their Trial and Escape. A Florentine murders his Wife, but escapes the Punishment due to his Crime. The Pope's vexatious and unjust Conduct towards the Order. Death of La Valette. Honours paid his Remains. Peter de Monte succeeds him as Grand-Master - - - - - 116

BOOK II.

FROM THE FOUNDATION OF THE CITY LA VALETTA, TO THE ELECTION OF THE GRAND-MASTER ROHAN, 1775.

CHAPTER I.

The City La Valetta completed by the Grand-Master, Peter de Monte, and made the Residence of the Order. Most of the Galleys destroyed. Battle of Lepanto. The celebrated Monastery of the Hospitaller Nuns of Sixena, in the Kingdom of Arragon, return to their Obedience under the Order of St. John. Origin of that Monastery. De La Cassiere Grand-Master—His Character. Disturbances fomented by the Inquisitors. Patents granted. Pretensions of the Bishops of Malta. The Officers of the Holy Brotherhood accused of having attempted to murder the Grand-Master. Misunderstanding between Malta and the Republic of Venice. The Knights begin to make Complaints against the Grand-Master. Spanish Knights punished - - - - - 133

CONTENTS.

CHAP. II.

Insurrection of the Knights against the Grand-Master. The Spanish Knights discovered to be the Promoters of the Rebellion. Romegas at the Head of the Insurgents—His Character. Atrocious Conduct of the Prior of the Church. The Viceroy of Sicily interferes in the intestine Divisions of the Convent. The Knights assemble, depose the Grand-Master, and appoint Romegas Lieutenant of the Mastership. Imprisonment of the Grand-Master—Charges brought against him—He refuses the friendly Offers made him by the General of the Galleys. The Rebels send Ambassadors to Rome; whither the Grand-Master contrives to transmit a Letter. The King of France insists that the Affair shall be brought before the Pope. La Cassiere refuses to accept his Liberty till he shall be made acquainted with the Pope's Decision - - 143

CHAP. III.

The Pope's Nuncio arrives in Malta. Departure of the Grand-Master and Romegas for Rome. The Nuncio obliges the Spanish Galleys and Troops to withdraw from Malta. Honours paid the Grand-Master during his Journey to Rome—His triumphant Entry into that City; and his Reception by Cardinal D'Est. The Grand-Master has an Audience of the Pope. The Manner in which the French Ambassador conducts himself on the Occasion. Behaviour of Romegas and his Adherents; one of whom the Cardinal de Montalto addresses in the severest Terms. Romegas, a Prey to Remorse, dies of a Fever. La Cassiere prepares to return to Malta—Is taken ill, and dies—His Obsequies. De Verdale elected to the Grand-Mastership—His Character. The French Ambassador insists that the Memory of La Cassiere shall be publicly vindicated. An Assembly called on the Occasion, in which he is pronounced innocent. The Pope grants Permission to the Grand-Master to name to the Office of Turcopolier. A Misunderstanding takes Place between Venice and Malta. The Knights excluded from filling the Posts of Bishop of Malta and Grand-Prior of St. John's Church. Disturbances in the Convent. A General Chapter held. De Verdale's first Journey to Rome. He is made Cardinal. He returns to Malta, and goes a second Time to Rome. His Death - - - 151

CHAP. IV.

Garzez Grand-Master—His short Reign. Vignacourt succeeds him. The Galleys of the Order are sent at different Times on Expeditions to the Levant.

CONTENTS.

The Turks make a Descent on Malta. The Inquisitors and Bishops raise great Disturbances in the Island. A General Chapter held. The Knights of the German Language refuse to admit a natural Son of the Royal Family of Lorraine into the Order. A magnificent Aqueduct and Fortifications made by Vignacourt—His Death. Vasconcellos named to the Grand-Mastership, which he enjoys only six Months. Anthony de Paule elected. Two Knights severely punished; the one for Murder, and the other for embezzling Public Money. Accusation and Justification of the Grand-Master. Favours very unjustly conferred by the Pope. Discontent among the Italian Knights. The Pope makes fresh Claims. Another General Chapter convened. Chief Articles debated in the Assembly. Misfortunes and Successes of the Maltese Galleys. Complaints made by the Venetians: energetical Answer sent by the Grand-Master. Enumeration of the Inhabitants of Malta and Goza - - - 164

CHAP. V.

Lascaris Grand-Master. Famine in Malta. War between France and Spain. Malta finds great Difficulty in preserving its Neutrality. The Maltese Batteries fire on a French Ship. Consequences which ensue. The Grand-Seignor declares War against the Order. Defensive Preparations. Count D'Arpajon's Conduct, together with that of some other Noblemen. The Order rewards their Services by Grants to their Families. Siege of Candia. Malta sends constant Reinforcements to the besieged. Junction of the Maltese Galleys with the Venetian Fleet. The Pope and Inquisitor make fresh Pretensions. The Order engaged in a War which took Place between Christian Powers. The Jesuits driven out of the Island by the younger Knights. New Fortifications erected. Acquisition of St. Christopher and other American Islands, which are afterwards sold by the Order. Disputes concerning Precedence at the Court of Spain between the Maltese and Tuscan Ambassadors; and likewise relative to the Order of Salute between Malta and the Republic of Genoa - - 180

CHAP. VI.

The Inquisitor endeavours in vain to prevent the Election of Redin. Towers built for the Defence of the Island. Short Duration of the Mastership of Clermont. Raphael and Nicholas Cotoner successively elected; their Characters. The Galleys of the Order sail with the French Squadron to the Coast of Africa. Gallant Actions performed by the Chevaliers Crainville, Tremicourt, and Hocquincourt. Tremicourt's noble Conduct and glorious Death. The Republic

CONTENTS.

of Venice grants peculiar Privileges to the Knights. Surrender of Candia.
New Fortifications erected. The Plague makes dreadful Ravages in
Malta - - - - - 195

CHAP. VII.

Caraffa, an Italian, elected to the Grand-Mastership. League formed by the
Christian Powers, and by Malta, against the Turks. The Maltese Squadrons
go on different Expeditions. Capture of Old Navarino, and of Napoli di
Romania. Generosity of the Grand-Master Vignacourt. Earthquake at Au-
gusta. The Order sends Relief to the Inhabitants of that Place. The Dis-
putes between Malta and Genoa settled through the Mediation of the Pope,
who likewise puts an End to those occasioned by the Ecclesiastical Jurisdiction,
in the Reign of Perellos. Statue erected in Honour of the Pope. The Sul-
tana Bingham taken by the Galleys. A Squadron of first-rate Men-of-war
re-established in Malta; its successful Expedition to Orem and the Coasts of
Spain. Remarkable Conduct of the Commander De Langon; his Death. The
Knights summoned to Malta. Reforms which take Place. Zondodary ap-
pointed Grand-Master - - - - - 208

CHAP. VIII.

Villena Grand-Master. New Fortifications built. Construction of Fort Manuel,
since named the Floriana. Expedition of the Turks against Malta. Nego-
tiations with the Porte. A Treaty nearly concluded with the latter. Presents
made by the Pope to the Order. Despuig succeeds Villena. His short
Reign - - - - - 230

CHAP. IX.

Pinto elected Grand-Master, and on the Point of being made King of Corsica. A
Conspiracy formed by the Slaves. A Bashaw of Rhodes concerned in the Plot,
which was very nearly carried into Execution. The Manner in which it was
discovered. Some of the Criminals receive Punishment - - - - - 238

CHAP. X.

The Christian Slaves on Board a Sultana revolt, and carry the Vessel to Malta.
The Court of France purchases it, and restores it to the Grand-Seignor. The
French Squadron joins that of the Order. Ximenes Grand-Master. A Con-
spiracy formed by the Priests. Capture of St. Elmo. The Rebellion soon
quelled. Remarkable Conduct of the Bailiff de Rohan. Death of Ximenes 252