

“to go to the Captain to ask him to touch at the first land sighted. . . . The captain therefore summoned some of the chief persons on the vessel and the officers and laid before them what had been requested of him, and he read them the orders that the Viceroy had given, so that they might say what they thought. . . . It was the unanimous opinion that, seeing the great straits of the ship, the order should not be executed, but land made and so they agreed and decided to make the island of Terceira, because of it being well provided with everything needed. So they made straight for it, and on 24th August, S. Bartholomew’s day, in the morning the island of Flores was sighted and was the first land we saw since the Cape of Good Hope. This is the first island out of sixty in the Azores, as they are called. On the morning of the following Saturday three sail of the enemy were sighted, and the crew prepared to fight and all the guns and arms got ready . . . and we found they were Moors with some Flemings and French mixed. They also set themselves in array to fight. They attacked the ship twice with great energy and courage, but it availed them little and they did no damage to our ship, nor to anyone: while they received great hurt, because some of them were killed and one of their ships was badly mauled and according to what we could see would probably go to the bottom, because it remained far astern. . . . Afterwards we struck a very fair wind, and entered a channel which has on either hand the islands of S. George and Graciosa, there being only 4 or 5 leagues distance between them.”

After a description how they got in touch with the shore at Terceira:

“. . . We learnt that the senior ship, which had left Goa alone more than 20 days before us, had been for 40 days there waiting for the fleet from Portugal, because news had been received from the king that, on account of the insecurity of the route with so many enemies about, we should await the Fleet, which would come out from Lisbon. . . . On Sunday, 3.9.1617, we left with the senior ship. On the 4th the wind changed . . . so that we could not make latitude 40, where the Portuguese fleet was waiting to accompany us to Lisbon and defend us from any enemy there might be. The wind increased so that it took us almost to the latitude of Cape S. Vincent and very near it. . . . We reached land, 25.9.1617, . . . and excellent pilots came out. At 10 o’clock at night the ships entered” (i.e. the Tagus) “not without risk. . . . The captain fired a rocket, at which many boats came out bringing large sums of money to pay the king’s dues: some persons versed in this said that the dues on the two ships would reach a total of about 200,000 scudi. . . . On 27.9.1617 . . . the galleys from Lisbon came to help to take the ships up the river . . . arriving at Lisbon on 28.9.1617, the vigil of S. Michael, without meeting any disaster on so lengthy a voyage which, on account of the little winds we had, lasted 7 months 25 days. . . .”

From Lisbon Fr. Redempt went to Madrid to discover in advance whether Sir R. Sherley would on this occasion be given due recognition at the Court of Spain as the accredited ambassador of 'Abbas I, and not slighted and ignored as in 1610. In the Vatican archives no papers on the subject of his reception and negotiations in Madrid, or of his subsequent wanderings in Europe after 1619 have come to the notice of the compiler of the present work. The reverend author of *En Persia* (vol. III, p. 33) does however hint at the Spanish Court preferring to treat with Fr. Redempt rather than with the Englishman, and at the replies to the proposals or claims of the Shah being entrusted to the Carmelite to take back to Persia.¹

From Madrid, presumably—as there is no indication of his having been in Rome to present it personally—Fr. Redempt in 1618 or early 1619 had forwarded to Rome the letter from

¹ The same author, in his *La Orden de Sta Teresa . . . y las Misiones Carmelitanas*, p. 172 (followed by the compiler of *Series Illustrata Professorum*, etc., Fasc. I, p. 48), makes Fr. Redempt author of *Memoranda* of his embassies in Persia and in Spain, MSS. of 1616. If other than the account of the sea-voyage quoted above—which stops short in Lisbon—the present compiler has not noticed the portion regarding negotiations in Spain in the Archives, O.C.D.