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**COASTS**

OF THE

**MEDITERRANEAN SEA.**

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**PART I.**

LIBRARY OF  
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S. AND SE. COASTS OF SPAIN, FROM MALA BAHIA TO CAPE CREUX,

BALEARIC ISLANDS,

AND

N. COAST OF AFRICA FROM CEUTA TO LA CALA.

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TRANSLATED AND COMPILED BY  
Lieutenant-Commander **HENRY H. GORRINGE,**  
UNITED STATES NAVY.

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WASHINGTON:  
GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE.  
1875.

It is built in the form of an amphitheater, and entirely surrounded by an ancient Moorish wall so well preserved as to have been serviceable for defensive purposes during the insurrection of 1870. The sea-gate, also of Moorish origin, is well preserved. Some of the ruins of the ancient Roman port of Saldæ are still to be seen outside of the walls. Bougie occupies the same site as this town. The adjacent country is covered with verdure, and appears to be fertile. The Kabyles, who inhabit the plain extending to the Atlas mountains, are good farmers. Bougie being the natural outlet of this plain, and having the advantage over all other Algerian ports in being the most secure and nearest to Marseilles, will doubtless become of great commercial importance as soon as land-transportation is improved.

Imports, exports, &c.

\* The chief imports in 1873 were: wines, 126,154 gallons; earthen-ware, 317,467 lbs.; hardware, \$33,700 in value; manufactured iron, brass, and steel, 205,374 lbs. The chief exports were: leaf-tobacco, 41,716,213 lbs.; dried-fruit, 310,798 lbs.; cork-bark, 279,796 lbs.; tan-bark, 153,780 lbs. A great variety of other articles were exported. The total value of the exports and imports was \$1,140,000, of which \$855,000 were exported. The tonnage of the port under the French flag for the year 1875 was 77,318 tons, which is about 70 per cent. of the whole. The population of Bougie, as given by various authorities, ranges from 240 to 6,000. The actual population probably exceeds 10,000, as the port is fourth in importance in the colony of Algeria.

Gulf of Bougie.

Cape Cavallo lies 22½ miles N. 89° E. of cape Carbon. The coast between recedes about 8 miles, forming Bougie gulf. The western shore is formed by three low, sandy beaches separated by rocky points; in the eastern end, cliffs and irregular bends with short stretches of sand-beach predominate. The gulf is clear of dangers and very deep; the bottom is sand and mud with occasional patches of rock. One of these with only 3 fathoms over it lies three-quarters of a mile W. of the extremity of cape Cavallo.

Mansouria islet.

\* Mansouria islet, 18 miles E. by S. ½ S. of cape Carbon, is formed by two mounds, the northern 115 to 130 feet, the southern about 66 feet in height. It lies about 220 yards

\* Mission de l'avisio le Kléber.

from the main-land, with which it is connected by a line of rocks awash which show a breaker. These rocks formerly served as the base of a causeway connecting the islet with the adjacent plateau, on which stood the ancient Roman colony of Choba. Traces of numerous villas still remain; but the only inhabitants at present are Arabs occupying a little village almost concealed by the trees, and surrounded by rich vegetation.

\*A few blocks of stone placed on the line of rocks above mentioned would reconstruct the port at an inconsiderable expense. Even in its present condition the coral-fishers seek shelter here from northerly gales. The site is admirably adapted to a maritime village; fish abound in the adjacent waters, and the neighboring plains and valleys are very fertile. The proximity of Bougie and Jigelli, where the steam-packets touch, would enable the fishermen and farmers to ship their goods direct to profitable markets.

Remarks.

\* The coast is bordered with a chain of mountains the summits of which were covered with snow, (May, 1874.) Between Bougie and Mansouria is the remarkable mount Babor, an offshoot from the Lesser Atlas chain, which rises to a peak in the form of a hexagonal pyramid. Farther on is mount Cavallo, near to which there is a mine of argentiferous lead, recently discovered, yielding about \$95 to the ton of ore.

Mount Babor.

**Cape Cavallo** slopes rapidly down from an elevation 1,935 feet in height. One mile to the westward and half a mile off shore there is a rock 65 feet out of water. Three-quarters of a mile eastward of the cape is **Zert el Heile**, a high islet about a quarter of a mile in extent. Two miles eastward of Cavallo there is another point, not quite so high, and between them a sandy beach, interrupted in four places by rocky cliffs. A low islet lies off the point. The soundings in the bay are very irregular, varying from 12 to 3 fathoms, with sand predominating in the middle and rock in the vicinity of the islets. Shoal ground surrounds the islet and extends two-thirds of a mile W. by N. from the point.

Cape Cavallo

**Afia point** is  $1\frac{5}{8}$  miles farther eastward; the shore between forms two small bays, separated by a salient point which bends to the northward. The western bay has an opening of  $1\frac{3}{4}$  miles, the eastern less than half a mile. The latter has a depth of 2 to 4 fathoms, with good protection

Afia point.

\* Mission de l'avisio le Kléber.

for small craft from westerly winds. Afa point makes out half a mile and terminates in steep cliffs a quarter of a mile in extent. It is fronted by detached rocks some of which are apparent when passing close to the coast. The Mes Ritan is a conical mountain which rises in rugged ridges to an elevation of 1,293 feet  $1\frac{1}{2}$  miles SE. of the cape.

Light: Lat.  
36° 49' 12" N.  
long. 5° 42' 45" E.

On the western extremity of Afa point there is a stone tower, which exhibits, from an elevation of 138 feet above sea-level, a *fixed bright* light varied with a *bright flash*, at intervals of *four* seconds, visible 19 miles.

Salamander  
shoal and Ka-  
byles bank.

Two miles NW. by N. of this light there is a shoal of very small extent with only 13 feet over it. And  $3\frac{1}{2}$  miles NW.  $\frac{1}{4}$  W. from the light is the center of a bank less than half a mile in extent, with not less than 6 fathoms over the shoalest spot, which is rocky. The former is named Salamander, the latter Kabyles. From the southern edge of Salamander, Jigelli light is just open of the land, bearing E. by S. a little southerly; and this bearing prolonged passes through two conical peaks to the eastward; the first, named El Condiat, is 377 feet in height and two-thirds of a mile inland; the other is  $3\frac{1}{2}$  miles inland and 3,153 feet in height, but this range is of little service. During bad weather the sea is dangerous over the Kabyles and breaks on the Salamander. Both are steep-to with 35 fathoms within half a mile, and in the space separating them, which is 1 mile in width; and from 20 to 35 fathoms inside the Salamander. Passing vessels should keep not less than 6 miles from the land or steer so as to pass within  $1\frac{1}{4}$  miles of Afa point in order to clear these shoals. The steamers invariably pass inside during ordinary and fine weather. When the wind is fresh from the northward the current inclines toward the land and increases in strength.

Jigelli bay.

The coast for 4 miles E. of Afa point is rugged and very irregular, the salient parts being fringed with rocks and foul ground. Jigelli or Djidgelli bay is formed by a small peninsula extending to NE.; from the eastern point a line of rocks surrounded by reefs extends  $5\frac{1}{2}$  cables to E., and on this line a breakwater is in course of construction, if not already completed. There are two anchorages, but both are insecure, especially during the winter season, as the bottom is rocky and a heavy swell sets in during fresh winds from the NW. round by N. to ESE.