

form in the very middle of the Saracen community.¹ One of these we ordered to be called Johannina, and the other Antonina.

We quitted Zayton on St. Stephen's day, and on the Wednesday of Holy Week we arrived at Columbum. Wishing then to visit the shrine of St. Thomas the Apostle, and to sail thence to the Holy Land,² we embarked on board certain junks, from Lower India³ which is called Minubar.⁴ We encountered so many storms, commencing from St. George's Eve, and were so dashed about by them, that sixty times and more we were all but swamped in the depths of the sea, and it was only by divine miracle that we escaped. And such wondrous things we beheld! The sea as if in flames, and fire-spitting dragons flying by,⁵ and as they passed they slew persons on board the other junks, whilst ours remained un-

show that the *Ecclesia, Balneum, Fundacum*, and *Depositorium* ran naturally together. It was also the Mahomedan practice to attach a caravanserai (*i.e.* a *fondaco*) to convents of Kalandars or Darweshes (see *Erskine's Baber*, p. 215).

¹ He has evident glee in mentioning the setting up of the bells in the middle of the Mahomedan quarter of Zayton; the Mahomedans holding bells in abomination and not allowing them under their rule. Ibn Batuta's account of his terror and dismay, when he first heard bells jangling on all sides of him at Caffa, is amusing (ii, 357).

² Meinert suggests that *Terram Sanctam* here is a clerical error for *Terram Sabam*. This is probable, for the first is hardly intelligible.

³ "*Ascendentes Junkos.*" This is perhaps the oldest item in the Franco-Indian vocabulary. It occurs also in Odoric (see *ante*, p. 73). The Catalan Map gives a drawing and description of these ships called *Inchi* (probably for *Iūchi*) with their bamboo sails. Quoth Dobner: "Vocem hanc in nullo glossariorum Medii Ævi reperio. Verosimillime navigia e juncis texta intelliguntur, quorum usum Indis esse plures affirmant," etc. (p. 96). It is more singular that the same mistake should have been made by Amerigo Vespucci in his curious letter to one of the Medici giving an account of the voyage of De Gama, whose party he had met at Cape Verde on their return from India. (See *Baldello Boni, Il Milione*, p. lviii.)

⁴ This correct reading is from Venice MS., Dobner having *Nimbar*. See note on Minibar at p. 74.

⁵ This is very like Fahian's account of a storm in the same sea, only the Chinese friar's is the more sober (*Fo-koue-ki*, ch. xl).