

JOURNAL 306832
DES VOYAGES,
DÉCOUVERTES
ET NAVIGATIONS MODERNES;
OU
ARCHIVES GÉOGRAPHIQUES
DU XIX^e SIÈCLE.

PAR J.-T. VERNEUR,

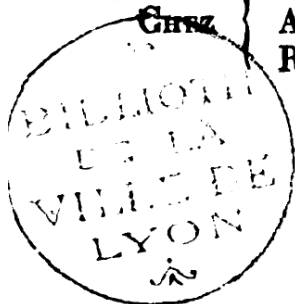
**CHEF DE BUREAU A LA PRÉFECTURE DE LA SEINE, L'UN DES
RÉDACTEURS DU MONITEUR, MEMBRE DE LA COMMISSION
CENTRALE DE LA SOCIÉTÉ DE GÉOGRAPHIE, DE LA SOCIÉTÉ
ROYALE ACADÉMIQUE DES SCIENCES DE PARIS, DE CELLE
D'ÉMULATION DU HAUT-RHIN, ETC.**

TOME VINGTIÈME.

A PARIS,

**COLNET, LIBRAIRE, QUAI MALAQUAI, N^o 9;
ARTHUS-BERTRAND, LIBRAIRE, RUE HAUTEFEUILLE.
RORET, LIBRAIRE, RUE DU BATTOIR, N^o 1.**

1823.



The coast between Cape Vada Sfakus and is of considerable height and, with the Kerkenna islands, forms a channel which seems quite large, but is actually very narrow, because of the many reefs which are dotted in all directions. A tide which moves at two and half miles (*milles*) per hour down to about five feet, helps to make it even more dangerous. The sea is high in this channel, during the syzygies, at 3:30 in the afternoon.

The four Kerkenna islands are very low, eight or nine miles east of Sfakus. The furthest [56] west is named Zara Lakalia and is in nearly fourteen miles in circumference, and its tower is at a latitude of $34^{\circ} 39' 30''$ and a longitude of $10^{\circ} 57'$. The central island is in a bizarre form: it populated by seven villages in its western part, and three in the east called Shraga. The other two islands are uninhabited; that to the east is called Kousha and is at a latitude of $34^{\circ} 48' 50''$ and longitude of $11^{\circ} 19'$.

The inhabitants of these islands have the a pale complexion and appear quite miserable look , their main food consists of dates and fish. The former are found in large quantities in all these islands which are covered with palm trees. As for fish, they catch them in a type of net made from canes, which they extend between the rocks.

Sfakus [Sfax] is a large and beautiful city, surrounded by very high walls, in a very fertile region (1). It is claimed that it takes its name from the large amount of sfakous or cucumbers cultivated in the surrounding area. It has a large trade in grain, oil, wool, soap, dates, cucumbers and so on. It has an excellent anchorage for vessels. [57] The head of the mole is at a latitude of $54^{\circ} 45' 56''$ and $10^{\circ} 59' 50''$ of longitude.

Beyond Sfakus, to the south, as far as Niktah, Mahara [Mahares] and Ungha, the land rises significantly to a mountain called Jibbel-Telth. The coast presents nothing particular to see until the Zourkennis [Kneiss] islands, most of which are at $54^{\circ} 20' 05''$ latitude and $10^{\circ} 07' 55''$ of longitude. Ruins in the south of this island are $54^{\circ} 17' 15''$ latitude and $10^{\circ} 06'$ longitude.

The coast between these islands and Kabes [Gabes], and from there to Jerbi, is crowned by the mountains of Tafalamah, Jibbel, Lecal and Jibbel-Tasharra, which surprised me a little because I expected to find the flat beach of the Tritonis; I was even more surprised to find all this coast very sound and we could freely approach with the lead, having seven of eight brasses (fathoms) of water until three-quarters of a mile offshore, except around the Zourkennis islands and on the northwest coast of Jerba, where the water is shallower.

Retrieved on November 17, 2011 from <http://books.google.com/books?id=K0TxOpacJ1sC>

Journal Des Voyages
Découvertes
et navigations Modernes;
ou
Archives Géographiques
du XIX^e Siècle

Par J.-T. Verneur,

Tome Vingtième

A Paris

1823