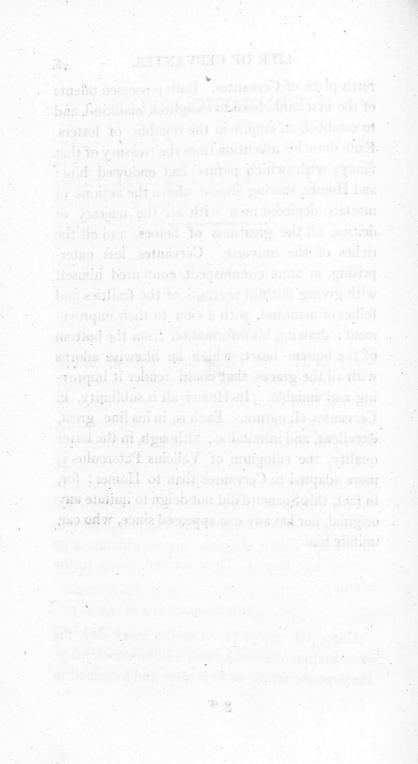
LIFE OF CERVANTES.

with an expectation of finding a perfect work, he will be disappointed. It contains many faults, though none of material consequence; and most of them are the faults of the age, in which Cervantes wrote. What is most prominent is the great want of exactness both as to time and geography; and this, probably, arose rather from haste and inattention than from ignorance. These will be more fully noticed in the chronological plan, which is added to this. The human mind is incapable of attaining perfection; and even the pride of our nation, the immortal Shakespear, was not free from faults, which perhaps only serve as foils, and add a greater lustre to his beauties. Let us then be equally candid in our judgment of his contemporary, who may not unjustly, for originality of invention, and greatness and utility of design, be compared with the Father of Poetry. It is indeed singular, that many of the personal circumstances, which history has preserved relating to Homer, bear a marked correspondence with those, that are known of Cervantes. Both were but little esteemed by their country, were poor and neglected during their lives, though they were afterwards the objects of the admiration and applause of the learned, in all ages, countries, and nations. Seven powerful cities disputed the honour of having been the cradle of Homer, and six towns of Spain have endeavoured to obtain a right to the title of the

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birth-place of Cervantes." Both possessed talents of the first rank, born to enlighten mankind, and to establish an empire in the republic of letters. Each drew his invention from the treasury of that fancy, with which nature had endowed him : and Homer, soaring almost above the actions of mortals, depicted men with all the majesty of deities, all the greatness of heroes, and all the riches of the universe. Cervantes, less enterprising, or more circumspect, contented himself with giving faithful portraits of the frailties and follies of mankind, with a view to their improvement: drawing his information from the bottom of the human heart, which he likewise adorns with all the graces, that could render it improving and amiable. In Homer all is sublimity, in Cervantes all nature. Each is, in his line, great, excellent, and inimitable; although, in the latter quality, the eulogium of Velleius Paterculus is more adapted to Cervantes than to Homer: for, in fact, this Spaniard did not deign to imitate any original, nor has any one appeared since, who can imitate him

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CHRONOLOGICAL PLAN

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DON QUIXOTE.

PART I.

FIRST SALLY.

CHAPTER II. and III. Don Quixote sallied forth early on one of the hottest mornings of July into the field of Montiel. Having travelled the whole day, he arrived towards evening at an inn, where he received the order of Knighthood.

Chap. IV. and V. He left this inn early the next morning, as an armed Knight; and met with the merchants of Toledo, who left him stretched on the ground thoroughly beaten, where he was found by Pedro Alonzo, his neighbour, who carried him home. They arrived there in the evening.

SECOND SALLY. AN STOXICO MOCT

Chap. VI. and VII. On the next day the examination of Don Quixote's library took place. He slept the whole of that day, and remained in

CHRONOLOGICAL PLAN

his bed two more. At the expiration of this period he got up, but remained quiet in his house fifteen days. During this time he solicited Sancho Panza to serve him as squire; and they sallied forth together one night over the same field of Montiel, and by the same road, which Don Quixote had before taken.—According to this reckoning there were twenty days between the first and second sally.

Chap. VIII. On the twenty-first day the adventure of the windmills happened; after which they followed the road to the pass of Lapice. That night was passed in a little wood; and on the twenty-second day, at three in the afternoon, they discovered the pass, where the adventure of the Benedictine monks, and of the Biscainer, happened.

Chap. IX. to XII. In this the battle with the Biscainer ended; and Sancho and his master retired into a wood. Don Quixote dressed his wounded ear; they ate a late and hasty meal; and not having time to reach the town, they remained in the hut of some goatherds, who related to Don Quixote the story of Chrysostom.

Chap. XIII. to XV. On the twenty-third day Don Quixote left the hut of the goatherds, and went to the place of the interment of Chrysostom, at whose burial he was present. This being finished, he went, accompanied by Sancho, to seek

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the shepherdess Marcella in the mountain, where she had hidden herself. Having wandered about it for more than two hours without finding her, they came to a field, where they alighted from their horses, intending to take their afternoon nap, or *siesta*; they were, however, prevented by the unfortunate adventure of the Yangueses, or carriers. After this they arrived in the evening at the famous enchanted inn, which Don Quixote imagined to be a castle.

Chap. XVI. to XXI. They passed that night in the inn, where occurred the adventure of the muleteer and Maritornes, the affair of the holy Brotherhood and the balsam of Fierabras. The next day, which was the twenty-fourth, Sancho was tossed in a blanket in the same inn. Soon after they left it Don Quixote fought with the two flocks of sheep, and in the evening of the same day the adventure of the funeral, and of the fulling-mills, took place, the latter of which was not concluded till early the next morning, namely, the twenty-fifth ; and in that he obtained the helmet of Mambrino,

Chap. XXII. and XXIII. In the same day Don Quixote liberated the galley-slaves; and after this adventure he and Sancho entered the Sierra Morena, or Sable Mountain, where they passed the night. The following day, they found the portmanteau, and met Cardenio on the same mountain.

CHRONOLOGICAL PLAN

Chap. XXIV. to XXXII. On the twentysixth, after the quarrel with Cardenio, Don Quixote determined to remain and do penance, while he sent Sancho with the letter to Dulcinea, and the order for delivering the three ass-colts. This order was dated on the 22d of August in that year. Hence it may be inferred, as this was the twenty-sixth day since Don Quixote's first sally, that he first left his house on the 28th of July. On the following day, namely, the 23d of August, and the twenty-seventh of the action, at midday, Sancho arrived at the inn, where he met the Curate and the Barber, who made him turn back to seek his master. The next day, about three in the afternoon, the Curate, Sancho, and the Barber, arrived at the entrance into that chain of mountains, called the Sierra Morena. Sancho proceeded to discover the place, where he had left the Knight performing penance, and the Curate and Barber remained behind, waiting for him. In the mean time they met with Cardenio and Dorothea, who related their long history, By the time this was concluded, Sancho returned, and said, that his master did not choose to leave the place where he was; which obliged them all to go to him, and having gone about three quartersof a league, between two rocks they discovered Don Quixote, who, having heard the entreaties of Dorothea, set off with the whole company to a small fountain, where they alighted. All

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this took place the same evening: and Cervantes, forgetting this, says, that they ate at this fountain, and after their meal resumed their journey. He also makes the Curate say, that from the foot of the mountain to the inn was two leagues, which by no means agrees with their being on the road all that evening and the whole of the following morning, the 25th of August and twenty-ninth day of the action, when they arrived at the inn; and the Curate and Barber having taken the same time to go with Sancho from the inn to the entrance of the mountain, it must consequently have been more than two leagues.

Chap. XXXIII. to XLIII. On the same day Lucinda and Don Fernando arrived at the inn, by which the episode of Cardenio and Dorothea was brought to a fortunate issue. After this the Captive and Zoraida arrived; then came the Judge, who was the Captive's brother, with his daughter Donna Clara.

Chap. XLIV. to XLVII. On the 26th of August, and the thirtieth day of the action, the servants of Don Louis, who followed Donna Clara, under the disguise of a muleteer, arrived at the inn. Then follows the history of Don Louis and the servants, the quarrel between Sancho and the Barber about the saddle, that of the holy Brotherhood with Don Quixote, of the latter with Sancho, because he spoke ill of the Princess Micomicona. On the following morning the pretended enchantment of Don Quixote took place, and his departure from the inn in the cart drawn by oxen.

Chap. XLVIII. to LII. During their first day's journey Don Quixote and his party were met by the Canon of Toledo, with whom he had several conversations. To this succeeded the arrival of the goatherd and the adventure of the disciplinants. This being finished, Don Quixote, with the Curate and Barber, set out on the road to their village. On the middle of the sixth day, which was on a Sunday, they entered it: that is, according to this reckoning, on the thirty-seventh of the action, and the 2d of September.

SUMMARY.

Days. Don Quixote sallies forth on the 28th of July. and returns to his house on the 29th He remains at home eighteen days, that is, till the 16th of August 18 Sallies forth a second time with Sancho, and employs seventeen days, when he returns on the 2d of September 17.

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OF DON QUIXOTE.

PART II. VOL. III.

THIRD SALLY.

Chap. I. to VII. Don Quixote remained quiet in his house about a month. This brings the time, when Don Quixote and Sancho again sallied forth, to the 3d of October. It was on the evening of that day, when he took the road towards Toboso.

Chap. VIII. They passed that night and the following day on their journey without meeting with any adventure. On the 5th they remained till near midnight among some oaks on the side of a mountain near Toboso, which they then entered.

Chap. IX. to XI. The enchantment of Dulcinea took place on the 6th, after which they journeyed towards Saragossa. On the close of this day they met the players, who said they had performed the piece called "The Cortes," or *Parliament of Death*, that morning, which was the octave of Corpus Christi. Cervantes is here guilty of an error in chronology, by making the octave of Corpus Christi happen in October. He is equally wrong in his geography, by saying that Don Quixote and Sancho, after leaving Toboso, took the road to Saragossa; because every adventure, that happened to Don Quixote after this, till he arrived at the lakes of Ruydera, took place on the south of Toboso, while Saragossa is in quite a contrary direction, as will be seen in the Itinerary marked on the map from No. 17 to 22. This error is repeated also in Chap. XIV. of this part.

Chap. XII. to XIV. In the evening of the 6th of October the Knight of the Mirrors arrived, when the two Knights and their squires conversed together. Don Quixote related to the Knight, that Dulcinea had two days before been transformed by enchanters to a country wench. On the morning of the 7th Don Quixote conquered the Knight of the Mirrors. He then with Sancho proceeded on his journey to Saragossa.

Chap. XV. to XIX. He met Don Diego de Miranda on the same day, and soon after the adventure with the lions took place; after which they went to Don Diego's house, where Don Quixote and Sancho remained four days. This brings it to the middle of the 11th of October, and on that evening they arrived at the village of Camacho.

Chap. XX. to XXIII. On the 12th of October they were at the wedding of Camacho, and remained with Basilius and Quiteria till the 15th. On the 16th Don Quixote, with Sancho and the cousin of the student, set off for the cave of Montesinos, where they arrived on the 17th, at two in the afternoon. They immediately let

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OF DON QUIXOTE.

down Don Quixote into the cave, who, when he came out, related what he saw there.

Chap. XXIV. to XXVIII. From hence they returned to the road, where they met the boy with the halberds, and the page, who was going to enlist as a soldier: and at night they arrived at the inn, where the adventure of the puppet-show happened. The next morning the Knight and his squire left the inn, and pursued their journey for two days without any remarkable occurrence; when on the 20th of October they arrived at the village of Bray, where the adventure took place, in which Sancho was thrashed and Don Quixote stoned. Sancho thought this a sufficient inducement to leave his master, and the latter settled the account of his wages with him on that day ; saying, that it was twenty-five days since they left their village. Now this is an error ; because, having left it on the 3d of October, it was only seventcen days. Don Quixote also says, that two months had hardly passed in their different sallies. This is true; thirty-six being only the number of days; the remainder having been spent in his house.

Chap. XXIX. Two days after, that is, on the 22d of October, Don Quixote arrived at the Ebro, where he met with the adventure of the enchanted bark. Cervantes is here guilty of a great geographical error. The distance from the inn, where the puppet-show was, which in the map is No. 23, to the river Ebro and the ad-

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venture of the enchanted bark, No. 25, being divided into five days journey, makes fourteen leagues for Rozinante to travel in each day; a thing impossible either for him, or Sancho's Dapple.

Chap. XXX. to XXXIII. On the 23d, at sun-set, Don Quixote met with the Duke and Dutchess, who took him to their palace, where he was received with all the form and ceremony of a Knight-errant. Here too Cervantes is inaccurate; for he first makes the Knight arrive at sunset, and then immediately sets him down to dinner at mid-day, and makes him take his *siesta*, or afternoon nap. He states it, also, to be summer, when, in fact, it was the 23d of October.

Chap. XXXIV. and XXXV. Six days from this was the time, when the hunting party, with which the Duke complimented Don Quixote, took place, namely, the 29th October, though Cervantes calls it the middle of summer.

Chap. XXXVI. to XLI. The following day, after dinner, was the adventure of Trifaldi, and at night that of Clavileno, or the flying horse. Sancho also now wrote a letter to his wife Teresa, dated 20th July 1614. This is a palpable anachronism, according to the chronology established by Cervantes in the first part; it was, in fact, the 30th of October; and as that part was printed in 1605, the date ought, at least, to have been as early as 1604, to make it at all probable.

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OF DON QUIXOTE.

Chap. XLII. and XLIII. These adventures being finished the same night, on the following day the Duke ordered Sancho to prepare for assuming the government of his island on the next day, when Don Quixote gave him his advice as to the manner, in which he should conduct himself. This was the 1st of November.

Chap. XLIV. Immediately after this Cervantes makes Sancho set off on the 31st of October, without assigning any cause for it, although the Duke had before fixed the following day.

Chap. XLV. On the 1st of November Sancho arrives, and takes possession of his government. He immediately delivered his famous judgment on the prostitute, and that on the old man, who had hidden the ten crowns in the hollow of his cane, and that of the cap-maker.

Chap. XLVI. On the same day that Sancho took possession of his government, the Dutchess sent a page with his letter to Teresa, and Don Quixote also spoke with Altisidora; whence arose the romance she sung to him at eleven o'clock the same night. After this the adventure of the cats happened, in consequence of which Don Quixote kept his bed five days; that is, till the 6th of November inclusive.

Chap. XLVII. Sancho dined in public on the day of his arrival, and whilst at dinner he received the Duke's letter, dated the 16th August. Here are two anachronisms : first against the chronology of his fable, since, according to that, it should have been the 31st of October; and the second respecting the date of Sancho's letter to his wife, as that, which was written only on the day before the Duke's, was dated the 20th of July.

Chap. XLVIII. Cervantes says in Chap. XLVI. that in consequence of the adventure of the cats, Don Quixote was confined five days to his bed, that is, till the 6th November. He now says, it was six days before he appeared in public, namely, to the 7th. One night during this time Donna Rodriguez visited Don Quixote, and was whipped by the Dutchess and Altisidora.

Chap. XLIX. On the 1st of November Sancho supped by permission of the physician, Pedro Rezio. After supper he went the rounds, and in two days the tragical termination of his government took place.

Chap. L. In this chapter Cervantes details the embassy, which the Dutchess sent to Teresa Panza by a page, who not only carried her husband's letter and his dress, but also a letter from the Dutchess and a string of rich coral. There is clearly an improbability here, because in Chap. XLVI. Cervantes had before sent off the page with Sancho's letter and dress only. Here is also a geographical error; for the page goes to Don Quixote's village, remains there almost a day, and returns with the answer in six days. This is impossible, as the village was near Toboso, in

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OF DON QUIXOTE.

la Mancha, and the Duke's palace on the banks of the Ebro in Arragon.

Chap. LI. In the evening of the 2d November, Sanchomade some regulations for the government of his island; and on the same night the steward arranged every thing for him to leave it.

Chap. LII. Don Quixote was now quite recovered from the wounds of the cats, which had lasted him eight days; and having received them on the 1st November, this must have been on the 9th. During the next day the page, who had been to Sancho's house, returned. This certainly cannot be correct, because the distance from the banks of the Ebro to Argamasilla de Alba and back, is too great to be traversed in so short a time. On the same day, namely, the 10th, Don Quixote challenged the defamer of Donna Rodriguez's daughter. The Duke prepares a field for the combat, which is fixed to take place in six days. This would be the 16th of November.

Chap. LIII. On the night of the seventh day of Sancho's government, the pretended alarm was raised, with which he concluded his employment. He began it on the 1st of November, and on the 7th this adventure occurred. Throughout the whole of this story Cervantes is very incorrect: for in Chap. LI. he says that the second day of Sancho's government was that of its conclusion. Besides which, he takes no notice at all of what Sancho did the other five days. In the same

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chapter he also says, that Sancho decamped early the next morning, on the 8th November. Hence it follows, that he held his government only seven days; and the steward tells him, he must give an account of the ten days he possessed it. This would make it the 11th.

Chap. LIV. The Duke informed Don Quixote, on the 12th November, that in four days the defamer of Donna Rodriguez's daughter would appear; and, on the same day, Sancho came to seek his master. Here is another contradiction.

Chap. LV. On the 13th Don Quixote discovered the entrance of the cavern, into which Sancho had fallen the preceding night, which, according to the true calculation, should have been the 4th of November, by that of Cervantes was the 9th, and by that of the steward the 12th; which was also further confirmed by Sancho. Here too Cervantes again says it was summer, when it ought to be November.

Chap. LVI. The 16th was the day fixed for the combat, but which Tosilos prevented by declaring his willingness to marry the daughter.

Chap. LVII. to LIX. Soon after Don Quixote takes his leave of the Duke and Dutchess. Cervantes, however, does not determine the precise day; but from the desire Don Quixote had of seeking fresh adventures, we may conclude it was not later than the 18th. On the following morning he left the palace; and on that day happened the adventure of the saints; that of the shepherdesses, and that of the bulls. In the same evening he met with Don Jeronimo, and on the following morning, 20th November, he set out early for Barcelona.

Chap. LX. For six days, nothing remarkable occurred. They passed the night of the 26th in a small grove, where Sancho was frightened by the bodies of those, who were hung on the trees. At daybreak they were surprised by Roque Guinart and his band of robbers.

Chap. LXI. to LXIII. Don Quixote spent three days with the robbers, namely, to the 29th, which Cervantes pretends, contrary to truth, was the eve of St. John. On the 30th, at sunrise, they entered Barcelona, and on the same evening there was a ball at Don Antonio Moreno's, where Don Quixote was staying. They tried the experiment of the enchanted head on the 1st of December: Don Quixote also walked about the city, and saw the printing-office; and in the evening went to the galleys.

Chap. LXIV. On the 3d, the vessel went out that was to bring back Don Gregory from Argel. The galleys were five days sailing for the Levant; and on the 6th, Don Quixote met with the Knight of the White Moon, and was conquered by him. Chap. LXV. In consequence of this combat Don Quixote remained in his bed six days. On

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the 12th Don Antonio came to acquaint him, that Don Gregory was arrived from Argel. On the 14th they consulted how Ricote and his daughter might remain in Spain. The next day Don Autonio and Don Gregory set off for Madrid; and on the 18th of December, Don Quixote and Sancho proceeded towards their native place. Though it was only two, Cervantes makes Sampson Carrasco say, it was three months, since Don Quixote overcame him.

Chap. LXVI. to LXIX. On the 24th they met Tosilos. They passed that night also in the open air, when they were trampled on by the herd of swine. The next day they were conveyed to the Duke's, where, on their arrival, the wonderful representation of Altisidora's resurrection took place.

Chap. LXX. to LXXII. After dinner, on the 26th December, Don Quixote again proceeded on his journey. That night Sancho began to whip himself; and the following they slept at the inn, where they met Don Alvaro Tarfe. They afterwards continued their journey, and on the night of the 28th, Sancho completed his whipping for the disenchantment of Dulcinea; and on the 29th they arrived at the destined spot.

Chap. LXXIII. and LXXIV. That day was passed in conversation with the Curate and the Bachelor, and also with the Housekeeper and Niece, whom Don Quixote requests to help him

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to his bed, as he did not feel himself well. A fever continued upon him from the 30th of December to the 4th January. His senses returning the following day, he made his will, and died on the 8th.

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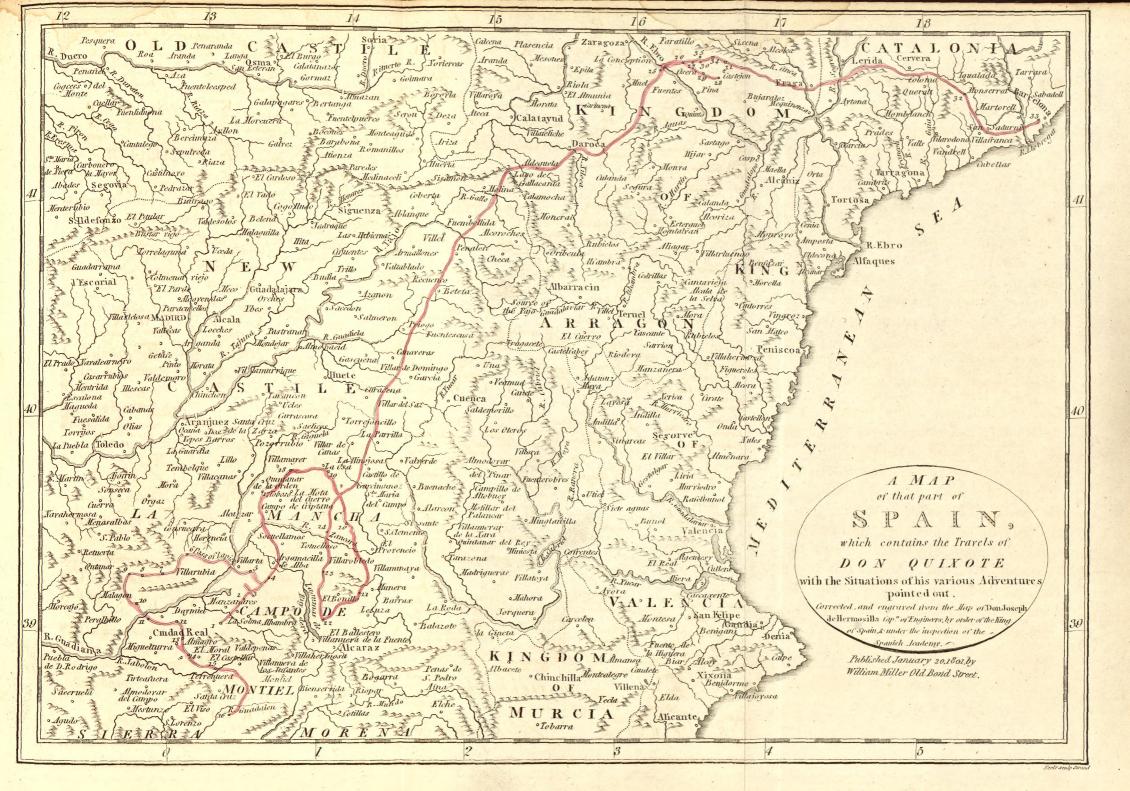
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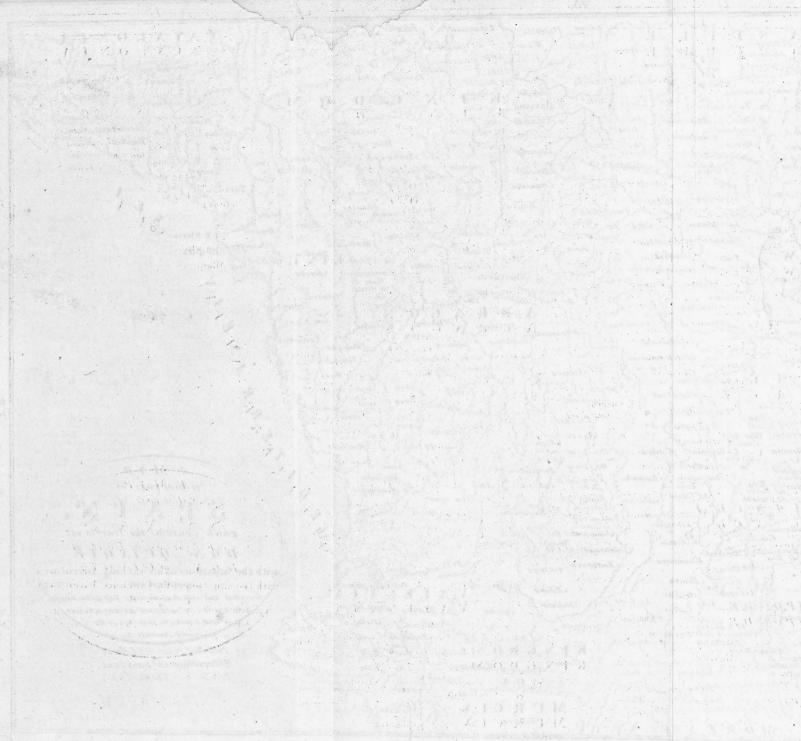
As Cervantes supposes his hero to be a modern one, and Don Quixote himself continually alludes to recent events, we must conclude him cotemporary with Cervantes. And the first part of the Quixote having been published in 1605, his first sally may be supposed to have happened in 1604. Upon this supposition the following computation is founded :

Don Quixote first sallies forth on the Days. 28th July, and returns on the 29th, 1604 2 He remains at home 18 days 18 He goes forth a second time on the 17th August, and returns on the 2d September -17 He remains in his house 31 days 31 A third time he sallies forth, on the 3d October, at night, and returns on 29th December 87 He is confined by illness from the 30th December 1604, till the 8th January 1605, on which day he died -10

Total 165

Or 5 months and 12 days.





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