them ; that their actions cannot be the offspring of innate instincts, otherwise savage virtues would, under similar cir­cumstances, be everywhere the same, which is contrary to fact ; that virtue proceeds from an interested motive on either supposition ; and that the motive which the instinc­tive scheme holds up is the more selfish of the two. The other theory supposes, that the governing motive is the hope of future happiness and the dread of future misery ; the instinctive scheme supplies a present motive in the self- complacency arising in the heart from a consciousness of right conduct. The former is a rational motive ; the latter has nothing more to do with reason than the enjoyment arising from eating or drinking, or from the intercourse be­tween the sexes. See Metaphysics and Moral Philosophy.

SELIGENSTADT, a city of the grand duchy of Hesse- Darmstadt, in Germany, in the province of Starkenburg, and the capital of a bailiwick of the same name. It stands on the river Maine, is surrounded with walls, and contains an ancient monastery, 420 houses, and 2640 inhabitants.

SELINO, a town of the island of Candia, in the Levant. It is the capital of a circle of its own name, situated at the south-west point of that island, with good anchorage in the road, which is defended by a fort.

SELINGAN, a small island in the Sooloo Archipelago. Long. 118. 15. E. Lat. 6. 4. N.

SELINTY, a bold and romantic headland in Caramania, situated on the ruins of the ancient Trajanopolis. On the highest point are the ruins of a castle, which commands the ascent of the hills in every direction.

SELKIRK, Alexander, whose adventures gave rise to Defoe’s well-known historical romance of Robinson Cru­soe, was born at Largo, in Fifeshire, Scotland, about the year 1676. He was bred a seaman, and went from Eng­land in 1703, in the capacity of sailing-master of a small vessel called the Cinque-Ports galley, Charles Pickering captain. In September the same year he sailed from Cork, in company with another ship called the St George, com­manded by the celebrated navigator William Dampier, intended to cruise against the Spaniards in the South Sea. On the coast of Brazil, Pickering died, and was succeeded in the command by his lieutenant Thomas Stradling. They proceeded on their voyage round Cape Horn to the island of Juan Fernandez, whence they were driven by the ap­pearance of two French ships of thirty-six guns each, and left five of Stradling's men there on shore, who were taken off by the French. From this they sailed to the coast of America, where Dampier and Stradling quarrelled, and se­parated by agreement, on the 19th of May 1704. In Sep­tember following, Stradling came again to the island of Juan Fernandez, where Selkirk and his captain had a dif­ference, which, with the circumstance of the ship’s being very leaky, and in bad condition, induced him to determine upon staying there alone ; but when his companions were about to depart, his resolution was shaken, and he desired to be taken on board again. The captain, however, re­fused to admit him, and he was obliged to remain, having nothing but his clothes, bedding, a gun, and a small quan­tity of powder and ball ; a hatchet, a knife, and a kettle ; with his books, and mathematical and nautical instruments. He kept up his spirits tolerably till he saw the vessel put off, when, as he afterwards related, his heart yearned within him, and melted at parting at once with his comrades and all human society.

Thus left sole monarch of the island, with plenty of the necessaries of life, he found himself in a situation which was hardly supportable. He had fish, goats’ flesh, turnips and other vegetables ; yet he grew dejected, languid, and melan­choly, to such a degree, as to be scarcely able to refrain from doing violence to himself. Eighteen months passed before he could, by reasoning, reading his Bible, and study, be

thoroughly reconciled to his condition. At length he grew happy, employing himself in decorating his huts, chasing the goats, whom he equalled in speed, and scarcely ever failed in catching. He also tamed young kids, laming them to prevent their becoming wild ; and he kept a guard of tame cats about him, to defend him when asleep from the rats, that were very troublesome. When his clothes were worn out, he made others of goat-skins, but could not suc­ceed in making shoes, with the use of which, however, habit, in time, enabled him to dispense. His only liquor was water. He computed that during his abode in the island he had caught a thousand goats, of which he had let go five hundred, after marking them by slitting their ears. Com­modore Anson’s people, who were there about thirty years afterwards, found the first goat which they shot upon land­ing was thus marked, and, as it appeared to be very old, concluded that it had been under the power of Selkirk. But it appears by Captain Carteret’s account of his voyage in the Swallow sloop, that other pcrsons practised this mode of marking, as he found a goat with his ears thus slit on the neighbouring island of Mas-a-fuera, where Selkirk never was. He made companions of his tame goats and cats, often dancing and singing with them. Although he con­stantly performed his devotions at stated hours, and read aloud, yet, when he was taken off the island, his language, from disuse of conversation, had become scarcely intelli­gible. In this solitude he continued four years and four months, during which time only two incidents happened which he thought worth relating, the occurrences of every day being in his circumstances nearly similar. The one was, that, pursuing a goat eagerly, he caught it just on the edge of a precipice, which was covered with bushes, so that he did not perceive it ; and he fell to the bottom, where he lay, according to Captain Rogers’s account, twenty-four hours senseless ; but, as he related to Sir Richard Steele, he computed, by the alteration of the moon, that he had lain three days. When he came to himself, he found the goat lying under him dead. It was with great difficulty that he could crawl to his habitation, whence he was unable to stir for ten days, and did not recover of his bruises for a long time. The other event was the arrival of a ship, which he at first supposed to be French. And such is the natural love of society in the human mind, that he was eager to abandon his solitary felicity, and surrender himself to them, although enemies ; but upon their landing he found them to be Spaniards, of whom he had too great a dread to trust himself in their hands. They were by this time so near that it required all his agility to escape, which he effected by climbing into a thick tree, being shot at several times as he ran off. Fortunately the Spaniards did not discover him, though they stayed some time under the tree where he was hidden, and killed some goats just by. In this solitude Selkirk remained until the 2d of February 1709, when he saw two ships come into the bay, and knew them to be English. He immediately lighted a fire as a signal ; and on their coming on shore, found they were the Duke, Cap­tain Rogers, and the Duchess, Captain Courtney, being two privateers from Bristol. He gave them the best entertain­ment he could afford ; and as they had been a long time at sea without fresh provisions, the goats which he caught were highly acceptable. His habitation, consisting of two huts, one to sleep in, and the other for dressing his food, was so obscurely situated, and so difficult of access, that only one of the ship’s officers would accompany him to it. Dampier, who was pilot on board the Duke, and knew Selkirk very well, told Captain Rogers that, when on board the Cinque- Ports, he was the best seaman in the vessel, upon which Captain Rogers appointed him master’s mate of the Duke- After a fortnight’s stay at Juan Fernandez, the ships pro­ceeded on their cruize against the Spaniards ; plundered a town on the coast of Peru ; took a Manilla ship off Califor-