

ways the help of the South-wind which reigns alone in this Sea ; yet they never make it less than a Months Voyage, because by this delay the Commander of the Gallions makes a great advantage in furnishing those with Cards that have a mind to play on Ship-board, during the Voyage, which amounts to a very considerable Sum, both because the Tribute he receives is Ten Patagons for every Pack of Cards, and because there is a prodigious quantity of 'em consum'd, they being continually at play ; and there being scarce any body aboard, but is concern'd for very considerable Sums. When the Gallions arrive at *Panama* on the Continent, they put their Lading ashore, and wait to hear of those from *Spain*, who commonly about the same time, or a little after, arrive at *Portobelo*, which is 18 Leagues from the North-Sea ; in the mean time they carry thither part of the Gold, Silver, and other Commodities of this Fleet which are design'd for *Europe*, upon Mules by Land, and part by Water upon the River of *Chiagre*, in Boats made of an entire piece of Wood call'd *Piragouas*. A few days after they are unladen, and after the Gallions are likewise arriv'd from *Spain* ; a