

Preface

One of the most important travellers of 1700 (seventeen hundred) is Thomas Nugent.

This is a passage of the introduction of his work "The Grand Tour" or "A Journey through the Netherlands, Germany, Italy and France".

Thomas Nugent - A Journey through the Netherlands, Germany, Italy and France

Travelling has always been considered to be very useful for improving our culture and for understanding other people.

The first civilized nations called philosophers and conquerors those that had visited foreign countries.

In fact those that became famous for their writings were all travellers who had learned a lot visiting foreign countries.

When these travellers returned to their own countries, they recited publicly what they had learned abroad and sometimes added their own reflections.

These people spoke about the manners, religion and civil policy of the countries they had visited.

These travelling philosophers helped the diffusion of science in the world, in fact the first writings in prose and verse are the relations of these travellers.

They wrote the first history of the countries they had visited.