

years after, Peter de Covillam and Alphonsus de Payva were Prester John. sent to that prince, who was believed to be the emperor of the Abyssinians. The two deputies embarked at Aden, a port in Arabia Felix ; then separating, Payva set out for Abyssinia, and died on the way. Covillam started for India, went to Cananor, Goa, Calicut, returned to Africa, landed in the kingdom of Sofala, passed thence to Ormuz, whence he reached the court of the emperor of the Abyssinians.

1486.

Bartholomew Diaz, his brother, Peter Diaz, and John Infanté, Cape of Good Hope. Portuguese, discovered the Cape of Good Hope. They called it Cape Tempest, because they encountered terrible storms there ; but the king of Portugal, seeing that this discovery opened to him the path to the Indies, changed the name to that which it has since borne.

1492.

Christopher Columbus, a Genoese, on the 11th of October, First discovery of America. discovered the first land in America, and took possession of it in the name of the crown of Castile. It was one of the Bahamas, called Guanahani, but to which he gave the name of San Salvador. He then discovered several others ; then Cuba, and at last Hayti, which he called Hispaniola. The French call it St. Domingue, from the name of its capital.

1493.

Pope Alexander VI. traced the famous line of demarkation, Line of demarkation. to bring the Spaniards and Portuguese to a compromise in regard to their discoveries. It ran through the middle of the sea, between the Azores and Cape Verde islands ; but it was subsequently set back three hundred and seventy leagues west.

In the month of October, of the same year, Christopher Columbus discovered most of the Little Antilles, and the majority of the names given by him are still preserved. He then discovered Boriquen, and called it the island of St. John the Baptist. The name of Puerto Rico was afterwards added. The French call it Porto Rico.

Little Antilles.