

1503.

On the 6th of January following he entered a river, to which he gave the name of Belen, in memory of the entrance of the Wise Men into Bethlehem on that day. Thence he passed into that of Veragua, which is only one league off, where he found gold mines. The province of Veragua was subsequently erected into a duchy, in favor of Louis Columbus, a grandson of Christopher, and this duchy has descended in the female line, first to the house of Braganza, and lastly to that of Liria-Barwich.

Veragua.

The same year Alphonsus de Albuquerque, surnamed the Great; Francis de Albuquerque, his brother; and Anthony de Saldanha, each sailed with a squadron on a fourth voyage to the Indies. In this voyage Diego Fernandez Pereyra, who commanded one of the vessels of Saldanha's squadron, discovered the island of Socotora. Alphonsus de Albuquerque himself anchored at Cape Guardafu, the easternmost in Africa, and having arrived in India, built on Cochim Island a fortress, to which he gave the name of Santiago.

Socotora.  
Guardafu.

1504.

Basque, Norman, and Breton fishermen then, and for some time previous, had taken cod on the Great Bank of Newfoundland, and on the shores of the island, of the neighboring continent, and of the whole Gulf of St. Lawrence. It is not known at what precise time they began to frequent these seas, nor when the great bank was discovered.

Great Bank  
of Newfound-  
land.

1505.

Peter de Añaya, a Portuguese, being in the kingdom of Sofala this year, obtained the earliest information of the empire of Monomotapa, in Africa.

Monomotapa.

This same year, a mercantile company at Rouen fitted out several vessels to go to the East Indies, and gave the command to the Sieur Binet Paulmier de Gonneville. This captain, having reached the Cape of Good Hope, was driven far towards the south pole by the currents, and by the tempests of that stormy sea. He discovered a very fine country, whose inhabitants received him with respect and admiration. According to