

Discoveries
towards the
Straits of
Magellan.

desolating all the Pacific, discovers all the coast from 49° S. to the Straits of Magellan, which he passed. He everywhere took possession of the country for the crown of Castile.

1590.

Davis'
Straits.
Cumberland
Island.

Most English authors place in this year the discovery of Davis' Straits. This strait is between Greenland and an island called, by Davis, Cumberland Island.

1591.

Hudson's
Bay.

It is pretended that this year Frederic Anshild, a Dane, wintered in Hudson's Bay, drove an extensive trade for furs, and returned richly laden to Denmark, but without making any settlement.

1593.

Southern
lands.

Sir Richard Hawkins, an Englishman, having undertaken to circumnavigate the globe, discovered, southwest of Magellan's Straits, at 48° S., a great land extending on the one side beyond Le Maire's Straits, and on the other till opposite the Cape of Good Hope. He also ascertained, it is said, that the land south of Magellan's Straits is only a collection of islands.

1594.

Nassau
Straits.

Count Maurice of Nassau having taken up the project abandoned by the English of discovering a northern passage-way to China, dispatched three vessels, under the command of Cornelius Cornelisz, who sailed in the *Swan of Veer*, in Zealand; the second vessel, named the *Mercury*, of Enchuysen, was commanded by Brandt Ysbrandtz, of Tergales; and the third, the *Bot*, of Amsterdam, had as captain William Barentsz, of Ter Schellings, burgomaster of Amsterdam. John Huyghens van Linschooten was clerk on the *Mercury*, and has given us a journal of this voyage. They sailed from Texel June 5. On the 24th they made Isle Kildoyne, where they anchored. It is about 69° 40' N. They made then rendezvous for their return, and the *Bot* of Amsterdam parted company to go in the direction of Nova Zembla, which was already known, but the discovery of which is by some geographers incorrectly assigned to