

New Nether-
land.

This same year the Dutch began to settle Manhattan Island, and gave the country the name of New Netherland.

Ascension
Island.

On the 14th of June, William Schouten and James or Jacob le Maire, Dutchmen, sailed from Texel to seek a new passage to the Pacific, and on the 3d of November discovered Ascension Island, said by Schouten, in his journal, to be one of Martin Vaes' islands, but I cannot find when or by whom these were discovered.

1616.

Le Maire's
Straits.

On the 25th of January, Schouten and Le Maire found themselves at the mouth of a strait, south of Magellan's. Of the two lands bordering on this strait, they called that on their left, to the E. S. E., Staten Land, and that on their right, to the west, Maurice von Nassau's Land. The same day they entered the strait. On the 29th they discovered several small islands, which they called Barneveld's Islands, in honor of John Van Orden Barneveld, counsellor-pensioner of Holland and West Friesland. The same day they perceived a cape, which Schouten calls Cape Horn, from the name of his birthplace. On the 12th of February they found themselves through the strait, which they called Straits of Le Maire, because Isaac le Maire, Jacob's father, was the chief owner in the venture. Returning to Europe by way of the Moluccas, they discovered several islands, chiefly inhabited, and all the northern coast of New Guinea. On their arrival in Holland, after circumnavigating the globe, they found that they were reckoning a day short of the right time, for, according to their count, it was Monday, when it was, in fact, Tuesday.

Edgar's Isle.

This same year Thomas Edgar, an Englishman, discovered, north of Greenland, an island, to which he gave his name.

1617.

Wiches'
Island.

Another island, north of Greenland, discovered by an Englishman named Wiches, who gave it his name.

1618.

Source of the
Nile.

Father Peter Païs, or Paez, a Portuguese Jesuit, having gone to the kingdom of Gojam in the suite of the emperor of the Abyssinians, discovered the source of the Nile.