

St. Teresa River. and St. Teresa rivers, which empty together in a little bay on the west side of Hudson's Bay, at 56° N. The English call the bay Port Nelson, pretending that Nelson, Henry Hudson's pilot, discovered it in 1611, and took possession in the name of the English crown ; but this is not likely.

1684.

Yesso. A Japanese ship, sent by the emperor of Japan to explore all the country of Yesso, entered the channel supposed to separate the isle of Matmanska or of Matsumay from the continent of Yesso. The captain observing that the current always ran north, while from the report of Father de Angelis that west of Yesso always runs south, concluded, as that missionary had, that the sea communicates with another. Since that time, but in what year is not stated, another Japanese vessel was sent out with the same object, and the commander, perceiving a large continent, ran up to it, and wintered in a harbor which he found. On his return he reported that the land stretched far away to the northeast, and he conjectured that it was the continent of America.

Kamtschatka. Since the last discoveries of the Russians, it is believed that the land of Yesso is the southern part of Kamtschatka, which forms one mainland with Siberia. Some, however, place Kamtschatka northeast of Yesso, which does not seem to agree with what the Russians say, that the southern part of this great country is inhabited by the Kurilskis, originally Japanese, and tributaries of the emperor of Japan.

1696.

Palaos Islands. On the 28th of December, in this year, some unknown savages landed on Samal, one of the Pintados islands, depending on the Philippines. They had been driven there by a storm. They found two women of their nation, shipwrecked there some years before, and one of them had already been obliged to land in the same way on Caragena Island, near Mindanao. It was ascertained from them that the islands were called Palaos ; that they were thirty-two in number ; and they gave their names, size, and distance apart. They lie east of the Philippines, and northeast of the Moluccas. It was at first believed