

I have put his papers into the hands of Daniel Defoe, for the purpose of preparing them for the press; but that man, by the help of these two or three and a lively fancy, metamorphosed Alexander Selkirk into with Eurason Crusoe, and then returned the originals to their proprietor; which means the real adventurer was in a great measure displaced, while the romance-writer obtained no inconsiderable share of

The vast country of the European colonies of America by means of the great river perfectly explored: Some of the Spaniards and Portuguese, but many difficulties, that few of the adventurers could have gold or other very valuable produce having been found in the country, Europeans are but little disposed to make any new settlement there.

5. PATAGONIA.

Patagonia has always been represented by geographers as a barren inhospitable country, and in a great measure destitute of wood, or any other incentive to colonization. The Spaniards however attempted it in 1581, built a town which they named Philippeville, and placed about four hundred persons in it; but the celebrated English navigator Cavendish in 1587, found only one of the settlers alive on the beach: Twenty-three of them had set out for the river La Plata and were never afterwards heard of, and all the rest had perished through famine; from which circumstances the place received the name of Port Famine.