

said to have been derived from this circumstance of slaves (labourers) having been taken there. Others say that it was a "labourer," or slave, taken on board at the Azores, who first saw the land, which was therefore called "Labourer's land."

These voyages of Cortereal in 1500 and 1501, however, cannot be regarded as serious rivals to that of Cabot, since they were evidently only undertaken in order to claim these lands already discovered, on behalf of Portugal. The English claim was recognized in Spain, even as early as 1500, since Cosa, in that year, inscribed on his celebrated map the words "Sea discovered by the English." The Spaniards were able to take an unprejudiced view of the matter, because these lands were at that time believed to be within the Portuguese hemisphere as defined at Tordesillas. And here it must be remarked, that the claims of Spain and Portugal to all new discoveries, each country having a hemisphere to itself, left no room for other nations to make discoveries for their own advantage, or even to make voyages to the lands already discovered. Whatever was done, had to be done in a furtive way, and at great risk. Speaking of the French voyages in these waters, Professor Gaffarel says: "As none of them were ignorant of the dangers to which they exposed themselves in thus braving the power of Spain, they prudently kept the secret of their operations, and the silence of contemporaries on the subject of these voyages to Central America may thus be explained." (Gaffarel, "Jean Anco.") From another part of the same book we take the fol-

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