

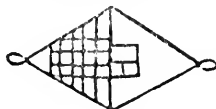
APPENDIX D.

Correspondence between the Sovereigns of Spain and Jaime Ferrer concerning the position and the best manner of laying down the line of demarcation of the treaty of Tordesillas, signed June 7, 1494. Extracted from Navarrete *Coleccion de los Viajes*, vol. 2, p. 111. Translated with the aid of an official expert translator of Spanish.

January 27, 1495.

To the very high and very puissant Sovereigns of Spain, &c., by the grace of God our very righteous lords.

Very high and very powerful Sovereigns: Don Juan de la Nussa, Lieutenant of your Highnesses, has twice shown me some instructions in which your Highnesses make known the decision regarding the partition your Highnesses have made with the most illustrious king of Portugal upon the Ocean, starting from Cape Verde in a westerly line for a distance of three hundred and seventy leagues; and therefore, very high and most serene Sovereigns, I have examined (the subject) to the extent of my humble understanding, although late, and not so soon as I had wished, on account of a slight illness; and therefore I send to your Highnesses, by a man of mine, a figure of the world on a large scale on which may be seen the two hemispheres, to wit, our Arctic and the opposite Antarctic one. And likewise you will see the equinoctial circle and the two tropics of the declination of the sun, and the seven climates, and each one of these circles put in its proper place as in the *treatise on the sphere* and in the *situ orbis* learned men direct and divide into degrees. And, in order that the distance may more clearly be seen of the said three hundred and seventy leagues and how far they extend in a westerly line starting from the said Cape Verde, I have intersected the said distance from pole to pole with red lines, which at the equator are twenty-three degrees apart, and with acute angles, the said lines correspond to the poles of the earth in this figure:—



and all that is crossed by yellow lines will be what belongs to the most illustrious King of Portugal, turning in the direction of the Antarctic pole. And this distance of sea completes the said three hundred and seventy leagues which are, as I said above, twenty-three degrees starting from Cape Verde in a westerly line.

And if in connection with this decision (treaty of partition) your Highnesses should command that I should go thither (to Cape Verde) I will, of my great and obedient love, certainly go at my own expense and without any pay. And in very truth my desire is that all I have in this world shall be at the service of your Royal Highnesses—whom may the infinite Trinity ever keep in guard and protection with very long and very prosperous life.

From Barcelona, January 27, 1495.

Their Catholic Majesties did not understand the above letter, and indeed, if the little figure above may be taken as an indication of what was on the map sent, it is not to be wondered at. Ferrer counted the distance as from Cape Verde, whereas it was from the islands off that cape, and he made the