

ship provided itself with a large quantity of a bitumen commonly called tar, of a dark colour, with a greenish tinge, as an excellent remedy against the scurvy and dropsy. It is also used in paying ships bottoms, but we took it aboard as a medicament; it oozes out of the earth, and in these parts is found in great abundance.

On the 10th of *April* we passed the equinoctial, within sight of *Cape del Passao*, and on the 11th got beyond that of *St. Francis*, at 1 degree, 7 minutes, north-latitude; we anchored at the mouth of *St. Jago* river, and 80 leagues, N. N. W. and 25 E. by E. where casting our nets, we took a large quantity of very palatable fish. A party of each ship's company also went ashore, where they killed some wild goats and hogs, of which they saw great numbers; and besides, bought of the inhabitants, turkey cocks and hens, ducks, and most delicious fruits. This marketing was at a village two *Spanish* leagues, or six miles and a half, on the left-hand, from the mouth of the river *St. Jago*, which with small vessels is navigable to the distance of 14 *Spanish* leagues, about south-east from the sea, and almost half way to the large and opulent city of *Quito*, which is in 22 minutes south-latitude.

On the 16th of *April* we sailed from the river *St. Jago*, for the harbour of *Realejo*, 320 leagues, north-west by west, in about 11 degrees, 14 minutes, north-latitude, leaving *St. Michael's-bill* on our left, and *Cape Casamina* on our right. This is a very safe harbour, being sheltered towards the sea by the islands of *Ampallo* and *Mangreza*, and by three other islands, all well peopled and cultivated. *Realejo* is the place in *New Spain* where the large ships are built: it is but four miles by land from the lake *Nicaragua*, which discharges itself into the *North-sea*, near the island *del Grano*, i. e. of *Corn*, or *de la Perlas*, i. e. of *Pearls*. The neighbourhood