

1606.

It is unquestionable, that HERNAN GALLEGO was chief pilot with MENDANA in 1567, but it is *impossible*, that he *did*, or *could* in this voyage discover a continent to the southward, in the passage from NEW-GUINEA to the Strait of MAGALHANES, because we are expressly informed by FIGUEROA and LOPEZ VAZ, that, in this voyage, they returned to AMERICA, on the *north* of the equator.

The notion of GALLEGO's discovery, common amongst geographers, probably arose from the *supposition*, that GUADALCANAL extended to TIERRA DEL FUEGO; and the date 1576, perhaps from a transposition of the figures 1567, or possibly from some vague report of the discovery made by JUAN FERNANDEZ about this period.

A modern System of Geography \* indeed quotes GALLEGO; but where he met with him I cannot tell, for none of the Spanish writers I have seen, make mention of any work of GALLEGO, except PENELO, who gives the title of a MS. Journal, by HERNAN GALLEGO of MENDANA's first voyage, which, he says, remains in the BARCIA library †. Neither SEIXAS nor QUIROS take notice of him, nor of his supposed discovery to the south, which it can scarcely be believed they would have omitted, had there been the least foundation for it; TORQUEMADA indeed mentions GALLEGO, but says not a word of any land discovered by him in a high latitude.

\* Compleat System of Geography, vol. II. p. 587.

† Penelo de Leon Biblioth. Orient y Ocident. p. 671.

“Relacion de jornada i viaje primero que al descubrimiento de las Islas de Salomon hizo el Adelentado Alvaro de Mendana, siendo el autor piloto mayor.”

i. e. “Journal of the first voyage which the Adelentado Alvaro de Mendana made for the discovery of the Salomon Islands, the author being chief pilot.” MS. fol. Penelo says it begins, “Anno 1553, in the month of October, &c.”