

in Columbia, 80° w. Thence across South America to the point of departure is 30 degrees, 2,075 miles. These respective breadths, when added, give 360° , 24,898 miles, which is about four miles less than the actual equatorial circumference of the earth.

Detail.—In this voyage through the Atlantic the traveller who follows the equator would have to avoid the Island of Mexiana, which in longitude 51° w. bars his way. South of his course, when in longitude 48° he would see Cape Maguary on Joannes Island at the mouth of the Para river. Then on his lonely voyage no land would be seen until sighting the Island of St. Thomas in longitude 6° e., north of, but very close to the equator.

From the Gaboon the traveller would pass through a comparatively unexplored territory, although we know that after traversing the dense forests of the Gorilla country he would twice cross the Congo river, first at 19° e., and again at Stanley's Falls 25° e. Further on he would encounter the Victoria Nyanza lake, the chief source of the White Nile, in longitude 52° e. to 55° e. Leaving Juba the voyager would sail over the dark, profound waters of the Indian Ocean for more than 3,800 miles out of sight of land, until the island of Nias, 97° east longitude would loom up on the north; then the islands of Mintavi on the south and Baboa on the north would be just escaped in longitude 98° e. and 99° e. respectively.

Through Malaysia the equator crosses in succession the great islands of Sumatra, Borneo, Celebes and Gilolo and the small island of Geby, and grazes the northern shores of Linga and Waygiou. The eastern coasts of these islands under the equator lie respectively in the eastern longitudes 104° , 108° , 120° , 128° , 129° , 105° and 131° . Along the line the breadth of Sumatra is 270 miles, of Borneo 575 miles, of Celebes and Gilolo less than 20 miles in each case. Several important waters are crossed; the Macassar Strait 130 miles wide, Tominie Bay about 300 miles wide, the Molucca Passage 150 miles wide, and the Gilolo Passage 30 miles wide.

The first 3,320 miles of the equator, after leaving Malaysia just north of the Cape of Good Hope, lie among the numerous small clusters of Polynesian Islands, through the northern portion of the New Britannia Archipelago 150° e., north of Ocean Island 170° e., through the Gilbert Islands