

5. All the *States* of the country are republics except Brazil, which is an empire.

6 The native productions of South America are the potato, vanilla, Indian corn, the cocoa, or chocolate-tree, the Peruvian Bark, and the caoutchouc, or Indian-rubber-tree. South America also produces sugar, cotton, coffee, indigo, bananas, and, in general, all the tropical fruits. The chief mineral productions are gold, silver, platina, mercury, copper, iron, lead, tin, coal, salt, diamonds, rubies, and other precious stones.

7 The most remarkable animals are the jaguar, a species of tiger; the puma, or American lion; the ant-eater, the lama, the alpaca, &c. Large serpents, called *boa-constrictors* infest the forests. There are also many birds of beautiful plumage.

## LESSON XXXV

## UNITED STATES OF COLUMBIA.

Area 457,000 sq.m.—Population: 2,795,000.

1. The United States of Columbia (*New Granada*) are situated in the north-west of South America. They are bounded on the north by the Caribbean Sea, and west by the Pacific Ocean.

2. The western part is very mountainous; the principal chain is the Andes which traverses it from north to south.

3. On account of the numerous ravines and mountains defiles, traveling is greatly impeded, the only means of conveyance in the mountain region is a kind of basket-chair, carried by the Indians.

4. The *climate* is hot and unhealthy, except on the elevated table-land.

5. This country is *watered* by the *Magdalena*, the *Cauca*, its affluent, and by several branches of the Orinoco and Amazon rivers.

6 The *soil* of the low lands produces sugar, coffee, cotton, and tropical fruits, the elevated regions, grains and fruits of temperate climates.

7 *Bogota*, population 45,000, the capital, is situated near the centre about 8,500 ft. above the

level of the sea. *Carthagena* is the chief seaport and the naval arsenal of the republic.

## 1° VENEZUELA.

Area: 410,000 sq. m.—Population. 1,565,000.

1 *Venezuela* is situated at the east of the United States of Columbia; it consists of vast plains, watered by the *Orinoco* and its branches.

2. Nearly one-third of the country is covered with mountains, the principal of which are the *Parime*, or Eastern Andes, which extend along the south.

3 Its *soil* and *climate* are nearly the same as those of Columbia. All the tropical fruits grow here luxuriantly.

4. The cocoa of Venezuela is the best in the world.

5 *Caracas*, population 47,000, the capital, is situated on an elevated plain. It was nearly destroyed by an earthquake in 1812, but has since been rebuilt. *La Guayra* is the chief seaport.

## 2° ECUADOR.

Area: 208,000 sq. m.—Population 1,040,000.

1. *Ecuador* is situated south of Columbia and north of Peru.

2. It contains some of the most elevated peaks in the Andes, many of which are volcanoes; *Catopaxi* and *Chimborazo* are the most remarkable.

3. Its *climate*, *soil*, and *products* are similar to those of Columbia. The celebrated *Peruvian Bark* from which *Quinine* is made, is found here plentiful.

4. *Quito*, population 76,000, the capital, lies nearly under the Equator, on the slope of the volcano of *Pichincha*, at an elevation of 9,000 ft. above the sea. *Guayaquil* is the chief seaport.

## 3° GUIANA.

1. *Guiana* is situated south-east of Venezuela, and north of Brazil. Along the coast the land is low, flat, unhealthy, and subject to inundations.