

WANDERINGS  
IN  
SOUTH AMERICA.

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FIRST JOURNEY.

———"nec herba, nec latens in asperis  
Radix fecellit me locis."

In the month of April, 1812, I left the town of Stabroek, to travel through the wilds of Demerara and Essequibo, a part of *ci-devant* Dutch Guiana, in South America.

The chief objects in view were to collect a quantity  
of the strongest Wourali poison, and to reach  
the inland frontier fort of Portuguese Guiana.

It would be a tedious journey for him who wishes to travel through these wilds, to set out from Stabroek on foot. The sun would exhaust him in his attempts to wade through the swamps, and the mosquitos at night would deprive him of every hour of sleep.

The road for horses runs parallel to the river; but it extends a very little way, and even ends before the cultivation of the plantation ceases.

The only mode, then, that remains is to proceed by water; and when you come to the high lands, you may make your way through the forest on foot, or continue your route on the river.