

with deep emotion the difference in his prospects since his first voyage, and looking reverently to heaven while blessing the good hand that led to success.

Henri became quite an expert sailor. Every day he might be seen on deck taking observations, reckoning distances, ascertaining the sun's altitude, and watching the heaving of the log. Sometimes a shark showed its hideous form near the ships, shoals of porpoises careered and gamboled in the calm days that overtook them, and the passengers amused themselves in trying to catch some of the many fish that swam far down in the clear depths of the ocean. Slight storms varied the monotonous calmness of the tropical latitude in which they sailed, but no adventure of importance occurred to Henri, whose time was occupied mostly in study. He won the heart of one of the ecclesiastics, who accompanied the fleet for the purpose of establishing a church in the new settlement, and read with him the best authors. Anticipating the day when he should return to his native land, he eagerly bent every energy to self-improvement. At last the fleet entered the beautiful Columbian Archipelago, and all was in motion on board the ships. Fairy-land could not exceed the luxuriant beauty that met the eyes of the adventurers as they looked out upon the lofty summits of the mountains clothed in verdure, or viewed the various trees and fruits with which the valleys and shores of the islands were covered. The spot was selected for an infant city, and all engaged with alacrity in its erection. Henri, however, soon left with a select party to explore the interior, and ascertain whether gold could be found on the island. Taking with them a compass, firearms, and some trinkets for the Indians, they set out. After toiling through majestic forests, cutting their way through the dense growth of plants and shrubs with which the fertile soil teemed, crossing rivers and plains, they at length came in sight of the lofty mountains. The party remained some days exploring the vicinity, and collected several specimens of gold from the sands of a large river that flowed at their base. Henri carried with him the necessary instruments for making topographical delineations of the face of the country near the supposed gold region. While employed in making some calculations, he lingered a few moments behind his party, and his dismay was great to find, on