

other islands. In 1506, two years before Cuba was found to be an island, Columbus died in the belief that, by a western route, he had found the land of the Grand Cham of China. Now at that time, whatever portions of the globe did not pertain to Europe or Africa, belonged to Asia. He placed his discoveries in Eastern Asia, giving names only to certain islands in compliment to his patrons, but was too just and modest to bestow his own name on the ancient continent of Asia, parts of which Alexander had conquered and Aristotle described. By a circumstance perfectly fortuitous, after the death of Columbus, and without the knowledge of Vespucci, in 1507, by a little knot of earnest students, in a remote mountain town of France, the beautiful name AMERICA was suggested for the newly described large island of Terra Santæ Crusis, or Brazil. This large country was nearly a thousand miles from the regions first discovered by Columbus, and another thousand from that other province of Asia called Bacalaos, afterwards seen by John Cabot. No one then suspected that all these fields of discovery were parts of one grand conti-