

1500. ing northwestwardly, he discovered and named the river of the Amazons.¹ Having sailed along the coast to Trinidad, he returned to Spain.²

April 23.
Cabral discovers Brazil.

The fertile district of country, "on the confines of which Pinzon stopt short," was very soon more fully discovered. Pedro Alvarez Cabral, sent by Emanuel, king of Portugal, with thirteen ships; on a voyage from Lisbon to the East Indies, in order to avoid the calms on the Guinea shore, fetched a compass so far westwardly, as, by accident, to discover land in the tenth degree south of the equinoctial line. Proceeding along the coast several days, he was led from its extent to believe, that it must be a part of some great continent; and, on account of a cross, that he erected there with much ceremony, he called it, The Land of the Holy Cross; but it was afterward called Brasil.³ Having taken possession of it for the crown of Portugal, he dispatched a ship to Lisbon with an account of this important discovery, and pursued his voyage.⁴

The Portuguese king, on receiving the intelligence, sent ships, to discover the whole country, and found it to be the land of America. A controversy hence arose between him and the king of Spain; but they being kinsmen and near friends, it was ultimately agreed, that the king of Portugal should hold all the country that he had discovered,

followed by others, armed in the same manner; that the Spaniards endeavoured to allure them by gifts, but in vain; for, in the dead of night, they fled from the places which they had occupied. "Omnem sermonem rejiciunt, parati semper ad pugnam. Nocte intempesta aufugiunt."

¹ Vega [Commentaries of Peru 339.] says, the Pinzons gave the river this name, "because they observed, that the women fought with as much courage in defence of those parts as the men."

² Prince, ut supra.

³ From a certain wood, which dies red, a name previously to this period known to the Arabians. Forster's Voyages, 263.

⁴ Herrera, i. 235. Purchas. i. 835. Robertson, i. book ii. Forster, 263. Prince, *Introd.* 81. *Biblioth. Americana*, p. 50.

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3 Herrera