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SPANISH AMERICA.

NEW-MEXICO AND CALIFORNIA.

miles. Length 2000 between {94° and 126° W. Long. from Lond. Breadth 1600 between {23° and 43° North Latitude.

BOUNDED north, by unknown lands; eaft, by Louifiana; fouth, by Old Mexico and the Pacifick Ocean; Weft, by the fame ocean.

Divifiens. Northeaft division, Southeaft division, South division, South division, South division, Weit division, South di division, South division, South division, S

Climate, Soil and Productions.] The climate of this country, if we may judge from its fituation, mult be very agreeable. Towards the close of the last century, the Jefuits, who had great merit in exploring the neglected province of California, and in civilizing its rude inhabitants, feem fludioufly to have depreciated this country, for political reasons, by representing the climate as fo difagreeable and unwholefome, and the foil as io barren, that nothing but their zealous endeavours to convert the natives, could have induced them to fettle there. The falsehood of this representation, however, has fince been detected, and a very favourable account has been given of the climate and foil. A valuable pearl filhery has been found on its coalls, and mines of gold have been discovered of a very promiting appearance. In California, there falls in the morning a great quantity of dew, which, fettling on the role leaves, candies, and becomes hard like manna, having all the fweetnefs of refined fugar, without its whiteness. There is also another very fingular natural production. In the heart of the country there are plains of falt, quite firm and clear as crystal, which, confidering the vast quantities of fish found on its coalls, night render it an invaluable acquifition to an industrious nation.

History.] Cortes, the great conqueror of Mexico, discovered the extensive peniniula of California in the

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year ?

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