

#### Werk

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Niedersächsische Staats- und Universitätsbibliothek Göttingen Georg-August-Universität Göttingen Platz der Göttinger Sieben 1 37073 Göttingen Germany Email: gdz@sub.uni-goettingen.de filence, and expired. Cortes, ashamed of a scene so horrid, rescued the royal victim from the hands of his torturers, and prolonged a life for new indignities and sufferings. Cortes died in Spain, in the year 1547, in the 62d year of his age. Envied by his contemporaries, and ill requited by the court which he served, he has been admired and celebrated by succeeding ages. By his own desire he was carried to Mexico, and buried there.

# SOUTH-AMERICA

I S a peninfula, joined to North-America by the Ishmus of Darien, and divided as follows:

Countries. Chief Towns. Belonging to Terra Firma, Panama, Spain. Peru, Lima, Spain. St. Pedro, Spain. Amazonia, Surinam, St. Sebastian, · Guiana, Dutch. Brazil, Portugal. Paragua, or La Plata, Buenos Ayres, Spain. Ch li, St. Jago. Spain. The natives. Patagonia,

## TERRA FIRMA, OR CASTILE DEL ORO.

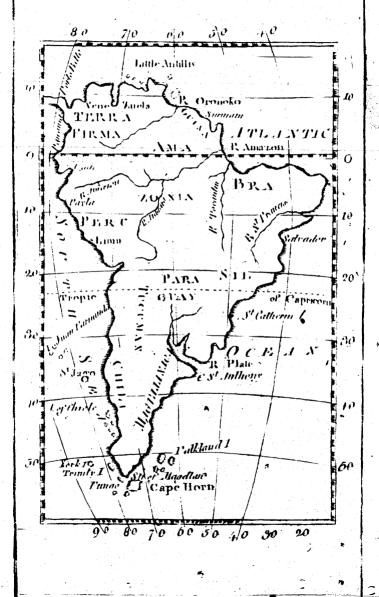
Length 1400 between 60° and 82° West Longitude.

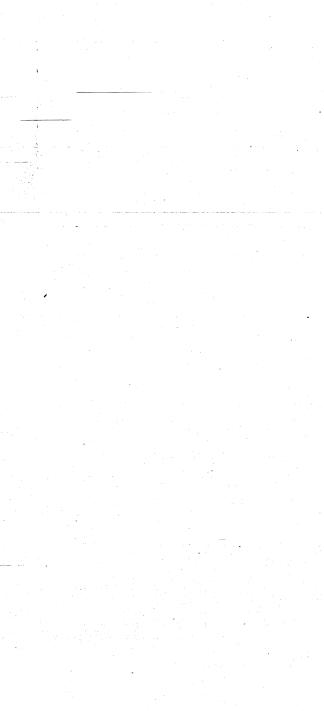
Breadth 700 The Equator, and 12° N. Latitude.

DOUNDED North, by the Atlantick ocean; East, by the same ocean and Surinam; South, by Amazonia and Peru; West, by the Pacifick ocean.

Climate, Soil and Productions. The climate here, especially in the northern parts, is extremely hot and sultry during the whole year. From the month of May to the end of November, the season called winter by the inhabitants, is almost a continual succession of thunder, rain and tempests; the clouds precipitating the rains with such impetuosity, that the low lands exhibit the appearance of an ocean. Great part of the country is of consequence almost continually stooded; and this.

# Sorah Anerica





this, together with the excessive heat, so impregnates the air with vapours, that in many provinces, particularly about Popayan and Porto Bello, it is extremely unwholesome.

The foil of this country is very different, the inland parts being exceedingly rich and fertile, and the coalls fandy and barren. It is impossible to view without admiration, the perpetual verdure of the woods, the luxuriancy of the plains, and the towering height of the mountains. This country produces corn, fugar, tobacco and fruits of all kinds; the most remarkable is that of the manzanillo tree. It bears a fruit resembling an apple, but which, under this specious appearance, contains the most subtle poison. The bean of Carthagena is the fruit of a species of willow about the bigness of a bean, and is an excellent and never failing remedy for the bite of the most venomous serpents, which are very frequent all over this country. Among the natural merchandize of Terra Firma, the pearls found on the coast, particularly in the bay of Panama, are not the least considerable. An immense number of negro flaves are employed in fishing for these, and have arrived at a wonderful dexterity in this occupation. They are fometimes, however, devoured by fharks while the; dive to the bottom, or are crushed against the shelves of the rocks.

Animals.] Among the animals peculiar to this country, the most remarkable is the sloth; or, as it is called by way of derision, the Swift Peter. It resembles an ordinary monkey, in shape and fize, but is of a most wretched appearance, with its bare hams and feet, and its skin all corrugated. He stands in no need of a chain, as he never stirs, unless compelled by hunger—and he is said to be several minutes in moving one of his legs—nor will blows make him mend his pace. When he moves, every effort is attended with such a plaintive, and, at the same time, so disagreeable a cry, as at once excites pity and disgust. In this cry consists the whole desence of this wretched animal; for on the first hostile approach, it is natural for him to be in motion,