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edge, or to the different warmth of imagination of those that adhere to them. The principal of these sects are Arminians, Mennonists, Socinians, Unitarians, Moravian Brethren, Quakers and Methodists. The portion of the surface of the countries, in which the Protestant religion is established, to those in which the Roman Catholick religion prevails, is nearly as three to four. The number of Roman Catholicks, according to the best calculations, is about 90,000,000; the number of Protestants only 24,000,000, which is a proportion of nearly 4 to 1.

P O R T U G A L.

Length ^{miles.} 300 } between { 37° and 42° North Latitude.
Breadth 100 } { 7° and 10° West Longitude.

BOUNDED north and east, by Spain ; south and west, by the Atlantick ocean. Containing 19 towns, 527 villages, 3343 parishes.

Rivers.] Every brook in Portugal is called a river. Its rivers rise in Spain and run west through Portugal, into the Atlantick. The most noted is the Tagus. —

Capital.] LISBON, at the mouth of the Tagus, containing about 150,000 inhabitants. In 1755, it was laid level with the ground by a tremendous earthquake, which was succeeded by a general conflagration, in which catastrophe upwards of 10,000 people lost their lives.

Climate, Productions and Commerce.] Portugal, situated in a genial climate, abounds in excellent natural productions, and is well watered. It possesses very rich provinces in, and upon the coast of Asia, Africa and America. It is, however, not proportionably powerful; its inhabitants are indigent, and the balance of trade is against it. It is even obliged to import the necessaries of life, chiefly corn, from other countries. Portugal produces wine, wool, oil, silk, honey, aniseed, sumac, a variety of fine fruits, some corn, flax and cork.

In 1785, the goods imported from Great-Britain and Ireland into Portugal, consisting of woolens, corn, fish, wood and hardware, amounted to upwards of £.960,000 sterling. The English took in return, of the produce of Portugal and Brazil, to the amount of £.728,000 sterling. Only 15 millions of livres are supposed to circulate in a country which draws annually upwards of £.1,500,000 sterling, or 36 millions of livres, from the mines of Peru. Since the discovery of these mines, that is, within 60 years, Portugal has brought from Brazil about 2400,000,000 of livres, or £.100,000,000 sterling.

Government and Religion.] Since the council of the three estates, viz. the clergy, the nobility, and the cities, the members of which are nominated by the King, was substituted in the room of diets or meetings of the states (which event took place the latter end of the last century) the government of the kingdom of Portugal has been absolutely monarchical. The proceedings of the courts of justice are slow and arbitrary, and the number of lawyers and law officers is exceedingly great.

The state of religion in Portugal is the same as in Spain. The Portuguese clergy consist of one Patriarch, a dignity granted to the church of Portugal in the year 1716, of 3 Archbishops and 15 Bishops. The whole number of Ecclesiasticks is 200,000: 30,000 of which, and some say 60,000, are monks and nuns. The number of convents is 745. The number of clerical persons to that of the laymen is as 1 to 11.

History.] Portugal was anciently called Lusitania, and inhabited by tribes of wandering people, till it became subject to the Carthaginians and Phœnicians, who were dispossessed by the Romans 250 years before Christ. In the fifth century it fell under the yoke of the Suevi and Vandals, who were driven out by the Goths of Spain, in the year 589; but when the Moors of Africa made themselves masters of the greatest part of Spain, in the beginning of the eighth century, they penetrated into Lusitania; there they established Governors, who made themselves Kings. It became subject to Spain in 1580; but in 1640, the people rebelled, shook off

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