

tile than that of the French ; but much the greater portion of the island remained, until the late treaty, under the Spanish dominion ; and of that, by far the major part continues at this hour an unproductive wilderness. On the northern coast, the line of division began at the river Maffacre, and, crossing the country somewhat irregularly, terminated on the southern side, at a small bay called *Les Ances à Pitre* ; leaving about two-thirds of the whole island in the possession of Spain. Proceeding eastward along the shore from the boundary on the north, the first place of note is Monte Christi, a town which formerly grew to importance by contraband traffick with North America, but is now reduced to a miserable village, the abode of a few fishermen, and the surrounding country exhibits a melancholy prospect of neglect and sterility. The river St. Jago runs into the sea at this place ; on the banks of which, at some distance inland, are grass farms of considerable extent. From the mouth of this river, for the space of fifteen leagues, to Punta Isabella (the scite of the first settlement established by Christopher Columbus) the soil, though capable of improvement, exhibits no sign of cultivation. From Isabella to old Cape François (with the exception of Puerto de Plata) the coast seems entirely deserted ; nor, after passing the bay of Samana, does a much better prospect offer, until coasting round the eastern extremity, we reach a vast extent of level country called *Los Llanos*, or the Plains ; at the west end of which, on the banks of the river Ozama, stands the metropolis.

THIS city, which was long the most considerable in the new world, was founded by Bartholomew Columbus, in the year 1498, and named after a saint of great renown in those days, St.