

AMERICA.



Landing of Columbus.

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1. AMERICA is an extensive continent, comprising one of the grand divisions of the globe. It contains about three-tenths of the dry land on the surface of the earth, and is washed on all sides by vast oceans.

2. Its climate is various, embracing that of every Zone; the torrid, the temperate on both sides of the equator, and part of the frigid. It is said to be colder, generally, than in places in the same latitude in other parts of the world.

3. This continent is distinguished for the variety and richness of its vegetable productions, the number of its mines of gold, silver, and precious stones, and for the freedom of its political institutions.

4. The inhabitants amount to about 50 and a half millions, of whom 22 millions are whites, 10 millions of Indians, 9 millions of negroes, and 9 and a half millions of the mixed races.

5. The whites are chiefly English in the North, and Spaniards in

America. Q.—1. What does America contain? 2. What is said of the climate? 3. For what is this continent distinguished? 4. What is the number of inhabitants? 5. What are the Whites?