

## This Table has been prepared from a careful comparison of statements, and gives the figures now accepted by the hest authorities.]

[The extreme length of South America may be computed at 4020 geographical miles. Throughout this vast extent stretches the colossal chain of the Andes, nowhere of any remarkable width, but always of surpassing height; seldom at any great distance from the coast, to which it descends with a somewhat rapid and unbroken incline; and eastward, dipping towards the vast plains of the Silvas and the Pampas in a series of terraces and deep valleys.

It first emerges from the ocean in the bleak and rocky islands of Tierra del Fuego, where its summits are covered with a dreary-looking peat moss, and its sides with sombre forests of brown beech. A profound valley filled with the waters of the Pacific forms the Straits of Magellan, and the mountains again appear on the west coast of Patagonia, whence they extend in an unbroken line to the Isthmus of Panama. A lower chain, partly submerged by the sea, is represented by the archipelagoes and islands that fringe the iron-bound shore from Cape Horn to the 48th parallel of south latitude. This iron-bound shore is broken up by countless inlets or fiords, between whose rocky walls the billows hurtle with restless violence.

