

after the first voyage of Raleigh. It was Jodocus Hondius who, as early as the year 1599, fixed the ideas of geographers, and figured the interior of Spanish Guiana as a country well known. He transformed the isthmus between the Rio Branco and the Rio Rupunuwini (one of the tributary streams of the Essequibo) into the lake *Rupunuwini*, *Parima*, or *Dorado*, two hundred leagues long, and forty broad, and bounded by the latitudes of  $1^{\circ} 45'$  south, and  $2^{\circ}$  north. This inland sea, larger than the Caspian, is sometimes traced in the midst of a mountainous country, without communication with any river;\* and sometimes the Rio Oyapok (Waiapago, Japoc, Viapoco) and the Rio de Cayana are made to issue from it.† The first of these rivers, confounded in the eighth article of the treaty of Utrecht with the Rio de Vicente Pinçon (Rio Calsoëne of D'Anville), has been, even down to the late congress of Vienna, the subject of interminable discussions between the French and Portuguese diplomatists.‡ The second is an imaginary prolongation either of the Tonnegrande or of the Oyac (Wia?). The inland sea (Laguna Parime) was at first placed in such a manner, that its western extremity coincided with the meridian of the confluence of the Apure and the Orinoco. By degrees it was advanced toward the east,§ the western extremity being found to the south of the mouth of the Orinoco. This change produced others in the respective situations of the lakes Parima and Cassipa, as well as in the direction of the course of the Orinoco. This great river is represented as running, from its delta as far as beyond the

\* See, for instance, Hondius, *Nieuwe Caerte van het goudrycke landt Guiana*, 1599; and Sanson's Map of America, in 1656 and 1669.

† *Brasilia et Caribaua*, auct. Hondio et Huelsen, 1599.

‡ I have treated this question in a *Mémoire sur la fixation des limites de la Guyane Française*, written at the desire of the Portuguese government during the negotiations of Paris in 1817. (See Schoell, *Archives polit.*, or *Pièces inédites*, vol. i, p. 48—58.) Ribeyro, in his celebrated map of the world of 1529, places the Rio de Vicente Pinçon south of the Amazon, near the Gulf of Maranhão. This navigator landed at this spot, after having been at Cape Saint Augustin, and before he reached the mouth of the Amazon. (*Herrera*, dec. I, p. 107.) The narrative of Gomara, *Hist. Nat.*, 1553, p. 48, is very confused in a geographical point of view.

§ Compare the maps of 1599 with those of Sanson (1656) and of Blaeuw (1633).