

to America, has given rise to the general error, that the true *Vitis vinifera* is common to the two continents. The *Parras monteses* which yields "the somewhat sour wine of the island of Cuba," was probably gathered on the *Vitis tiliæfolia* which Mr. Willdenow has described from our herbals. In no part of the northern hemisphere has the vine hitherto been cultivated with the view of producing wine, south of the  $27^{\circ} 48'$ , or the latitude of the island of Ferro, one of the Canaries, and of  $29^{\circ} 2'$ , or the latitude of Bushire in Persia.

WAX.—This is not the produce of native bees (the *Melipones* of Latreille), but of bees brought from Europe by way of Florida. The trade in wax has only become important since 1772. The exportation of the whole island, which from 1774 to 1779 was only 2,700 arrobas (average year), was estimated in 1803, including contraband, at 42,700 arrobas, of which 25,000 were destined for Vera Cruz. In the churches of Mexico there is a great consumption of Cuban wax. The price varies from sixteen to twenty piastres the arroba.

Trinidad and the small port of Baracoa also carry on a considerable trade in wax, furnished by the almost uncultivated regions on the east of the island. In the proximity of the sugar-factories many bees perish of *inebriety* from the molasses, of which they are extremely fond. In general the production of wax diminishes in proportion as the cultivation of the land augments. The exportation of wax, according to the present price, amounts to about 500,000 of piastres.

COMMERCE.—It has already been observed, that the importance of the commerce of the island of Cuba depends not solely on the riches of its productions, the wants of the population in the articles and merchandize of Europe, but also in great part on the favourable position of the port of the Havannah. This port is situated at the entrance of the

added something to the analogies of the *woman-serpent*, the *conflict of two brothers*, the *cataclysm of water*, the *raft of Coxcox*, the *exploring bird*, and many other things that teach us incontestably that there existed a community of antique traditions between the nations of the two worlds? (Views of the Cordilleras and Monuments of America.)