By J...

Brazil, was a Portuguese settlement begun one hundred years before New Amsterdam was divided between the Dutch, the Swedes, the French, and the English. In spite of this, the Continent for many square miles, the English began to realize the country of over four million.

It was first known as the land of sugar cultivation, the product of which gave to the seventeenth century its largest producer of gold; for it was considered the world with silver and tin and gold. This had run its course in tobacco, which was to be succeeded by the production of cotton and tobacco. The nineteenth century saw the rise of steam and the spread of sugar cultivation; the twentieth brought to the world the care of the United States, the British, and the Europeans. A new country was formed under the name of the United States, the United States of Brazil, with its capital at Rio de Janeiro.

Another cause was the French Revolution and its effect on the European possessions overseas. The French, who were successful in conquering Brazil, remained there until 1808, when they were forced to leave. The Brazilian government was then able to assert its independence and hold together as a nation against the French until 1818, when the French left.

The facing page: E. D. S. of Rio, for instance, is the photograph taken by one of the men whose work on the highway to Belo Horizonte was abandoned when the project was closed to the public.