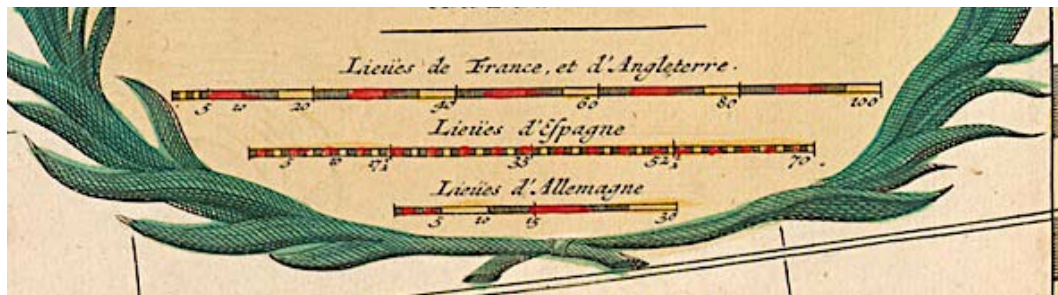
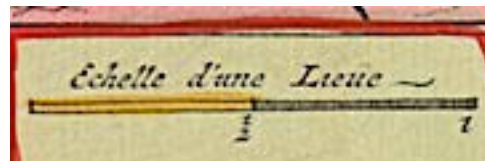


## A Closer Look at the Map

- The long title across the top of the map sets the stage for its contents. The setting is the War of Spanish Succession (1702-1714). During this bloody conflict, Britain, Holland and the Holy Roman Empire were pitted against France and Spain.
- The words Septentrion, Orien, Occident, and Midi orient the map for the viewer.  
Based on Latin words:  
**Septentrio** refers to the unexplored areas in the **north**, and comes from the seven stars of the great dipper  
**Oriens** refers to the sun that rises or **east**  
**Occidens** refers to the region of the falling sun or **west**  
**Midi** refers to high noon or **south**
- Small compass roses with a fleur de lis pointing north are spread throughout the map.
- A cartouche denotes Pierre Mortier as a Geographer from Amsterdam. It also includes distance aids. Lieues is the French word for leagues, a common unit of measurement throughout Western Europe in 1703, although its length varied greatly from region to region. It was originally intended to represent the distance a person could walk in an hour. The image from the cartouche shows a French and English league, a Spanish league and a German league. Who walked the fastest?



This small inset gives the scale for the map:



- Lines of latitude and longitude are included as well as the **Tropic of Cancer**. The latitude lines are fairly accurate. Between the 16th and 18th centuries longitude lines are a serious puzzle for cartographers. As more ships sailed transcontinental voyages, it became imperative that they sail swiftly and without

incident. They needed longitude measurements - How to measure lines that bend around the earth and meet at the poles? The puzzle was solved in part by John Harrison, a clock maker who submitted his solution to the Longitude Prize (1714), a contest offered by the British government. Visit the [Royal Museum in Greenwich](http://www.rmg.co.uk/harrison) to learn more about this problem and solution. <http://www.rmg.co.uk/harrison>

- An interesting addition to this map are the letters found in the grid lines around the edges that allow the map reader to locate a position in a quadrant on the map. Quadrant Fb includes the peninsula of Florida.
- By the 1800's many ships from different European countries had traveled to the West Indies and claimed land for their crowns. As they composed journals and charts they assigned names to different places. Just as the name 'America' stuck, other place names held as well. Native American names caught on and place names with French, Spanish and English roots became common. It is similar to having an American friend who is named Carlos instead of Carl or calling a roll a croissant. On this map you will find many languages represented.
- The lines drawn on the map plot the annual route of the Spanish treasure fleet, as it entered and then left the Caribbean Sea via the east coast of Florida. The words written through the water include words of advice. In quadrant FB the words are "Seas are always short from the North", 'best passage between all of the islands', and 'the meeting spot for the galleons from the flotilla is usually in Havana'.
- **Floride** is the name given to a green section on the map that extends almost all the way to Mexico.
- Quadrant Fb includes the peninsula of Florida labeled **Tegeste Province**, a reference to the Tequesta tribe of Indians who lived in the area of present day Palm Beach.
- The promontory **Arba de Canaveral** is found on the east coast. The easy-to-recognize landmark was essential to navigators who used the cape to calculate distances from one point to another. An earlier version of the name Canaveral came from Spanish sailors who thought the tall reeds they saw growing along the coastline were sugar cane –canareal. Derivations of the name stuck, perhaps because of the promontory's importance to navigators, and today the place name Cape Canaveral is the oldest name in the continental U S designating a specific location.



Pierre Mortier, Theatre of War in America

The curious painting in the corner of the map contains a splendid scene of gold or silver acquisition. Miners extract precious metal from the hill with the winch; ingots are stored in the open treasure box, and the Dutch and Spanish galleons battle over the treasure.

