

during this excursion, yet, on their journey to James Town, they found seventeen men hurt and a boy slain, by the Indians. But before the close of the year the settlement received an accession of one hundred persons from England, making about two hundred in the whole colony. These accessions consisted of many gentlemen, a few labourers, several refiners, goldsmiths, and jewellers. The various denominations of these men evince the views of the whole. The ships were at length sent back, loaded with cedar, and a glittering earth, which, they vainly hoped, contained golden metal: these are recorded as the first Virginian products, as constituting the first remittances, and as indicating the earliest pursuits of an infant people. Little did they know of the true sources of wealth. Little did they imagine that a despicable plant (tobacco) would at a future period, enrich the inhabitants of this very territory, which they were ready to pronounce unfit to be inhabited, unless it were found to contain latent treasures of the precious metals.

Shortly after the sailing of the ships, Smith, while attempting to discover the head of the Chicohourin river, was taken prisoner twenty miles in the desert, by a party of two hundred Indians, who tied him to a tree with an intention of shooting him to death. Already had they assembled around him with their deadly weapons; but Opechancanough, brother of Powhatan, and commander of the party, holding up a compass that Smith had given him, they all instantly laid down their bows and arrows. They conducted their prisoner in triumph to various Indian tribes. Their order was this; drawing themselves all in file, their commander, in the midst, had all their arms borne before him; Smith was followed after him by three great lubbers, holding him fast; on each side went a file, with their arrows nocked. At length they brought him to Wewocomoco, where Powhatan then

resided in barbarian state. He was a prince of eminent sense and abilities, deeply versed in all the savage arts of government and policy—penetrating, crafty, insidious, it was as difficult to deceive him, as to elude his own stratagems. But he was cruel in his temper and showed no regard to truth or integrity. Smith found him surrounded by a strong guard of Indians. Before a fire he sat on a seat like a bedstead, covered with a great robe of racoon skins, with the tails hanging down: on each hand sat a young woman of 16 or 18 years of age; along each side of the house stood two rows of men, and behind them as many women, with all their heads and shoulders painted red, many of their heads decked with the white down of birds, every one adorned with something, a great chain also of white beads hung about their necks. When the prisoner entered the apartments of the Sovereign, all the people gave a shout. The Queen Appamatuck was appointed to bring him water to wash his hands, and another person brought him a bunch of feathers, instead of a towel, to dry them. They feasted him in their best manner; and he thought they intended to fatten and eat him. They then held a long consultation, at the close of which, two great stones were brought before Powhatan. As many of the Indians as could, laying hands on the devoted prisoner, dragged him to the stones, on which they placed him, with the intention of beating out his brains with clubs. At this moment Pocahontas the king's favourite daughter, (her entreaties and tears not availing to rescue the captive from execution) rushed between him and the executioner, took his head in her arms, and laid her own upon it to ward off the blows. The father was subdued, and the victim was spared. Two days afterwards, Powhatan sent Smith, accompanied by twelve guides to James Town.

In the summer of the ensuing year, Smith, in an open barge, with four-