

required, informed his readers, by a note, that "cet amusement barbare consiste à fouetter les porcs jusqu' a la mort, pour en rendre la chair plus delicate:" but the English author, in a third edition, corrects his translator, by stating that "a Barbecue is nothing more than a porket killed in the usual way, *stuffed with spices* and rich ingredients, and *basted with Madeira wine*"! "It is esteemed"—he adds,—“a very great delicacy; and is, I believe, a *costly dish*.”

This word—like “canoe,” “tobacco,” “hammock,” and several others—appears to have been imported to Virginia from the Antilles. Oviedo (Hist. gen., lib. vii., c. 1) mentioned *barbacoa* as the West Indian name of a scaffolding or covered platform for drying maize. In the Relation of De Soto's expedition to Florida, in 1538 (translated by Hakluyt, 1609), “a loft made with canes, which they build to keep their maize in, which they call a *barbacoa*,” is described as “an house set up in the air upon four stakes, boarded about like a chamber, and the floore of it is of cane hurdles.” (Virginia richly valued, &c, ch. xi.)

As early at least as 1665, “barbicue” and “barbicuing” were in use among the English residents of Guiana, to denote the Indian method of curing meat or fish, by laying it on a hurdle or wooden gridiron supported by four stakes driven into the ground, and exposing it to the heat of the sun or the smoke of a slow fire. An English writer in 1665, describing the punishment of a criminal who had attempted to murder the Captain-general of Guiana (Iord Willoughby of Parham), says: “His naked carcase was ordered to be dragged from the gaol . . . to the pillory at Toorarica, where a *Barbicue* was erected . . . His bowels [were] burnt under the Barbicue; . . . his head to be cut off and his body to be quartered and, when *dry-barbicued* or dry-roasted after the Indian manner, . . . to be put up at the most eminent places of the colony.” A Dutch voyager to Berbice, in 1695, describes this Indian grille, writing the name “*berbekot*,” and a similar process of dry-curing is still called “*barbacoting*” by the English and Indians of Guiana.⁷

⁷ See Hillhouse's Notes on the Indians of Brit. Guiana, reprinted in Journal of the R. Geogr. Society (1832), vol. ii., p. 230.