

beyond adding to his already large store of experience.

His third voyage was made under directions from the Dutch East India Company, a corporation of great importance in the commercial history of Holland, then striving to wrest from Spain her dominant position as a maritime State. He sailed from Amsterdam on the 25th March, 1609, and by the 5th of May he was off the Finmarke Cape.* When he arrived near Nova Zembla his crew refused to continue the voyage. They mutinied. Whether he was more pleased than displeased does not appear. What he did, however, was to propose to them to sail across the Atlantic and either go north and make trial for the Northwest passage or go south and, following up Capt. John Smith's idea, explore the North American coast in the neighbourhood of the 40th degree. They agreed to the latter proposition, and on the 14th May they sailed westward.

After a voyage of 56 days the vessel arrived off the coast of Nova Scotia, where they saw several French fishing vessels and "spake with a Frenchman fishing on the Banks of Sablon" (west of Halifax.) A month was spent in getting a new Nova Scotian mast, theirs having been lost in a storm, and in coasting along the wild New England shores, to which eleven years later the Plymouth colonists were to come and begin their home-making in the New World. There he found traces of Champlain; for the Indians drew for him the outline of Massachusetts Bay with a crayon given to them by the great French navigator, who had been

there in 1606. In a few days (18th August), Hudson reached the Virginian coast, partially explored it, missed seeing the nine ships and 500 colonists (sent to reinforce his friend Smith's colony) that arrived in Jamestown on the 11th August, to bring disaster upon the colony by their vicious acts; and finding that he was too far south, turned his vessel to the north-east, and arrived off Sandy Hook on the 2nd of September.

He went 150 miles up the river that bears his name, his primary object being to ascertain if Smith's conjecture that beyond the barrier of the Alleghanies there existed a great sea, on whose bosom borne he might go to China, was well founded.

Finding that the river was not deep enough to float his vessel beyond the spot where Waterford now stands, he returned to the mouth of the river. He was delighted with the climate, the great oaks that covered the land, the abundance of blue plums, the fertility of the soil, and the size and quality of the oysters. He had agreeable experience of the natives, and they of him.

One of these mutually agreeable experiences is related by the Rev. J. Heckewelder. It seems that when the Indians first saw Hudson's vessel in the distance they were puzzled. They saw a great way off something remarkably large floating or swimming on the water. Some concluded that it was either an uncommonly large fish or other animal, while others were of opinion that it must be a very large house. Runners were sent in all directions to summon the chiefs and the medicine men of the tribes. While these were preparing to receive the vessel as the home of their Manitou coming to visit them, the watchers came running to the Council with the information that the approaching thing was a house of various colours, crowded with living creatures of a different colour to themselves.

The red-clothed man they saw must be the Manitou. He hails them in an unknown language. They crowd

* Juet says "Thursday, 19th May, 1609:— 'Then we observed the sun having a slacke.' G. M. Ashe, in 'Henry Hudson the Navigator,' one of the Hakluyt Society's valuable publications, says the word *slake*, as a substantive, seems to be a north country word, meaning, according to Brocket, an accumulation of mud and slime, from *Slijck*. If Hudson observed a spot on the sun on the 19th of May, 1609, he was undoubtedly the earliest discoverer of this most interesting phenomenon; the observation of Thomas Hariot, which is considered as the first on record, being more than a year and a half later—December 8th, 1610."