

On the eleventh of *November*, in the Year, one thousand, six hundred, and twenty, and, previous to their Landing, they drew up, and signed an Instrument, in which they declared themselves to be Subjects of the Crown of *England*, joining in a Body-politic, and solemnly engaging Submission to the Laws that should from Time, to Time, be enacted for the Benefit of the Colony. When these Forms were concluded, they chose Mr. *John Carver* to be their Governour.

They, next, sent out Parties, in Order that they might examine the Situation of the Country, and deliver in a Report concerning the most proper Spot for the Establishment of a Colony. At their Return, the whole Company were so satisfied with the Result of their Observations, that they resolved to proceed, as soon as possible, to the Place which had been the most approved. Accordingly, on the twenty-third of *December*, they visited, and fixed upon an Eminence on the main Land, where, formerly, Corn had grown, and which, at that Time, was watered by many Springs. Near it, and in View from an adjacent Hill where the *English* intended to erect a Fort, was a capacious Bay, and within it were *Rhode*, and *Elizabeth* Islands. No Time was now lost; a necessary Number of Edifices were constructed; but, in Order that as few as possible might serve, the Colonists divided themselves into nineteen Families, who, after an assiduous Toil, during three Months, had intirely laid the Foundations of a Town.

The Land immediately adjoining to this Spot was uninhabited; a Circumstance which (according to the Information of a Savage, who arrived amongst the *English*, with Offers of Amity from the next adjacent peopled Country,) was owing to a Plague which raged until the Mortality had become universal.

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