

asked the pilot where the towne was : he tolde vs a little further. After three houres more, the Sun being almost set, we began to suspect that he led vs that way to betray vs ; for hee confessed that those Spaniards which fled from Trinidad, and also those that remained with Carapana in Emeria, were ioyned together in some village vpon that riuer. But when it grew towards night ; and wee demanded where the place was : hee tolde vs but foure reaches more. When we had rowed foure and foure, we saw no signe ; and our poore water-men, euen heart-broken, and tired, were ready to giue up the ghost : for we had now come from the galley neere forty miles.

At the last we determined to hang the pilot ; and if wee had well knowne the way backe againe by night, we had surely gone ; but our owne necessities pleaded sufficiently for his safety : for it was as darke as pitch, and the riuer began so to narrow it selfe, and the trees to hang ouer from side to side, as wee were driuen with arming swords to cut a passage thorow those branches that couered the water. Wee were very desirous to finde this towne, hoping of a feast, because wee made but a short breakfast aboard the galley in the morning and it was now eight a clocke at night, and our stomacks began to gnawe apace : but whether it was best to returne or goe on, we beganne to doubt, suspecting treason in the pilot more and more : but the poore olde Indian euer assured vs that it was but a little further, but this one turning and that turning : and at the last about one a clocke after midnight wee saw a light ; and rowing towards it, wee heard the dogges of the village. When we landed wee found few people ; for the lord of that place was gone with diuers canoas aboue foure hundred miles off, vpon a iourney towards the head of Orenoque to trade for golde, and to buy women of the Canibals, who afterward vnfortunately passed by vs as wee rode at an anker in the port of Morequito in the darke of the night, and yet came so neere vs, as his canoas grated against our barges : he left one of his company at the port of Morequito, by whom wee vnderstood that hee had brought thirty yoong women, diuers plates of golde, and had great store of fine pieces of cotton cloth, and cotton beds. In his house we had good store of bread, fish, hennes, and Indian drinke, and so rested that night, and in the morning after we had traded with such of his people as came downe, we returned towards our gally, and brought with vs some quantity of bread, fish, and hennes.