

of the island of Bermudez, otherwise called "Gorga," being the most remote of all the islands yet found in the world, I determined to send some of the people ashore, both to search for what might be there, and to leave certain hogs upon it to propagate; but on account of a contrary wind, I could not bring the ship nearer than cannon shot. The island was 36 miles in length, 48 in breadth, and about 90 in circuit."*

From that date to the year 1543, we have no recorded instance of any one visiting the islands; but during this year, tradition asserts, that another Spaniard; to whom the King of Spain had granted them, landed and took formal possession, planting a flag on a prominent headland of the south shore of the main island, and carving the initials of his name with the date of his visit on the rock beneath.

The next account of the Bermudas is from one Henry May, an Englishman, who, after having cruised for some time in a privateer about the Gulf of Mexico, sailed from Laguna, November 29, 1593, in a French vessel bound for Europe. It so happened that on the 7th of December when it was supposed that the dreaded Bermudas were passed; the crew of this vessel were served with a liberal allowance of wine to celebrate such a joyous event, and drink to a speedy voyage across the Atlantic. But such was not to be their good fortune, for about midnight of

*If these theoretical measurements approximate the truth, the submergence of the islands must have taken place after this date.