

and had also then surprized *James Town*, if one of the *Savages*, who had received the *Christian* faith, had not discovered their intention. Since that, recovered of that blow, it went happily forwards: and might by this time have been raised to some power and greatnesse, if the *English* by diverting on some by-Plantations, and by employing indigent and necessitous persons in so great a work, had not discouraged the design. For certainly one might say of this *Plantation*, as the *Scripture* doth of the *Camp of David* in the time of *Saul*, that few, or none were sent unto it (except the principals) but such as were in distresse, or debt, or some way, or other discontented: men never likely to advance and pursue a businesse of such publick interest. Commendable howsoever in this particular, (though perhaps that commendation do belong to their Governours) that being here, they kept themselves constantly to those *Forms of Worship* which were establish'd and observed in the Church of *England*.

As for the *Natives* of the whole, they were divided (as was said) into several *Tribes*, every Tribe under the command of their several *Chiefs*: which *Chiefs*, though many in number, and of little power, knew well enough how to keep their *State* unto their Subjects, and to shew it also unto strangers. For when *Powhatan* was pleased to give audience unto Captain *Newport*, and the rest of the *English* sent from *Smith*, they found him on a Bed of Mats, his Pillow of Leather imbroidered with white Beads and Pearl, attired with a Robe of skins like an *Irish* Mantle: at his head and feet an handsome young woman; on each side of the room twenty others, with their necks and shoulders painted Red, and about their Necks a great Chain of Beads; his principal men sitting before them in like manner. Yet notwithstanding this great *State*, (and great it was indeed for such petty Princes) he and the rest became so subject to the *English*, that in *Smiths* time they did not onely pay their *Tributes*, or Contributions, but at his command would send their *Slaves* & Subjects to *James Town*, to receive correction for wrongs done to the *Colony*. And it is probable enough that those of *New-England*, being the greater and more powerfull *Plantation* (as followed with the stronger zeal, and carried on by the united purses of a prevalent Faction) were of like influence also amongst the *Natives*, though I finde it not expressed in so many particulars.

4. The Isles of *BERMUDA Z.*, many in number (some say 400 at the least) are situate directly East from *Virginia*, from which they are distant 500 *English* miles; 3300 of the same miles from the Citie of *London*. So called from *John Bermudaz*, a *Spaniard*, by whom first discovered. Called also the *Summer-Islands*, from the shipwrack of Sir *George Summers* upon that Coast; so much delighted with the sadnesse of the misadventure, that he endeavoured what he could to settle a *Plantation* in it.

That of more fame and greatnesse than all the rest, to which the name is now most properly ascribed, is situate in the Latitude of 32. & 30 minutes. Well stored, when first discovered, with plenty of Hogs, divers fruits, Mulberries, *Palmites*, Cedars; as also of Silk-worms, Pearls and Amber, and such rich Commodities: of Fowl so infinite an abundance, that our men took a thousand of one sort, as big as a Pigeon, within two, or three hours. The Aire hereof very sound and healthy, found by experience (the best Argument in such a point) to be agreeable to the body of an *English* man; yet terribly exposed to Tempests of Rain, Thunder, and Lightning. For which, and for the many shipwracks happening on the Coasts thereof, and want of other Inhabitants to be said to own it; the Mariners have pleased to call it the *Island of Devils*. The soyl ascribed to be as fertile as any; well watered, plentifull in *Maize*, of which they have two Harvests yearly: that which is sowed in *March*, being cut in *July*; and that which is sowed in *August*, being mowed in *December*. No venomous Creature to be found in all the *Island*, or will live, brought hither. And besides these Commodities, of so safe a being, so fenced about with Rocks and Ilets, that without knowledge of the passages, a Boat of ten Tuns cannot be brought into the *Haven*; yet with such knowledge, there is entrance for the greatest ships. The *English* have since added to these strengths of nature, such additional helps, by Block-houses, Forts and Bulwarks in convenient places, as may give it the title of *Impregnable*.

It was first discovered (but rather accidentally than upon design) by *John Bermudaz*, a *Spaniard*, about the year 1522. and thereupon a Proposition made in the Council of *Spain*, for setting a *Plantation* in it; as a place not to be avoided by the *Spanish Fleets*, in their return from the Bay of *Mexico*, by the Streits of *Bahama*. Neglected notwithstanding, till the like accidental coming of Sir *George Summers*, sent to *Virginia* with some Companies of *English* by the Lord *De la Ware*, An. 1609. Who being shipwracked on this Coast, had the opportunity to survey the *Island*; which he so liked, that he endeavoured a *Plantation* in it, at his coming home. An. 1612. the first *Colony* was sent over under *Richard More*, who in three years erected eight, or nine Forts in convenient places, which he planted with Ordinance. An. 1616. a new supply is sent over under Captain *Daniel Tucker*, who applied themselves to sowing Corn, setting of Trees brought thither from other parts of *America*, and planting that gainfull Weed Tobacco. An. 1619. the businesse is taken more to heart, and made a matter of the Publick, many great Lords and men of Honour being interested in it: Captain *Butler* sent thither with 500 men, the Isle divided into *Tribes*, or *Cantreds*, to each Tribe a *Burrough*; the whole reduced to a settled Government both in Church and State, according to the Law of *England*. After this, all things so succeeded, that in the year 1623. here were said to be three thousand *English*, ten Forts, and in those Forts fifty peeces of Ordinance; their numbers since increasing dayly, both by Children born within the *Island*, and supplies from *England*.