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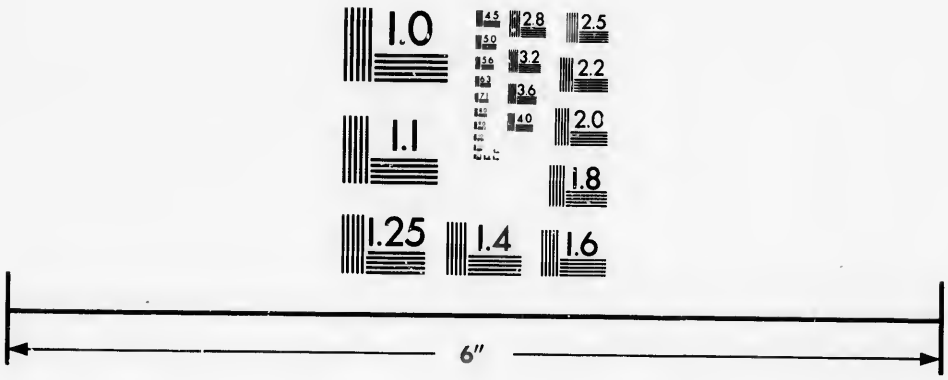

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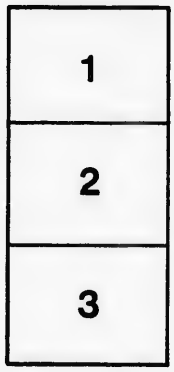

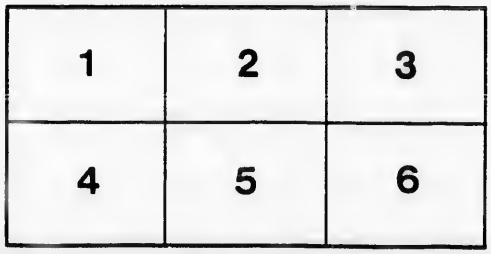

Jn. Lodge Sc.t

Indians dance round an English Boy who was playing on a guittar.

DICOVERIES OF THE

English French and Dutch,

IN

AMERICA:

WITH

SIR FRANCIS DRAKES, SCHOUTEN'S,

and LE MAIRE'S,

Voyage Round the World.

IN TWO VOLS.

Embellished with CUTS.

VOL I.

LONDON:

Printed for T. NEWBERY, MDCCLXXXVI.

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THE DISCOVERIES OF THE ENGLISH IN *AMERICA.*

CHAP. I.

The Discoveries made by the English during the reigns of king Henry VII *and* VIII, *containing the Voyages of John Cabot, who first visited Newfoundland, and the Island of St. John, and of Sebastian Cabot for the finding out a North-west Passage, who first discovered the Continent of America, and sailed along the Coast as far as Florida. Mr. Hore's attempt to establish a Colony in Newfoundland; the misfortune he met with; and a memorable instance of the generosity of King Henry* VIII. *Capt. Hawkins brings a Brasilian Chief to England.*

JOHN CABOT, a citizen of Venice, who had been long settled at Bristol, sailed in an English ship, with a view of making discoveries, in 1494, while Christopher Columbus was performing his second voyage, and actually saw

the

the coast of Newfoundland, to which he gave the name of Prima Vista or First seen; and on the 24th of June landed in an island, which he called St. John's from his discovering it on the day of that Saint. This island, which is in the bay now called St. Laurence, appeared to be extremely barren; but the sea around it abounded in fish, and the natives, who wore the skins of bears for cloaths, were armed with bows and arrows, pikes and wooden clubs, darts and slings.

Upon this discovery, king Henry VII. granted a patent to John Cabot and his three sons, Lewis, Sebastian, and Sanchius, dated the 5th of March, 1495, with authority to sail with five ships upon discoveries to the east, west and north, allowing them the full properties of the countries they should discover, with this only reservation, that they should return to Bristol, and pay him the fifth part of the neat profits of the voyage, in consideration of which they were to have the exclusive right to the countries so discovered, and no other English subject were to trade thither, without their licence. He had afterwards a new grant, by which he had leave to take ships out of any of the ports of England of the burden of 200 tons. John, however, dying before the squadron set sail, his son Sebastian made a proposal to the king, to discover a north-west passage to the Indies, and for that purpose had a ship manned and victualled at Bristol at the king's expence, and three or four other ships were fitted out by some of the merchants of that city.

With

With this ſquadron, Sebaſtian ſet ſail in May 1497, and on the eleventh of June got into the latitude of 67. 30, where finding the ſea ſtill open, he imagined that he might have paſſed thro' into the Indian ſea; but his crew mutinying, he was obliged to return into the latitude of 56°. and from thence, he ſteered along the continent of America, till he came into 38°. on the coaſt, which he expreſly ſays was afterwards called Florida, where proviſions growing ſhort, he ſteered back, and having touched at Newfoundland, returned to England.

This Sebaſtian Cabot was the firſt diſcoverer of the continent of America, which Columbus did not ſee till a year after, and the firſt who took a view of Florida, which was viſited by Juan Ponce de Leon, in 1512, who gave it the name of Florida; took poſſeſſion of it for the king of Spain, and uſually paſſes for the firſt diſcoverer. This voyage, gave great light to Ferdinand Magellan, and induced him confidently to affirm, that ſuch a paſſage might be found by the ſouth, which he happily effected 22 years after.

Sebaſtian Cabot after this, entered into the Spaniſh ſervice, when he diſcovered the river Plata, and ſailed up it 360 miles. This occaſioned his being made grand pilot of Spain; but after reſiding for ſome time at Seville in that character, he returned to England, and was employed by king Henry VIII. in conjunction with Sir Thomas Pert, vice admiral of England. Theſe gentlemen ſailed in 1516. with two ſhips of 250 tons, to the coaſt of Braſil, and afterwards

wards visited the Spanish islands of St. Domingo, and St John Porto de Rico. In the last of these islands they traded, and paid for what they had, by giving in exchange vessels made of pewter.

A war with Scotland put an end to any further discoveries during this reign. But at length, Mr. Hore, a merchant of London, resolved to attempt a settlement in Newfoundland, and to go thither himself. This gentleman receiving all the encouragement he could expect from King Henry VIII. many young gentlemen of fortune and distinguished rank, offered to share both the expence and danger of the undertaking; Mr. Hore therefore fitted out two ships, which set sail about the end of April 1536, with 120 men on board, including 30 persons of character.

Within the space of two months they arrived at Cape Breton, from whence they sailed round a great part of Newfoundland to Penguin island, in the latitude of 50°. 40', where they found great plenty of the fowl from whence the island takes its name. They afterwards went on shore upon the east side of Newfoundland, and had an accidental view of a boat-full of the natives of the island, whom they pursued both by sea and land, but were not able to overtake them. They staid here till their provisions began to grow very short, and being then afraid to trust themselves at sea in such a condition, de ayed going on board, till they were in such distress, that they actually eat one another; for some of them killed their companions privately in the woods, hid them, and then secretly roasted and eat

their

their flesh, till this horrid practice coming to the knowledge of their commander, he, by a judicious and pathetic speech, brought them to resolve rather to live upon grass and weeds, than to subsist any longer by this detestable method.

Soon after, a French ship well manned and victualled, put into the same harbour; of this the English, prompted by the irresistable calls of hunger, resolved to take advantage, and being weary of a country in which they had endured such miseries, waited for a fair opportunity, and then seizing the French ship, left their own, and sailed directly for the coast of England. They had a prosperous voyage, and arrived at St. Ive's in Cornwall, about the end of October, so much altered, that their nearest relations did not know them.

Some months after, the Frenchmen came to England to complain, that the English had run away with their ship, and that they should have perished with hunger, if they had not supported themselves by fishing. King Henry examined closely into the affair, and finding that extreme want was the sole cause of an action that could be no otherwise justified, he satisfied the French to the full extent of their demands, and pardoned his own subjects a crime which necessity had forced them to commit.

To these beginnings we owe the Newfoundland trade. That island is of a triangular figure, 350 miles in length from north to south, and 200 miles in breadth at the base from east to west, where broadest. On the north it is separated from the continent, by the narrow streights

of Belleisle; on the west it has the bay of St. Laurence; on the south Cape-Breton; and on the east the ocean. There is no country in the world better furnished with harbours, and it is abundantly supplied with fresh water. The climate in summer is very hot, and in winter so cold, that the snow lies upon the ground at least five months, notwithstanding its being situated in between 47 and 52. of north latitude, and consequently more to the south than England. It however produces filberts, strawberries, some kinds of cherries, and other hardy fruits. Corn and hay succeeded but indifferently, yet it affords great plenty of venison, wild-fowl, and fish, so that with dry food in plenty from Europe people may live there very comfortably even in winter, since the country produces fuel of several kinds in abundance. In short, notwithstanding the dreadful distresses of the above gentlemen who first attempted a settlement in this island, and notwithstanding the bleakness and barrenness of this inhospitable country, it soon became of the utmost consequence; for towards the close of queen Elizabeth's reign, there were annually employed upon its coasts upwards of 200 fishing vessels, on board of which were above 8000 seamen.

Some time after Mr. William Hawkins*, an officer in king Henry the VIIIth's navy, made three prosperous voyages to Guinea, and from thence

* This gentleman was the father of the famous Sir John Hawkins, and the grandfather of Sir Richard Hawkins, both eminent seamen.

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A Brasilian Prince brought to England & Introduced to King Henry the 8th.

thence acroſs the Atlantic ocean to Braſil, where having ſome dealings with the prince or chief of the Braſilians, he expreſſed a deſire of ſeeing England; but at the ſame time ſhewed a ſuſpicion of his not obtaining leave to return home. To remove this diſtruſt, Capt. Hawkins very readily offered to leave Mr. Martin Cockram, whom the Indians eſteemed next to himſelf, as an hoſtage, and this offer was readily accepted.

This Braſilian chief he brought over, and preſented to king Henry, who received and entertained him very kindly, and after a year's ſtay in England, generouſly diſmiſſed him. But in his paſſage home, the Indian chief unhappily died, which gave all on board great concern, from an apprehenſion that Mr. Cockram would be either puniſhed with death, or detained during life. Their fears were however ill founded; for the Braſilians hearing what they had to alledge, readily concluded that it was far from being likely, they would dare to return to their country, if they had ill uſed their king, and that it was out of their power to preſerve his life, if he was attacked by ſickneſs. They therefore freely ſet Mr. Cockram at liberty, kindly entertained the men, and furniſhed the ſhip with a ſufficient cargo for England. This encouraged other merchants to trade to thoſe parts of Braſil that were not yet in the poſſeſſion of the Portugueſe.

CHAP. II.

Capt. Drake's Voyage to the Isthmus of Darien. He takes the town of Nombre de Dios, but being wounded, is obliged to retire, and leave immense treasures behind him. He however takes many vessels laden with provisions; and marching over land for Panama, has a view of the South Sea. He receives intelligence of a vast treasure, but is disappointed by the folly of one of his men. He then plunders Santa Cruz, and being joined by the crew of a French ship, lands at Rio Francisco, and seizes a great number of mules loaded with gold and silver. He makes a very dangerous but successful attempt to regain his pinnaces; rewards the Symerons for the assistance they had given him, and returns to Plymouth.

IN the following reign, the people were unsuccessfully employed in discovering either a north-east or a north-west passage, in hopes of grasping the whole trade of the Indies, and by bending all their strength that way, neglected making those discoveries, that might have been attended with success. But in the reign of queen Elizabeth, who made the naval power of this nation her peculiar care, discoveries were carried on with fresh vigour, and between the years 1562 and 1568, Captain John Hawkins made three voyages to the West Indies

and

and in all but the last, had very great success. In the year 1572, capt. Francis Drake also made his famous expedition into the West Indies.

This gentleman, who had accompanied his kinsman, Sir John Hawkins, in his last expedition, set sail from Plymouth on the 24th of May 1572, in the Pasca of 70 tons burden, with the Swan of 250 tons, commanded by his brother John Drake. He had on board 73 men and boys, and had not only a good stock of ammunition and a year's provisions, but had three pinnaces stowed on board, in pieces, that might, upon occasion, be speedily joined together. He made the Canary islands on the 2d of June, and on the 29th passed between Guadaloupe and Dominica, on the south side of which they came to an anchor, and finding several cottages formed of the boughs of palm-trees, but no sign of inhabitants, he inferred that these were the occasional residence of fishermen.

Having staid here three days, he weighed anchor, and steering towards the main land of America, made Port Pheasant, where he erected his pinnaces, and was soon after joined by James Rawse, in a bark belonging to the isle of Wight, with 30 men, they being informed that he designed to surprize Nombre de Dios.

They left this place in company on the 22d of July, and three days after took two small vessels, from Nombre de Dios, laden with planks, by which they learned, that some soldiers were daily expected at that town from the governor of Panama, to protect the inhabitants from the Symerons, a people inhabiting the country be-

tween that place and Panama. These were descended from those, who flying from the cruelty of the Spaniards, about eighty years before, had by degrees formed themselves into a nation.

Mr. Drake having treated these people civilly, set them on shore, judging it impossible for them to convey any intelligence about him to the town, before his arrival, it being at a considerable distance by land; then taking 53 men with drums, trumpets, and warlike stores, he left the rest of his company with their ships, under the care of Capt. Rawse, in a secure and secret situation, and proceeded in the pinnaces, keeping all day close under the shore, and rowing hard at night, till he entered the harbour. He there got between the town and a small ship just arrived from Old Spain, which he forced to the other side of the bay, to prevent her giving the alarm, and then landing without resistance, marched up to the fort, where there was but one man, who fled to alarm the place. On the captain's entering it he found no more than six brass guns and a few culverins, which he dismounted.

Mr. Drake, then leaving a few of his men to keep possession of the fort, and some others to guard the pinnaces, marched to an high ground, where he divided the sailors who accompanied him into two parties of sixteen men each. One under the command of John Oxenham, he ordered to enter the east end of the town, near the market-place, while he himself, with drums beating and colours flying, led the rest up the principal street.

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The inhabitants had drawn themselves up near the governor's house, to cover the gate leading to Panama, in order to secure a retreat; but were so terrified at the sight of the English, that after firing two or three times, they threw down their arms and fled with the utmost precipitation. The alarm bell still continued ringing, but Mr. Drake, having ordered it to be silenced, marched towards the royal treasury, which was then immensely rich; and the door of the store-house being in the confusion left open, saw a prodigious number of large silver bars, none of which the men were allowed to meddle with; but unhappily at this instant, a violent storm of thunder, lightning and rain damaged their arms, and filled the men with apprehensions that their pinnaces were in danger. This threw them into confusion; however Mr. Drake boldly insisted upon their proceeding, and would doubtless have executed his design of plundering the treasury; but becoming faint through loss of blood, occasioned by a wound in his leg, which he had hitherto concealed, he was with much difficulty persuaded to have it dressed, and to be carried on board one of the pinnaces. This obliged the rest to retire to their vessels, with the loss of one man.

They now proceeded to a small but plentiful island, about two leagues from the town, greatly mortified at leaving such immense wealth behind them. They there staid to refresh themselves, and then proceeded to their ships, which they reached on the first of August, when Capt. Rawse, having no hopes of their meeting with

success, since they were now certainly discovered all along the coast, resolved to leave them.

Mr. Drake, having staid here six days, sailed for Carthagena, when he soon found, by the firing of the ordnance, and ringing of the bells, that he was discovered; he however seized an outward bound ship of 240 tons burden that lay in the road, and two smaller vessels, dispatched thither from Nombre de Dios, to give notice of his being on the coast: he however treated those on board with great civility, and set them on shore.

He now resolved to sink the Swan, and knowing that the sailors would oppose it, prevailed on the carpenter to bore three holes in her bottom, when the water pouring in, they removed her cargo, and then set fire to her, to prevent her falling into the enemy's hands.

This being done he appointed his brother to command his own ship, and went himself on board one of the pinnaces. He soon found a convenient fertile spot on the coast of Darien, proper for erecting tents for his men, and preparing such warlike stores as he most wanted. They were here perfectly covered from view, and the vessel lay entirely concealed in a neighbouring creek, by which means he hoped to raise a belief, that he had entirely left the coast.

Having staid here till the eighth of September, he told his brother to take care of the ship, and, taking part of the men, proceeded with two pinnaces for the Rio Grande, keeping as much as possible out of sight. He landed his

men

men about two leagues to the weſtward of Carthagena, where treating the Indians with great civility, they ſupplied him with cattle and other freſh proviſions; for which he gave them ſome trifles in exchange. The next day he made the mouth of the river, where they had a terrible ſtorm, and after that was over, the men were much peſtered with muſketo's; but defended themſelves againſt their attacks by rubbing their bodies with lemon-juice.

They found the channel of the Rio Grande 23 fathoms deep, and ſo broad, that it required a very good eye to ſee from ſhore to ſhore. They here ſaw ſeveral houſes, and a Spaniard beckoning to them, they made towards the land, when he finding that they were not his countrymen, as he had at firſt imagined, betook himſelf to flight. They however landed, and found ſome cheeſe, white ruſk, bacon, ſeveral ſorts of ſweet-meats, and a conſiderable quantity of ſugar, out of which they ſupplied their veſſels, with as much as they wanted.

Mr. Drake now ſailed back to his brother, and by the way boarded ſeveral veſſels in hopes of finding gold, but they happened to be laden only with proviſions and other neceſſaries. Of theſe he took a great quantity, and diſpoſed of it in an iſland in ſuch a manner, that if any part of it ſhould be ſurprized by the Spaniards, there would ſtill be a ſufficient ſupply left, in caſe he ſhould ſtand in need of it. During his abſence his brother John had concluded a league of friendſhip with the Symerons, whom he promiſed to aſſiſt againſt the Spaniards, from whom they

they had lately taken a large quantity of gold and silver, and thrown it into the river; for as they set no value on that metal, they had no other motive for seizing it than that of exasperating their enemies.

As it was unusual for the Spaniards to bring down their treasures during the rainy season, which now approached, capt. Drake resolved to cruize in those seas till the time of their setting out, during which he plundered a great number of ships, but unhappily his brother John was slain in gallantly boarding a frigate. Upon this he moored his ship, and resolved to appear no more till the Spanish treasurer was set out for Nombre de Dios. However while he thus lay by several of his men died of calentures, among whom was his brother Joseph Drake.

The captain being at length informed by the Symerons that the treasurer was set out, he resolved, by their assistance, to march over land to Panama; these people not only consenting to serve him for guides, but to carry a large quantity of provisions; and when those failed, they agreed to supply him with more, by the help of their bows and arrows.

They set out on the 3d of February, 1573, being 48 in company, eighteen of whom were English, who had nothing to incommode them but their arms. On the third day of their march they arrived at a town belonging to the Symerons situated on the side of a hill, near a river, and encompassed with an high mud wall. The inhabitants made a very neat appearance; their dress differed but little from that of the

Spaniards,

Spaniards, and they received these strangers with great civility, and seemed to be in want of nothing, having all kinds of provisions in plenty. This town was 35 leagues from Nombre de Dios, and 55 from Panama. It was constantly guarded against the Spaniards, and the natives having the most implacable hatred against that nation, they often surprized and cut them off in the woods.

The captain left this place, after staying there only one night, and then marching ten days ascended a very high hill, where from a tree pointed out to him by the Symerons, he beheld the north sea, which he had left on the one hand, and the south-sea on the other, and from that moment resolved, if possible, to sail thither in an English ship.

Panama being now frequently in sight, he thought it prudent to keep his men as close together as possible, and their success depending on their being concealed, they struck out of the common road and reached a grove in the road to Nombre de Dios, at a small distance from Panama. Here capt. Drake sent a Symeron in disguise to act as spy, who soon returned with intelligence that the treasurer of Lima was to set out that very night, with his family, for Nombre de Dios, in order to embark for Spain, attended by fourteen mules, some of which were laden with gold, others with silver, and one with valuable jewels; and that the same night two caravans would pass the same way, with fifty mules in each, laden with provisions and a small quantity of silver. This intelligence was soon after con-

confirmed by a centinel, whom they were so fortunate as to seize

Upon receiving this intelligence, capt. Drake concealed himself with half his men 50 paces from the highway, while Mr. John Oxenham, and one of the Symeron chiefs, posted themselves with the other half on the opposite side. In this manner things were disposed, when one of the men who had drank too much, got up to see what approached, at the instant when the mules laden with provisions were passing by, though the captain had given strict orders, that not the least notice should be taken of them, and this man being dressed in a white shirt, which was the mark of distinction worn by the English, was perceived by a Spaniard, who spread the alarm, so that the treasurer turned his baggage out of the road, and only the mules with provisions came forward, some of which they seized, but to their great mortification, got only about the quantity of two horse loads of silver.

Having staid to refresh themselves, they mounted the mules, and proceeded towards Santa Cruz, but set those beasts at liberty on their approaching the town. They were now met by a party of soldiers, who summoned them to surrender, and promised to give them very kind treatment. The English laughed at this proposal, and received the enemy's fire, which they so effectually returned, that they put them to flight, when briskly following the pursuit, they entered the town with them, the Symeron-

susp

ſupporting them through the whole action with the greateſt bravery.

Santa Cruz then conſiſted of about fifty neat houſes, with a governor and other officers, with ware-houſes for receiving the Spaniſh goods which were brought thither from Nombre de Dios up the river Chagre, and from thence carried by mules to Panama. The captain here made an equal diviſion of the plunder he found in the town, among his own men and the Symerons.

There were at that time at Santa Cruz three ladies, who came thither to lie in, the air being much better than at Nombre de Dios, to which city they belonged, and as it was Mr. Drake's conſtant practice to behave upon all occaſions with as much humanity and decorum as poſſible, he was no ſooner informed of their ſituation, than he gave orders for their being particularly protected, and ſoon after viſited them himſelf, to prevent their entertaining any unjuſt apprehenſions of his conduct.

Though captain Drake was reſolved to ſtay ſome time longer on the coaſt, he now began to be uneaſy for his ſhip, from which he had been abſent above a fortnight. He therefore returned to it with all the expedition poſſible, and to his great joy found every thing in as good order as he could deſire.

The Symerons now propoſed making an attack on the houſe of Pezoro, an avaricious Spaniard, deeply concerned in the mines, whoſe income amounted to above 200l. a day, which he conſtantly locked up in cheſts. He lived near Verague, a town to the weſt of Nombre de Dios, and

and one of the Symerons, who had been his slave and had fled from his tyranny, promised to guide them to his treasures: but having only a small stock of provisions remaining, the captain thought it more necessary to obtain a fresh supply, in order to preserve the health and vigour of his men; Mr. Oxenham was therefore ordered to proceed with one of the frigates towards Toulon, and to bring off all the provisions he could meet with. Mr. Drake resolved to ply off the Cabezas in hopes of becoming master of some of the treasure barks that pass and repass, between Nicaragua and Veragua. Thus he wisely avoided the expedition against Pezoro, which would have been extremely laborious, as his men must have marched through a considerable tract of country.

Capt. Drake during this cruize, seized only a small vessel, in which was some gold, and a Genoese pilot, who informed him, that the English had every where spread an universal terror; while Oxenham took but one frigate, wherein was about 200 cocks and hens, 28 hogs, and a considerable quantity of maize. But what was of more consequence, he learnt from the prisoners, that two galleys had been built at Nombre de Dios in order to serve as a convoy to the Chagre fleet, the treasures of which now principally engrossed Mr. Drake's attention.

While things were in this situation, they were alarmed by observing a sail bearing down upon them, which however proved to be only a French ship of about 80 tons burden, the crew whereof were in great want of water, with which the captain

captain ordered them to be supplied; and they being informed of his designs, offered to join him, which after some deliberation was permitted.

The captain now leaving the two ships in a safe harbour, manned the frigate and two pinnaces, with 15 English and Symefons, and 20 French, and with this force steered to the Rio Francisco, where, the water being shallow, he left the frigate, with orders to lie close, till the return of the pinnaces. In these he proceeded with his forces as far up the river Francisco as was thought convenient; and then landing, marched forward with great regularity and silence, guided by the Symerons, till they came within a mile of the high road, when they refreshed themselves, and took up their quarters.

The next day they were agreeably surprised by the noise of the bells hung about the mules, they therefore set out to attack them, and found three caravans near together, two of which consisted of 70 mules each, and one of fifty, all of them richly laden with gold and silver. They had a guard of 45 soldiers, who fired on the approach of the English and French, and then retreated in order to call more assistance. By the above fire the French captain was wounded and one Symeron killed. The English and French now made the best use possible of their time, loaded themselves with as many wedges of gold and silver as they could carry, and having buried the rest in the sand, retreated towards the river, leaving behind them the French captain who had fainted in the woods with

with the loss of blood, and a French sailor, who had over-loaded himself with gold.

The next day they reached the Rio Francisco, where not finding the pinnaces, they began to fear they were lost; which appeared the more probable as seven Spanish pinnaces appeared hovering at a distance; but a sudden gust of wind attended with rain, obliged the Spaniards to sheer off.

Capt. Drake was much concerned at the apprehensions that if his pinnaces were taken, the poor men would be put to the torture to make them discover where his frigate and ships were; but being sensible that though this should really be the case, it would be some time before they could reach the ships, he assisted his men in making a raft, in order to attempt to get on board before the enemy. In this attempt he was accompanied only by one Englishman, two hardy Frenchmen, and a Symeron, who generously endeavoured to persuade him, in case his ships were destroyed, to live among those of his nation, who would do every thing in their power to serve him.

These having lashed the raft pretty securely, fixed a kind of rudder, and erecting a sail made of a biscuit bag, they committed themselves to the mercy of the sea, sitting up to the waist, and sometimes up to the arm-pits in water, and after a fatiguing voyage of about six hours, observed the pinnaces lying behind a point, where they had cast anchor.

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Capt.n Drake Seizes the Spanish Treasures near Rio Francisco.

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Upon this joyful ſight he ran the raft on the neareſt ſhore, and went to them by land, where after keeping them for ſome time in ſuſpenſe, he informed them of his vaſt ſucceſs, and the loſs of their captain and a ſailor. He was now told, that the pinnaces were prevented from ſteering up to Rio Franciſco at the time appointed, by a hard gale of wind. They however made a ſhift to reach that river at night, where they took in their comrades with the treaſure, and then ſteered directly for the frigate, and the ſhips, which having come up with, the captain divided the gold and ſilver, to their mutual ſatisfaction, equally between the Engliſh and French.

A few days after, Capt. Drake ſent a detachment of twelve Engliſh and ſixteen Symerons, to bring away the reſt of the treaſure; but they could find only thirteen bars of ſilver and ſome wedges of gold; for the reſt had been diſcovered and carried away, even the ground dug up for a mile round. They however brought this off, together with one of the Frenchmen, who, though he had been left behind, had the happineſs to eſcape from the Spaniards.

The captain's thoughts were now bent on returning home; having therefore diſmiſſed the French ſhip, he ſteered to Cape Cabezas, taking ſeveral Spaniſh veſſels, laden with proviſions, by the way. At this laſt place they ſtaid ſeven days, and gave the Symerons all the iron work, of which they were extremely fond, and whatever elſe they choſe. Mr. Drake alſo made them

ſeveral

several presents of linen, and silks for their wives and female relations; and giving to one of them a very handsome cutlass, was, in return, presented with four wedges of gold; but he no sooner received them, than he threw them into the common stock, declaring, that he thought it would be unjust not to share with those who had assisted in fitting him out, and had bought the cutlass, the price for which it was sold: A noble instance of disinterested integrity!

On their leaving these friendly people, they made some small prizes, and arriving at cape St. Anthony, took in a supply of turtle and their eggs, which were of great service during the rest of the voyage. Being soon after in want of water, there happily fell such a prodigious shower of rain as afforded them a sufficient quantity without their touching, as they intended, at Newfoundland: they therefore stretched over from Florida to the islands of Scilly, and came to an anchor in Plymouth harbour on the 9th of August, 1573, when the people being at church, and hearing the news of their arrival, instantly hurried out, and ran to the shore, to welcome him and his men on their happy return from this successful expedition.

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CHAP. III.

Sir Humphry Gilbert obtains a patent for settling the Continent of North-America, discovered by John and Sebastian Cabot: Takes a formal possession of Newfoundland, but meets with many disasters, and is lost in his return.

CAPTAIN Drake's great success encouraged others to follow his example, and in a very short time the English privateers made various voyages into all parts of America, and soon pilots capable of navigating ships to any part of the known world became so numerous, that such projects were daily set on foot, as in the former age would have been thought impracticable; but in this were carried into execution, at the expence of private persons, without any assistance from the crown, though they had all the countenance and encouragement they could desire: Among these, none was so great a proof of maritime skill, and so honourable in every respect to the nation, as the next expedition of capt. Francis Drake, in 1577, in which he sailed round the globe, which voyage will be inserted among the most remarkable of those excellent mariners who have also encompassed the earth.

Some years after this voyage, Sir Humphry Gilbert, a gentleman of Devonshire, represented

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to queen Elizabeth, the expediency of settling all those countries upon the continent of America, which had been formerly discovered by Sebastian Cabot, in order to prevent their falling into the hands of the French: Upon which her majesty granted him letters patent, to discover, plant, settle, and even to fortify and build castles, in any of the northern countries, not then in the possession of any christian prince.

Upon this encouragement, this gentleman applied himself to his friends and relations, in order to form a society capable of carrying this design into execution. In this he however met with many difficulties: notwithstanding which, he put to sea, but his voyage proved very unfortunate, and was attended with the loss of one of his best ships. After this severe blow, he sold his estate, in order to furnish the necessary expences of another squadron, in which several gentlemen of rank and fortune agreed to go with him in person.

This squadron consisted of the following vessels; the Delight of 120 tons, in which went Sir Humphry himself; the bark Raleigh, fitted out by Mr. Walter Raleigh, of 200 tons; the Golden Hind, of 40 tons; the Swallow, of 40 tons: and the Squirrel, of ten tons; having on board in all 260 men, among whom were many shipwrights, masons, carpenters, smiths, miners, and refiners.

It was resolved by the proprietors, that the fleet should sail to Newfoundland, and having taken in provisions there, proceed to the south, and not to pass by any river or bay worthy of notice,

tice, without examining it. On the 11th of June, 1583, this fleet set sail from Plymouth, but on the 13th the Raleigh, commanded by Capt. Butler, left the fleet, under the pretence that the Captain and his men were suddenly taken ill of a contagious disease. On the 30th of July they saw land in about the latitude of 51°, and from thence coasted along in to the south, and on the 3d of August entered St. John's harbour in Newfoundland, where they found the Squirrel which had been separated from them, riding at anchor in the mouth of the harbour, having been refused entrance by the vessels that were fishing within it to the number of 36 sail, of all nations.

Sir Humphry now sending his boat to inform the masters of the fishing barks that he had a commission from the queen to take possession of those lands for the crown of England, they submitted to the levying a tax of provisions upon each ship, for supplying the wants of his squadron, and he entered the harbour.

The next day, Sir Humphry and his company were conducted on shore by the masters of the English fishing-vessels, and on the 5th, having caused a tent to be set up in the view of the ships in the harbour, and being attended by all under his command, he summoned the merchants and masters, both English and foreigners, to be present at his taking a formal and solemn possession of those territories. These being assembled he caused his commission under the great seal of England, to be openly read before them, and to be interpreted to those who were strangers to the English tongue, which being done

he declared, that he took possession of the harbour of St. John, and 200 leagues every way, investing her Majesty with the title and dignity thereof, and then had a turf of soil delivered to him in token of taking possession also for himself, his heirs, and assigns forever.

Sir Humphry, after this formal manner of taking possession, had the country examined, and some pieces of ore brought to him, some of which were said to be that of silver, and of this he had the most positive assurance from a Saxon miner in his company. Having at length taken in a supply of provisions, he found himself obliged to proceed on his discoveries to the southward; for some of his men falling sick and dying, and others deserting him, the number of his people was so lessened, as to oblige him to leave the Swallow behind.

Sir Humphry now went on board the Squirrel, that small vessel being most proper for discovering the coast, on account of her being able to run into every check, and on the 20th of August, sailed from the harbour of St. John with three ships, the Delight, the Golden Hind, and the Squirrel. The next night they reached Cape Race, which is 25 leagues distant, and from thence sailed about 87 leagues towards Cape-Breton.

On the 29th they had a violent storm, with rain, and so thick a mist that they could not see a cable's length before them; and early the next morning they found themselves in the midst of shoals and sands, upon which a signal was given to the Delight to steer to seaward; but it was too late, for she immediately struck; and her

stern

ſtern and hind quarter ſoon beat to pieces: however the Golden Hind and the frigate bore away to the ſouth, and with much difficulty got clear of the ſhoals.

In the Delight there unhappily periſhed Capt. Maurice Brown with near 100 perſons: The Captain might indeed have probably ſaved his life, if he would have left the ſhip immediately on her ſtriking; but he would not be the firſt in ſetting an ill example. In the mean time fourteen perſons leaped into a ſmall pinnace of a ton and a half burden, no bigger than a Thames boat. They for ſome time looked out for the Captain, but not ſeeing him took in Mr. Clarke the maſter of the Delight, and one more. Being now ſixteen in number, they cut the rope, and committed themſelves to the mercy of the waves, without any proviſions, or a drop of freſh water, and nothing to work with but one oar. The boat ſeeming to be overloaded, one Edward Headly, thinking it was better for ſome to periſh than all, propoſed that four of the number might be thrown overboard to lighten the boat, and to caſt lots in order to determine who ſhould periſh; but he was over-ruled by Mr. Clarke, who, though it was propoſed that he ſhould be excepted from the number, perſuaded his comrades to ſubmit their ſafety to providence. The boat was driven ſix days and nights before the wind; during which theſe poor wretches had no other ſuſtenance than their own urine, and ſome weeds that ſwam on the ſurface of the water. In this extremity of cold, wet, hunger and thirſt, Headly, and one more

perished on the fifth day; but the other fourteen lived till they were driven the seventh day on shore on the coast of Newfoundland; whence they sailed in a French ship to France, and before the end of the year returned to England.

Sir Humphry, discouraged by these disasters, and his men being in want of necessaries, proposed to return to England, having, in his opinion, made discoveries sufficient to procure the assistance necessary for a new voyage in the spring. His people when he made this proposal were at first a little backward, but upon hearing his reasons, submitted; and according to his advice altered their course. On the 2d of September they passed in sight of Cape Race, and had afterwards such bad weather with such high seas, that the people in the Hind frequently expected to see those in the Squirrel swallowed up, notwithstanding which, Sir Humphry could not be persuaded to leave her. On the 9th, the storms and swellings of the sea increased, and he was again pressed to leave the frigate; but his answer was, We are as near to heaven at sea as by land. About midnight the Squirrel being a head of the Golden Hind, her lights were at once extinguished, and it was supposed she sunk that very instant, for she was never heard of more.

The Golden Hind however arrived safely at Falmouth on the 22d of September, after having lost only one man in this unfortunate expedition.

CHAP.

CHAP. IV.

Sir Walter Raleigh gets the Patent renewed for himself, and sends two Barks to make Discoveries to the South. The English land in the island Wokoken, which is described, and trade with the Natives of the Continent, by whom they are treated with great civility, and after a successful Voyage return to England. A Settlement formed in the island of Roenocke, by Sir Richard Greenville; but the People being distressed by the Indians, and in want of supplies, are brought to England by Sir Francis Drake. Sir Richard settles another Colony, but the Men are cut off by the Natives. A third Settlement is formed by Mr. White, which being also neglected, he sails back to England for succours, and at his return finds the island abandoned.

AFTER Sir Humphry Gilbert's miscarriage and loss, the brave Sir Walter Raleigh, that unfortunate gentleman's half brother by the mother's side, procured his patent to be renewed to himself, and making choice of two very able sea officers, Captain Philip Amadas and Capt. Arthur Barlow, fitted out two small barks. Sir Walter had observed, that all the attempts hitherto made had failed, by the adventurers pursuing their discoveries from the north; he chose therefore to proceed in another method,

and considering all the lands on the continent of America, from the last settlement of the Spaniards to 60 north, as lying within his grant, he resolved to settle those first, which lay nearest their settlements.

The above two barks sailed from the west of England on the 27th of April, 1584, and, passing the Canaries, fell in with the coast of Florida, on the 2d of July, and having sailed 40 leagues along the shore, came on the 13th to a river where they cast anchor, landed, and took possession of the country in right of the Queen, and for the use of the proprietors.

This place they afterwards found to be the island of Wokoken*, on the coast of the country since called Virginia, in 34° latitude. In this island they found deer, rabbits, hares, fowls, vines, cedars, pines, cypress, sassafras, and mastic-trees. They went to the tops of the hills that were nearest the shore, from whence, though they were not high, they discovered the sea on all sides, and found it to be an island of about 20 miles in length and six in breadth.

It was the third day before they saw any of the natives, but then a little boat with three of them appeared; and one of them going on shore, the English rowed up to him, when he not only waited their coming, without any signs of fear, but readily went on board, where they gave him a shirt and hat, with some meat and wine, which he

* The Author of The History of Virginia, says, they anchored at the inlet of Roenocke, at present under the government of North Carolina.

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Sr. Walter Raleigh lands and takes Possession of Virginia.

he ſeemed to like. After he had with apparent ſatisfaction narrowly viewed the barks with all that were in them, he went in his own boat to above a quarter of a mile's diſtance, where he employed himſelf in fiſhing, and in half an hour loaded his boat with fiſh, as deep as it could ſwim, and then returned to the point of land; where, to ſhew his gratitude, he divided it into two parts, and making ſigns that he deſigned it for the two barks, departed. After this, the natives from the continent, frequently repaired to their ſhips, and exchanged ſeveral ſorts of ſkins, white coral, and ſome pearls, for toys made of tin, and other baubles of inconſiderable value.

The very next day after that in which they had ſeen the three Indians, ſeveral boats appeared in view, and in one of theſe was the King of the country's brother, attended by 40 or 50 men, whoſe features were tolerably agreeable. The Prince made up to the Engliſh, who gave him and four of his Chiefs, preſents of ſeveral toys, which he accepted very kindly; but took all himſelf, and let them know, that none there had a right to any thing but him. Two days after they let him ſee their merchandize, of which nothing ſeemed to pleaſe him more than a pewter diſh, for which he gave 20 deer-ſkins; and, making a hole in the rim, hung it over his neck for a breaſt plate, making ſigns that it would defend him againſt the enemies arrows. The next thing he bought was a copper kettle, for which he gave 50 ſkins.

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While he thought fit to traffic with them, none but such as like him wore plates of gold, or copper on their heads, were allowed either to buy or sell; but as soon as they had done, every other Indian was allowed the same liberty. They offered very good exchange for hatchets, axes, and knives, and would have given any thing for swords; but the English would not part with one.

The King's brother afterwards came frequently on board, and would eat, drink and be merry with them; and once he brought his wife and children with him, who afterwards came frequently with only their followers. The English often trusted him with goods upon his word, to bring the value at a certain time, which he never failed of doing. He had a strong inclination to have a suit of armour, and a sword which he saw in one of the ships; and would have left a large box of pearls in pawn for them, but they refused it, that he might not know they set a value upon them, till they could discover whence he got them.

The English learned from the natives, that their country, which appeared extremely fertile, was called Wingandacoa, and their King named Wingina. When they went on shore, they were entertained with extraordinary civility, and once in particular by the King's brother's wife, at a little village in Roenocke. She appeared to be a very modest woman, and wore a mantle of deer-skin lined with fur, with an apron of the same kind. She had a band of white coral on her forehead, and from her ears, hung long bracelets

lets of pearls, ſome of which were as large as peas. They were told of a great city, where the King reſided, at the diſtance of ſix days journey on the continent, which however they did not ſee; for they made no long ſtay, nor proceeded any farther on diſcovery, going only to the neighbouring parts in their boats, and being ſatisfied with what they had ſeen, returned to England about the middle of September, pleaſed with their ſucceſs in this ſhort and proſperous voyage, and with the agreeable hopes of the future advantages that might be derived from it.

On their return, they repreſented the country ſo delightful, and ſo richly abounding with all the neceſſaries of life; the climate and air ſo temperate, and healthy; the woods and ſoil ſo charming and fertile, and every thing elſe ſo agreeable, that Paradiſe itſelf ſeemed to be there in its utmoſt beauty. They gave particular accounts of the variety of excellent fruits they had found, ſome of which they had never ſeen before; and that there were grapes in great abundance; ſtately oaks, and other timber; red cedar, cypreſs, pines, and other evergreens, and ſweet woods, for tallneſs and largeneſs exceeding all they had ever heard deſcribed; wild-fowl, deer, fiſh and other game, in ſuch plenty and variety, that no epicure could deſire more, than this new world ſeemed naturally to afford. To make it yet more deſirable they reported, that the native Indians, who were then the only inhabitants, were ſo affable, kind, and good-natured; ſo innocent and unacquainted with all the arts of deceit, and ſo fond of the

Engliſh,

English, that they rather seemed ready to take any impression, than any ways to oppose their settling on the coast.

Queen Elizabeth, highly pleased with the representation given of this discovery, not only promised to grant all the assistance necessary for promoting and perfecting a settlement, but bestowed upon this delightful country the name of Virginia*; and it was not long before Sir Walter Raleigh resolved to fit out a more considerable fleet than had hitherto been employed in such undertakings. He was desirous of commanding in this expedition, but being jealous that his absence might be prejudicial to his interest at court, he committed the conduct of this second enterprize to his Lieutenant Sir Richard Greenville, who, on the 8th of April, 1585, set sail from Plymouth, with seven ships fitted out by a company †, of which himself and several gentlemen were members.

On the 26th of June, he anchored at Wokoken, and in August following, began to plant on the island

* This Virginia ought not to be confounded with the Province now called by that name, for in those days it comprehended not only that province, but the whole country claimed by the crown of England, from the southern limits of Georgia, agreeable to the patents granted to Sir Humphry Gilbert, and his brother Sir Walter Raleigh.

† This company was the first of that kind established in Europe. It was afterwards incorporated by King James I. by the name of the Governor and company of the West Indies. But was at last dissolved by King Charles I. for mal-administration.

island of Roenocke, five miles distant from the continent, where 180 men were landed under the command of Ralph Lane, who was made their Governor, and Capt. Philip Amadas, who was constituted Admiral of the new colony, tho' it does not appear, that he had so much as a bark left with him.

Sir Richard did not remain above three weeks longer in those seas; for having made some discoveries to the southward, and having traded with the Indians for pearls, skins, furs, and other commodities, he sailed on the 25th of August, on his return to England, in which he took a very rich prize; so that this voyage appeared to the nation, as no less prosperous than the former, and the new Virginia company began to entertain very sanguine hopes of their undertaking.

Let us now return to the first planters in Virginia, and give an account of what happened to the first colony the English established there, or in any part of America. Sir Richard Grenville was no sooner sailed, than the people whom he left behind, applied themselves with diligence to what had been recommended to them by Sir William Raleigh, which was discovering the continent, and with this view they travelled 80 miles south, and 150 north from that part of the main, which was opposite to their island; but in these expeditions venturing indiscreetly too high up the river, and too far into the country, the Indian Governors grew jealous of them; began first to be weary of their company; and then to cut off such of their stragglers as

fell

fell into their hands, and they even formed a plan for destroying all the rest, but were happily prevented.

Mean while the company in England, were not so careful as they ought to have been in sending them supplies of provisions, and the English not understanding the nature of the climate, neglected to gather food in the proper season, by which means they were reduced to great straits. The natives never after kept faith with them, but watching all opportunities to cut them off, obliged them to be very cautious in landing on the continent, and prevented their having any supply from thence; they however endured every thing with incredible resolution, and extended their discoveries near 100 miles along the coast. The Indians they kept in awe, by threatening them with the return of their companions with a reinforcement of men; but no ships coming from England all that winter, nor in the spring following, nor even in the summer, they despaired of being able to support themselves any longer. While the natives seeing them in a manner abandoned by their countrymen, began to look upon them with contempt, and the English expected every day to be sacrificed to their cruelty.

In this distress, their chief employment was looking out to sea, in hopes of finding some means of escape, or of obtaining a recruit; but in August, when they were almost spent with want, watching and hunger, they, to their great joy, discovered Sir Francis Drake's fleet returning from an expedition against the Spaniards, in

north

North America, and this great man, having been commanded by the Queen to visit this plantation, and to see what encouragement or assistance they wanted, sailed up directly to the island. Their first petition was to grant them a supply of men and provisions, with a small ship or bark, that in case they should not be able to maintain then selves where they were, they might embark in it for England.

Sir Francis having granted their request, they set all hands to work, to fit the ship he had given them, and to furnish her with stores sufficicient for a long stay; but a storm arising, drove the vessel from her anchor to sea, by which she suffered so much, as rendered her unfit for their use. At this they were so discouraged, that though Sir Francis offered them another ship, they were afraid to stay, and earnestly intreated him to take them with him, which he did; and this put an end to the first settlement.

This misfortune was so far from being owing to Sir Walter Raleigh's negligence, that he had continually pressed the company to reflect on the necessity of supporting the colony in time, and so solicitous was he to carry this point, that finding the fleet, which was preparing under the command of Sir Richard Greenville, went on but slowly, he proposed, that the first ship that was completely manned and equipped, should be sent without staying for the rest; this was done: but when the vessel, which was well stocked with provisions, ammunition, and all manner of necessaries arrived at the island of Roenocke,

it was found deserted, and therefore, after a short stay, the people returned home.

In about a fortnight after, came Sir Richard Greenville with his squadron of three small vessels; and to his great disappointment, found not a man in the island. He, however, resolved to make another settlement, and therefore left behind him 50 men, with directions to build a fort for their own defence, and then furnishing them with all necessaries for two years, returned to England, after giving them the strongest assurance, that they should be constantly and regularly supplied.

This colony was, however, more unfortunate than the first, for the Indians taking advantage of the smallness of their number, and the difficulties they had to struggle with, attacked and cut them off, so that when Mr. White came thither with three ships and considerable supplies, on the 22d of June, 1588, he found their fort demolished, some huts they had erected near it destroyed, and not from it the bones of a dead man. In all these revolutions, Mantea an Indian who had been formerly carried over to England, from whence he safely returned, remained firm to the English interest, and from him Mr. White learned what was become of this colony.

The misfortunes which had attended these two settlements, would certainly have discouraged a man of less constancy and fortitude than Mr. White; but he had a commission to be Governor, and Sir Walter had strongly recommended his keeping possession of the place. He therefore erected a new fort, and chusing eleven

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of the most sensible persons he had brought along with him, constituted a regular corporation, to which he gave the title of the Governor and Court of assistants of the city of Raleigh, in Virginia. On the 13th of August Manteo, the faithful Indian, was christened, and created by the Governor, Lord of Dassumonpeak, an Indian nation so called, as a reward for his fidelity and service to the English, and on the 18th of the same month was born the first child that was the issue of christian parents in that place. She was the daughter of Mr. Annias Dare, and after the name of the country, was named Virginia.

Good government and industry soon rendered Mr. White and his men formidable to the Indians, who courted their friendship, and made leagues with the corporation, which they kept or broke, as they thought themselves too weak or too strong for the English, who notwithstanding their seeming prosperity, underwent the utmost hardships, for want of receiving proper supplies from Europe, yet so far were they from repenting of their undertaking, or desiring to return, that they disputed for the liberty of remaining at Roenocke, and obliged Mr. White, their Governor, to return to England, and solicit the company to send them recruits of men and provisions.

Mr. White consented to negociate this affair, and leaving 150 men in the place, set sail for England, where he arrived in safety; but it was two years before he could obtain a grant of the necessary supplies. At last, however, he had three

ships fitted out for him, with provisions and more men for the colony. On the 13th of August he arrived at Cape Hattaras, and landing on the island of Roenocke, found by letters cut on trees in large Roman Characters, that the English were removed. On several of these trees they found the letters C. R. O. and searching farther on one of the palisadoes of the fort, found cut in large capital letters, the word Croatan, which is an island about 20 leagues to the south of Roenocke. On this advice, they embarked in order to search for the garrison in that island, but they were scarce all on board before a dreadful storm arose which separated the ships, and losing their anchors and cables, they durst not venture in with the shore. Upon which all of them shifting for themselves, sailed back to England and Ireland.

This dreadful blow proved the ruin of the third settlement, of which it does not appear that the company took any farther care, or made any new attempt for preserving the possession of a country, the advantages whereof had been painted in such strong colours, to the crown of England, though a long time after they sent several ships to visit the coast, and trade with the natives.*

* See Chap. VIII. and IX.

CHAP. V.

Capt. Davis's Voyages in search of a North-West passage, and the great discoveries made by him in North-America.

WHILE these proceedings were carrying on in the south, a design of attempting to discover a north-west passage was formed by some traders in the west of England, and the same project being set on foot at London, they both united, when Capt. John Davis was appointed to conduct the enterprize, and to have under his command the Sunshine of London, a bark of 50 tons, with 23 persons on board; and the Moonshine of Dartmouth, a vessel of 35 tons, carrying 19 persons. With this small force he sailed from the last mentioned port on the 7th of June, 1585, and on the 14th of the same month was forced into one of the Scilly islands, where being detained a fortnight, Capt. Davis gave a proof of his activity and industry, by drawing a chart of those islands, which was at that time much wanted.

Capt. Davis with his two vessels, sailed from thence on the 28th, and continued his course to the north-west, till on the 19th of July, they came into a whirling tide, which set northwards, and sailing about half a league, into a very calm sea, they heard a prodigious roaring, as if it had been the beach of some shore, which was

the more terrible, as the weather was so foggy that they could not see from one ship to the other, though they were at a small distance. Upon this, the Moonshine was ordered to sound, but not being able to find ground with a line of upwards of 300 fathoms, the Captain, the master, and Mr. Jane who wrote the account, went towards the beach to see what it was, when they found it to be several islands of ice broke loose and floating in the sea; they got out upon these, and when they returned to their boat, carried several large pieces of ice with them, which melted into very good fresh water.

On the 20th the fog dispersing, they discovered the land, which resembled a sugar-loaf, and made so uncomfortable, or rather so horrid an appearance, that Capt. Davis called it the Land of Desolation. On the 21st they were forced to bend their course to the south to clear themselves of the ice, after which they ran along the shore.

On the 24th the Captain, to encourage the men, caused their allowance to be increased; but the weather was far from being very cold, for though it was pretty sharp when the wind blew from the shore, it was very hot when it blew from the sea. On the 25th they bore away north-west, and continued their course for four days; and on the 29th discovered land in the latitude of 64°. 15. with the sea quite free from ice, and the weather very temperate.

Upon viewing the coast, they found many pleasant bays and commodious ports: they, however, judged it not a continued land, but rather

rather an archipelago, and therefore resolved to go on shore on one of the small islands, in order to search for wood and water, and to gain a better knowledge of the country. But they had no sooner landed, than they found evident marks of the country's being inhabited, for there lay upon the ground, a small shoe, several pieces of leather sewed with sinews, and a piece of fur, like beaver.

They went next upon another island, where getting upon an high rock, they were seen by the people of the country, who instantly set up a most hideous howling, which the English perceiving, hallowed out to their companions, to let them know what had happened. Upon this, Capt. Bruton of the Moonshine came to their assistance with a good number of his seamen. Soon after their arrival, ten canoes full of the natives came from a neighbouring island, two of which advanced so near the shore, that the English on land could easily talk with them. The language of these people was much in the throat, and their pronunciation harsh and unpleasant. One of them, however, seemed inclined to come on shore, but first pointed to the sun, and then struck his breast so hard that they could hear the blow, upon which Mr. John Elias, Master of the Moonshine, was appointed to treat with him, and therefore going to the sea side, pointed to the sun and struck his breast, as the savage had done, who at length ventured on shore, and they threw him caps, stockings, gloves, and such other things as they thought would please him;

but the night drawing on they took their leave on both sides.

The next morning 37 canoes rowing by the ships, called to the English to go on shore, but the latter being in no great haste, one of the Indians leaped upon land, and ran to the top of a rock, where to shew his joy, he danced and beat a drum. The English then manned their boats, and went to them to the water side, where they waited in their canoes; and after the formal ceremony of swearing by the sun, the natives made no scruple of trusting them, but on the contrary, shewed all possible signs of kindness, and even of politeness; for when the author offered to shake hands with one of them, the Indian first took his hand and kissed it. They readily parted with any thing they were asked for, and were content with whatever was given them, shewing no signs of greediness, and not the least appearance of treachery. The English bought five of their canoes, and several of their stockings and gowns, some of which were made of seal, and others of birds skins, all of them well dressed and neatly made, so that it plainly appeared, they had some trades among them. They had plenty of furs, and on their seeing that they pleased the English, informed them by signs, that they would go up into the country and bring them more; but the wind proving fair in the night, Capt. Davis steered still farther to the north-west; and on the 6th of August entered a very fine road free from ice, in the latitude of 66°. 46. where they landed under

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Ten Canoes of Natives of an Island near the land of Desolation come & traffick with Capt.n Davis.

der a high mountain, the clefts of which ſhone like gold.

Mr. Davis having here taken a view of every thing round him, began to think of beſtowing names on the places he had diſcovered: he therefore gave to the mountain, the name of Mount Raleigh, the road where the ſhip lay, he called Totneſs road; the ſound at the foot of the mountain, Exeter ſound; the north foreland, Dyer's Cape; and the ſouth foreland, Walſingham. They here diſcovered four white bears of a prodigious ſize, two of which they killed, and brought on board, the fore paw of one of them meaſured 14 inches. They ſaw a raven upon mount Raleigh, and at the bottom of the hill found ſome ſhrubs and flowers like primroſes: the coaſt however was very mountainous, and entirely barren, affording neither wood nor graſs, nor ſo much as earth; for the mountains were all of ſtone, and that the fineſt our author ever had ſeen. The inland part of the country was probably fertile, ſince the bears were very fat, and yet it appeared upon opening their ſtomachs, and upon viewing their dung, that they were not ravenous, but fed upon graſs.

On the 8th they weighed from mount Raleigh, and three days after came to the moſt ſouthern point of the land, which they called the Cape of God's Mercy, and here they were ſurprized with a very thick fog, upon the breaking up of which, they found themſelves in a ſtreight, that was in ſome places 60 miles broad, and in others 90; the weather was very fine and temperate, and the water of the ſame colour with that of

the ocean, which filled them with hopes of finding a passage. They sailed 60 leagues thro' this streight, and then discovered several islands in the midst of it, by which they sailed, one bark taking the north, and the other the south side, but the wind changing, and the weather growing foggy and foul, they were forced to lie by for five days in the passage, since called Davis's Streights.

On the 14th they went on shore, and saw evident marks of the country's being inhabited, for they found part of a stone wall, and an human skull. The next day they heard a great howling on shore, which they supposed to be made by the wolves, and therefore landed in order to kill them; but instead of wolves they found only dogs, that came running to the boat, wagging their tails, and shewing other signs of joy, as it is usual with those animals at the sight of men: there were 20 of them in all, and being of the size of mastiffs, with short ears and long bushy tails, the seamen were afraid of them, and firing, killed two, one of which had a leather collar; they also found two sledges, one made of several boards and the other of whale-bone. They likewise saw larks, ravens and partridges.

On the 17th they went on shore again, and in a place resembling an oven, which was built with stones, they found a small canoe, an image, like made of bone, beads for necklaces and shertuffles. The coast made no very promising appearance, as having neither wood nor grass, but the rocks were of a fine bright stone like marble,

marble, beautified with veins of different colours.

Capt. Davis was extremely pleased with the appearance of this strait, which they took to be the very channel into the South Seas in search whereof they came. It was therefore resolved to continue the prosecution of their discoveries; but the wind changing they were obliged to remain at anchor; and the weather growing very foul, they on the 24th hoisted sail for England. On the 10th of September they fell in with the Land of Desolation; on the 27th they had sight of the English coast, and in a storm at night were parted from the Moonshine. However, on the 30th Capt. Davis returned to Dartmouth, where he found the Moonshine, which had arrived in that harbour two hours before.

Mr. Davis's owners were so well satisfied with his conduct in this voyage, that they procured him an audience of Secretary Walsingham, who not only greatly approved of the enterprize, and of the manner in which it was conducted, but recommended his compleating the discovery; to this he was also pressed by those concerned in the above undertaking, and by some merchants of Exeter, who desired to join in the expences necessary for a second expedition: and he having willingly consented, the following squadron was fitted out: the Mermaid of 120 tons; the Sunshine of 60 tons; the Moonshine of 55 tons; and the North Star, a pinnace of 15 tons.

Capt. Davis set sail with the above squadron from Dartmouth, on the 7th of May, 1586, and

having coasted the southside of Ireland, steered to the north west till he came into the latitude of 60°, when he divided the squadron, and ordered the Sunshine and the North Star to seek a passage northward, between Greenland and Ireland to the latitude of 80°, if not hindered by land. He left them on the 7th of June, and on the 15th discovered land in 60° latitude, and in 47° west longitude from the meridian of London. The ice lying some places ten, in others twenty, and in some fifty leagues off the shore, which obliged him to bear into 57°, in order to get a free sea.

On the 29th, after many storms, he again discovered land in latitude 64° and in longitude 58° 30. when bearing in with it, he set up a pinnace, he had provided in the Mermaid to serve as a scout in the discovery. The ships being within the sound, he set his boats to search for shoal water, where he might come to an anchor, which in this place is very hard to find. The people of the country seeing the English, came in their canoes, with shouts and cries; when observing in the boat some of those who were there last year, they rowed up to them, and taking hold of the oars, and hanging about the boat, expressed great joy, making signs that they knew them again. Capt. Davis then went on shore with others of the company, taking 20 knives with him, and they had no sooner landed than the friendly natives leaping out of their canoes ran to them, and embraced them with many signs of a hearty welcome. There were 18 of them,

and

and Mr. Davis giving each of them a knife, they offered him skins in return; but making signs that they were not sold, but freely given, he dismissed them for that time.

The next day the pinnace was landed upon an island in order to be finished; and while it was setting up, the people came continually to them, there being sometimes 100 canoes at a time, bringing seal-skins, stag-skins, white hares, salmon-peal, small cod, dry capelin, with other fish, and some birds. Capt. Davis then sent one of the boats to search one part of the land, while he went to another, but first gave strict orders that no injury should be offered to any of the natives, nor any gun fired.

The men whom the captain dispatched in the boat, passed ten miles within the snowy mountains, and came to a plain champaign country, covered with earth and grass, like our moory and waste grounds in England, and went ten leagues up a river, which in the narrowest place was two leagues over, but knew not how far it extended.

Mean while the captain took what he supposed another river, which though in at first afforded a large inlet, yet proved only a deep bay, the end of which he reached in four hours, when leaving the boat well manned he went with the rest of the company three or four miles into the country, but found nothing, nor saw any thing but snipes, ravens, and small birds, such as larks and linnets.

On the 3d of July, Capt. Davis manned his boat, and attended by 20 canoes, entered another sound, to which the people invited him by signs,

ſions, and he conſented, in hopes of finding their place of reſidence. At laſt they made ſigns that he ſhould go into a warm place to ſleep, upon this he went on ſhore, and deſired them to leap with the Engliſh, to which they conſented, but the Engliſh overleaped them. They afterwards went to wreſtling, when they were found to be ſtrong and active, and to have ſuch ſkill in this exercise, that they threw ſome of the Engliſh who were good wreſtlers.

On the 4th, the maſter of the Mermaid went to certain iſlands in order to take in wood, and found a grave wherein ſeveral perſons had been buried, that was only covered with ſeal ſkins, and a croſs laid over them.

Theſe people are of good ſtature, and are well proportioned. They have broad faces, ſmall eyes, wide mouths, and large lips; but their hands and feet are ſmall and ſlender. They are very ſubject to bleed at the noſe, and therefore ſtop their noſes with deers hair. One of them kindled a fire after the following manner; he took a piece of board in which was a hole half through, and having ſmeared the end of a round ſtick, like a bed-ſtaff, with train-oil, put it into the hole, and then turning it round with a piece of leather, ſomething in the manner of our turners, by the violence of the motion, ſoon produced fire, upon which he laid an heap of turfs, and then with many words and ſtrange geſtures, put ſeveral things into the flames, which the Engliſh ſuppoſed to be intended as a ſacrifice. They then deſired the captain to go into the ſmoke, which he deſiring them to do, and they refuſing,

he

he thrust one of them into it, and then commanded his men to tread out the fire, and spurn it into the sea, to shew their contempt for this sorcery.

They eat their meat raw, and live mostly upon fish, which they catch with nets made of whale fins. They probably make war on their neighbours on the continent; for many of them were much wounded, and let the English know by their signs, that they received them upon the main land.

But though these people behaved with great simplicity, they appeared extremely addicted to thieving, particularly of iron, for which they had a very great esteem; for they cut away the Moonshine's boat from her stern, and also the cables and cloth which lay to air, stole the bars, a caliver, a spear, a sword, and several other things, which so exasperated the sailors, that they desired the Captain to dissolve this new friendship, upon which he ordered a caliver to be shot among them, and immediately after a falcon, when they were so frightened at the noise, that they instantly fled. However, about ten hours after, they returned, making signs of peace, and this being granted, they brought seal skins and salmon-peal; but on their seeing iron could not forbear stealing again; which the Captain perceiving, commanded that they should not be treated with severity, and that his own people should be more careful in keeping what was under their charge.

On the 17th of July the Captain went on shore in his new pinnace, and with most part of the company walked to the top of an high mountain,

tain, with the hopes of taking a view from thence of the country; but the number and heights of the mountains bounded their prospect in such a manner, that they could see but a small distance; they therefore returned to their pinnace, where they observed a water-spout, which at that time was considered as a very strange and astonishing sight.

On the 19th, they returned to their ships, where the sailors complained heavily of the people, who had not only stolen an anchor, and cut one of the cables, but had thrown stones at them. However, the next day the Captain went on shore, and treated the natives with much civility, which removing their apprehensions, they, at his return, followed him in their canoes. He then gave them some bracelets, and seven or eight of them going on board, were used kindly, and afterwards suffered to depart; and yet the sun had no sooner set, than taking their slings, they threw stones into the Sunshine, and knocked down the Boatswain. Upon this, the English pursued them in their boats, and even fired upon them; but they rowed so swiftly, that it was impossible to overtake them. However, a few days after, five of them came to make a new truce, among whom was the ringleader of these disturbances, who came crying Iliaout, and striking his breast, offered a pair of gloves to sell, upon which a knife was offered for them, when two of them coming up, the English dismissed one of them, and kept the other prisoner. They then pointed to him and his fellows for their anchor, which

having

having got, they made signs to him that he should be set at liberty, but about an hour after the wind coming fair, they set sail, and took him away with them. One of his companions followed the ship in his canoe, talked with him, and seemed to lament his condition; but the English using him well, and saying, Hinout, that is, We mean no harm, he in a short time became a pleasant companion. Capt. Davis then gave him a new suit of frize of the English fashion, with which he seemed highly pleased. He soon trimmed up his darts, and all his fishing-tools, was very ready at making oakum, and willingly set his hand to the rope.

On the 1 7th, being in the latitude of 63° 8, they imagined they saw a very high land, which had several bays and capes, and therefore sent out their pinnace to discover it; but on her return, they were assured that it was no more than a prodigious mass of ice. This they coasted till the 30th, when the air grew so foggy, and the sea so pestered with ice, that all hopes of proceeding were banished.

In this extremity the men beginning to grow sick and feeble, and to lose all hopes of success, earnestly intreated the Captain to preserve his own and their lives, by returning to England: but though he commiserated their condition, he resolved to prosecute the discovery; yet he altered his course, and on the first of August discovered land, without either snow or ice, in the latitude of 66°, 53. and in 76. longitude from London.

On

On the 2d of August, they anchored in a very good road, where they grayed and re-victualled the Moonshine; they here found it very hot, and were much troubled with musketoes. The people of the country having caught a seal, tied bladders to him, and sent him to the English with the flood, so that he came right up with the ship, and this the captain took as a friendly present. On the 5th Capt. Davis walked up to the top of a hill, and observing three canoes under a rock, went to them, and found in them skins, darts, &c. but without taking any thing, he left in every boat a silk point, a leaden bullet, and a pin.

The next day the natives came to them without fear, and bartered with them for skins. Mean while the Indian kept close, and by signs let them know, that he was very desirous of having another companion.

On the 11th, Capt. Davis departed, leaving the Mermaid at anchor, whose crew finding many occasions of discontent, were unwilling to proceed. Two days after, sailing west 50 leagues, they discovered land in 66°. 19. and the next day stood to the south. On the 18th, they discovered a promontory to the north-west, and having no land on the south were in great hopes of a passage. They then coasted an island towards the south from 67 to 57°. and on the 28th distrusting the weather, sailed ten leagues into a fine harbour, two leagues broad, with woods on both sides. Here they continued till the 1st of September, in which time they had two very great storms. The Captain and some persons

with

with him went six miles into the country, and round the woods consisted of firs, pines, elders, yews, and birch-trees. In this excursion they saw a black bear, and plenty of birds, as pheasants and partridges, wild-geese, blackbirds, jays, thrushes, and other small birds.

They now coasted the shore with fair weather, and on the south anchored in a good road among many islands Eight leagues to the north of this place, they had hopes of a passage from observing a prodigious sea, rolling between the two lands from the west, and they had a great desire to enter this sea; but the wind was directly against them.

On the 6th they sent five young men on shore to another island to fetch some fish, which they had left there covered all night. But the natives, who had concealed themselves in the woods, suddenly assaulted the men, which being perceived from the ship, those on board let slip their cable, bore into the shore, and twice discharged a double musket upon them; at the noise whereof they fled after their having killed two of the men with their arrows and wounded two more; the other narrowly escaped by swimming with an arrow shot through his arm.

Having that night a most dreadful storm, that lasted till the 10th, they unrigged their ship and intended to cut down their masts; and as the cable of their sheet anchor broke, they expected to have been driven on shore, and murdered by the natives; but having afterwards a fair sea, they recovered their anchor, and new moored their ship, when they were fully sensible

sensible of their great deliverance, two strands of their cable being broken.

On the 11th, the wind coming fair at west-north-west, they steered directly for England, where they arrived in the beginning of October. The Sunshine had returned a few days before them. She had been at Iceland, and from thence to Greenland, afterwards to Estotiland, and thence to the Land of Desolation, where she traded with the people, and staid in the country twenty days. But they had lost the pinnace called the North Star in a st[illegible] and never heard of her more.

Capt. Davis was afterwards sent on another voyage to make discoveries, with three ships, two of which were to be employed in fishing, while the other endeavoured to find out a passage to the South Seas, and in this voyage he reached the latitude of 73° north, where he found the sea all open, and the streight 40 leagues broad, whence he concluded, that the passage was most certain, and the execution easy, in which he was mistaken. However, these expeditions intitled England to the most northern coast of America.

We shall now mention an attempt made for fixing a settlement farther to the south than any we have yet obtained.

CHAP.

CHAP. VI.

Sir Walter Raleigh sails with a small squadron in order to discover Guiana. Arrives at the island of Trinidad, where he burns the town of St. Joseph, and sets five Indian kings at liberty. Proceeding towards Guiana, he enters the mouth of the river with a detachment of 100 men in boats: meets with great difficulty from the many branches, which unite their streams; proceeds up the Amana, and enters the great river Oronoko, where he has an interview with the king of Aromaia, and then proceeding up the banks of the Carbi, takes a view of the country, and of the cataracts of that river; after which he returns: receives another visit from the old king, and is conducted to a mine: rejoins his ships; and after burning several Spanish towns, returns to England. More exact account of his sailing several other ships to Guiana.

SIR WALTER RALEIGH had seen with regret the plantation of Virginia abandoned, and well knew that the want of immediate profit was the cause; he resolved, therefore, to strike out the means of settling a new colony in another part of America, that should be free from this inconvenience, and transfer the richest products of that country to the English, if they had but courage and conduct enough to fetch them. In order to this, he enquired

quired with the greatest diligence into the state of Guiana. He sought from books and papers, all the assistance that could be had of that kind, and drew from personal informations, which were more in his power, than perhaps they ever were in any other man's, all the notices they were capable of giving. But he drew the greatest lights from his own profound knowledge and extensive experience.

In order to proceed cautiously in an affair of such importance, he sent before him one Capt. Whiddon, to take a view of the coast, that he might be perfectly informed of the state of things were then in, and become more able to take the proper measures for overcoming those difficulties, which a man of less sagacity would have deemed insuperable. This gentleman performed his business effectually; though he met with some obstructions from the force, and much greater inconveniencies from the frauds of the Spaniards, who were at that time endeavouring to secure to themselves this valuable country, particularly don Antonio de Berreo, with whom Capt. Whiddon had some dealings, got eight of his men into his hands, whom he used with great barbarity.

When Sir Walter's project was ripe for execution, he was assisted by the Lord Admiral Howard, and Sir Robert Cecil; and five ships were fitted out for this expedition. Sir Walter, however, left Plymouth on the 6th of February, 1595, with only one bark besides the vessel in which he himself sailed, and on the 22d of March arrived at the island of Trinidad, where

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he ſpent a conſiderable time in viewing that iſland, in examining all its ports and havens, and even every little creek, with the greateſt care and exactneſs.

Here was a Spaniſh ſettlement, and a new city called St. Joſeph, governed by the above don Antonio de Berreo, a man of courage and reſolution, but very unfit to proſecute diſcoveries. On this governor, Sir Walter reſolved to be revenged, for his treatment of Capt. Whiddon's people, by making himſelf maſter of the place, which he knew would gain him the friendſhip, and ſecure the obedience of the Indians, who were moſt cruelly oppreſſed by the Spaniards.

He accordingly ſent Capt. Calfield to attack the main guard with 60 men, and following with 40 more, reduced the town of St. Joſeph without much trouble. He then ſet the inhabitants at liberty, and in particular many Indian captives, among whom were five caciques, who were linked together in one chain, and confined in a place where they were almoſt ſtarved with hunger. Theſe unhappy princes had ſuffered the ſevereſt torments, for they had been baſted with the ſcalding fat of bacon, and endured a variety of other cruelties. He kept the governor and his Spaniards priſoners, and afterwards, at the requeſt of the Indians, burnt the place; but in other reſpects behaved towards his priſoners, and particularly towards the governor, with ſuch civility, that he drew from him a faithful account of all his adventures in attempting the conqueſt of Guiana.

The

The same day arrived to Sir Walter's assistance, Capt. Giffard, in the Lion's-Whelp, and Capt. Keymis, in a galego, with several gentlemen and soldiers, and some useful supplies, but before Sir Walter would proceed on his discoveries, he summoned an assembly of the Indian chiefs of the island, who were enemies to the Spaniards, and told them by an Indian interpreter, whom he had brought out of England, that he was the servant of a virgin queen, who was the most powerful cacique in the north, and had more caciques under her command than there were trees in that island. That she was an enemy to the Castilians, on account of their tyranny and oppression, and having freed all the coasts of the northern world from their servitude had sent him to free them also: and to defend the country of Guiana from their future invasions He then shewed them the queen's picture, which they greatly admired. By these and other speeches of the same kind, both here and on the borders of Guiana he made the people familiarly acquainted with the name and virtues of the queen, and at the same time strongly engaged them in his interest.

Sir Walter now prepared to proceed towards Guiana, though Berreo used many arguments to dissuade him from engaging in that enterprize. He told him, that he must venture to pass many dangerous shallows in small boats, without being able to carry provision sufficient to last him half the way; that he must not expect the least succour from the natives of the countries through which he passed, who would not admit of a parley;

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Sr. Walter Raleigh takes the City of St. Joseph and sets five Caciques who were chain'd together at Liberty.

ey; but would burn their towns, and retire to heir fortresses; that they had been enjoined by heir chiefs not to barter gold, nor to hold any ommunication with christians, as the only means o preserve them from destruction: besides, that he way was long, winter was approaching, and he rivers beginning to swell.

Notwithstanding these remonstrances, Sir Walter directed his vice-admiral Capt. Giffard, nd Capt. Calfield to steer into the mouth of the iver Capuri, and at the highest flood to pass ver the shoal; but this they found impracticable, the water falling before they could accomplish it. He then sent the master of the Lion's-Whelp to try another branch called Amana, in order to know if either of the small essels could enter; but he met with no better uccess. Sir Walter now caused his carpenter to ut down an old galego boat, and to fit her with anks for oars, in such a manner as to draw but ive feet water.

In this vessel he embarked with 60 of his eople, and was followed by the shallop and oat of the Lion's-Whelp carrying 20; Capt. alfield's shallop carrying 10, and a barge of his wns ten more; having in all 100 men well rmed, with provisions for a month. Their accommodations were extremely bad, being exposed to the weather, and obliged to endure the urning heat of the sun and storms of rain, to ie upon the hard boards, to bear the disagreeable smell of the wet cloaths of many people rowded together, and the dressing of their ood, which mostly consisted of stale fish, of,

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ty of St. Joseph
re chain'd

that no prison could be more loathsome and
healthy.

At first setting out they had 20 miles of
high sea to cross in their crazy boats, and w
driven by the wind into the bottom of the
of Gauanipa, inhabited by a barbarous nat
who used poisoned arrows. From thence t
entered one of the rivers, and after four da
got above the force of the tide; but they w
there bewildered by such a confluence of strea
that they were whirled about by different c
rents and eddies, so that after toiling a long t
they were brought back to the place they
been striving to avoid, or from which they
out passing between islands and straights,
overshadowed with trees, that their sight
bounded by the breadth of the river, and
length of the avenue, while the gloominess
the prospect added horror to the loathsome
of the places in which they were confined.

At length on the 22d of May, they ente
a river, and not knowing any other name fo
called it the Red Cross River: here they put
a creek which led to a town at a small distan
where their Indian pilot going on shore, was
upon by his countrymen, who hunted him w
dogs. In return, Sir Walter seized an old m
who was passing that way, and threatene
cut off his head if he did not procure
pilot's liberty; but the pilot by his agility s
escaped them, and swam to Sir Walter's bar
they, however, kept the old man, whom t
used with the utmost kindness, in hopes of
taining many useful informations from a na

ho had been long acquainted with those parts: d indeed he was of great use in guiding them rough the intricacies of the rivers, though he nself was often in the utmost perplexity which er to take.

The people who inhabit the country at the outh of this great river, were called Tivitivas, d were a bold and hardy race of people, ho knew the value of liberty, and had the urage to defend it. During the summer they e in houses, built on the ground; but in the et or winter months, dwell in huts built upon ees, as is very common both on this coast, and en in the East-Indies, where the countries are bject to be overflowed.

Some time after, Sir Walter's barge ran a-round with such force, that they despaired of etting her off, so that the discovery seemed as a and; however, four days after, they again set er on float, and striking into the Amana, one f the noblest branches of the Orenoko, the men ith incredible fatigue continued their voyage, nd being now within 5° of the line, Sir Walter ndeavoured to keep up their spirits by directing is pilots to give them hopes, that their labours ould soon have an end.

At length the old Indian perceiving that their rovisions were exhausted, and that they must erish without an immediate supply, told them, hat if they would venture up a river on the right and, he would bring them to a town where hey might be sure of refreshments, and be able o return before night. Sir Walter took him at is word; but he amused them all day and that

greatest part of the night, without their seeing any town, so that a less prudent commander might have punished him for imposing upon them. However, about one of the next morning they reached this long expected town, and obtained the supplies of which they stood in such need. In this hungry and hazardous voyage, which was fourscore miles up the river, they observed many fishes of a surprizing size, and abundance of alligators, one of which devoured a young negroe who attended Sir Walter, and who leaped into the water to refresh himself by swimming.

Soon after, being again in want of provisions, they took two canoes laden with excellent bread belonging to the Indians called Arwaycas, who run them on shore, and took refuge in the woods; when Sir Walter pursuing them, in hopes of obtaining some intelligence, found, as his men were sleeping through the bushes, a refiner's basket, in which were quick silver, saltpetre, and other things, used in refining of metals, together with some gold dust, that had been refined from the ore.

Sir Walter then landed more of his men, and offered 500l. to any of his soldiers who should take one of the Spaniards; but this they were unable to perform; they, however, discovered the Arwaycas concealed in the woods, who had served as pilots to the Spanish adventurers, and who informed him, that they had been accompanied by two other canoes, laden with gold ore, which had escaped. One of these people he

he kept for his own pilot, and from him learned where, when, and how the Spaniards worked for gold. Having here sufficiently refreshed his companions; they appeared as well satisfied as their commander, and promised to follow him to the end of the world.

On the 15th day from their leaving their ships, Sir Walter and his men entered the great river Oronoko, and obtained a true account of the nations inhabiting its banks; they then steered by the mountain Aio and a large island, and on the 5th day after their entering the above river came to an anchor at Morequito, in the province of Aromaia, 300 miles within la d.

He here sent a messenger to the king of Aromaia, who, the next morning, came on foot from his house, and returned the same evening, though he was 110 years of age, and his journey was 28 miles. This old monarch had a large train of attendants of both sexes, who brought great plenty of flesh, fish, and several sorts of fruits. The old king, having refreshed himself a-while in a tent, which Sir Walter had caused to be pitched for him, they entered, by means of the interpreter, into a discourse of the murder of Morequito, his predecessor, and the other barbarities of the Spaniards. Sir Walter then told him the design of his coming thither, and expatiated on the virtues of his queen, whose greatest ambition, he observed, was to relieve distressed nations, and humble the pride of the Spaniards, which were her only motives for sending him to Guiana.

The old man listened to him with great attention, and on his asking him many questions relating to the strength, polity, alliances, and government of Guiana, with the readiest way of entering into the heart of the country, the king replied in so clear and sensible a manner, that Sir Walter could not help being surprized at finding a person of such judgment, and good sense, who had received none of the advantages of education. Some of the king's attendants made Sir Walter a present of a small but a curious kind of parroquito, and of an animal then scarcely known, called the Armadilla, whose head, body, and tail are covered with hard and beautiful scales. The form of the head is like that of a hog, the feet resemble hands, and the tail is near four inches thick at the root, tapering to the end.

After the king's departure, Sir Walter sailed westward to the river Carbli, because it led to the strongest nations of all the frontiers, who were enemies to the Inpuremei, the subjects of the Inca, or emperor of Guiana and Manoa. Long before he came to it, he heard the roaring occasioned by the falls of this river; but on his entering it, in order to proceed 40 miles up to the Casiagetos, he found the stream so rapid, that though the river was as broad as the Thames at Woolwich, he could not advance with his eight oared barge above a stones throw in an hour. He therefore encamped on the banks, and sent an Indian to acquaint the lords of Canuri, who dwelt in that province, of his arrival. Upon this message one of the princes named Wanureto-na, attended by a numerous train of followers, came

came to visit him, bringing great plenty of refreshments: from him he learned that a nation called the Carolians, were enemies both to the Spaniards and the Epuremei, and that there were mighty nations at the head of that river, and were of the same disposition.

Upon this intelligence, he dispatched a party of between 30 and 40 men up the side of the river, while he himself, with a few officers, and half a dozen men, armed with musquets, marched to take a view of the cataracts of the river Caroli.

From the top of the first hills that commanded a view of the river, they beheld a prodigious cataract, beneath which, the water divided into three streams, and ran with amazing rapidity upwards of 20 miles; for so far they imagined they were able to take in the prospect. In this course no less than ten or a dozen more appeared in view, each as high above the other as a church steeple, whence the water rushed down with such violence, that the vapours arising from the rebound, were like the thick smoke hanging over well-inhabited cities; but on their nearer approach, where they could better discern, and distinguish the effects, resembled heavy showers of rain; while the prodigious roaring of these torrents, at least equalled the noise of thunder.

Sir Walter Raleigh observes, that he never saw a more beautiful country, nor more delightful prospects. The valleys were interspersed with hills, and the waters winding through them in various branches; the plains free from brambles, were covered with fine grass; the soil was as hard sand, fit for either walking or carriage;

the

the deer crossing every path; and towards evening the birds singing on every tree, a thousand different notes: while on the banks of the rivers were cranes and herons, white, crimson and carnation; the air was refreshed with gentle eastern breezes, and every stone they stooped to take up, seemed to be intermixed with gold or silver. Sir Walter afterwards shewing some of these stones to a Spaniard of the Carracas, was told, they were the mother of gold, and though of small value themselves, were a proof of there being mines at no great distance.

There were now many reasons which rendered their stay improper. The rains were so heavy, and the floods poured so suddenly from the hills, that they were sometimes before night up to the neck in water, upon the very spots of ground over which in the morning they had marched dry shod. The men had wore their cloaths above a month without a change, or being in any other manner refreshed, but by the rains which frequently washed them ten times a day on the owners backs. They had besides no instruments with them to open mines, and if they advanced farther, were to act, against a numerous, civilized, and warlike people. These and many other inconveniencies made them resolve to make the best of their way back to the ships, from which they had now been absent above a month, and had in that space proceeded about 400 miles from the sea coast.

They therefore embarked in their boats, and though the wind was against them, arrived in a day's time at the port of Morequito; for gliding

ing down the ſtream, they went without labour, little leſs than 100 miles a day. Sir Walter on his coming to an anchor was very deſirous of having another conference with the old king, who ſoon arrived with a numerous train, loaded with preſents, when Sir Walter having taken him into his tent, enquired the beſt way to the richeſt parts of Guiana. The old cacique intimated to him, that he ought not to think of penetrating to Manoa the capital; for neither the ſeaſon of the year, nor the ſmall number of his men, were proper for the enterprize: that in the plains of Magureguarai the firſt civilized town of Guiana, 300 Spaniards had been lately ſlain; as they had invaded it, without having made any friends among thoſe nations, who were ready to join in any attempts againſt the kingdom of Guiana, and therefore adviſed Sir Walter, not to invade the ſtrong parts of Guiana, without obtaining the aſſiſtance of thoſe nations, who were their enemies. The king alſo informed him, that he believed he might, with his preſent force ſeize on the town of Magureguarai, where all the gold plates were made that were diſperſed through the neighbouring nations, and which was but four days journey from thence, and offered to aſſiſt him with his ſubjects, provided 50 Engliſhmen were left behind for his guard; but Sir Walter declining the expedition, the king begged him to leave his territories as ſoon as poſſible, left the Epuremei ſhould learn that he had given him any aſſiſtance, or the Spaniards ſhould return and inſult him: they having once before taken him priſoner, and led

him

him 17 days in chains, till he paid 100 plates of gold for his ransom. But if Sir Walter would promise to return early the next year, he would engag all the neighbouring nations to assist him against the Epuremei, who had plundered them of their wives, and assured him, they would gladly renew the war to recover them; for the old king complained grievously, that the Epuremei possessed from 50 to 100 women each, while he and his principal subjects had but three or four wives a-piece.

Sir Walter, while he stayed here, obtained many images and plates of gold, not so much for the value, as to shew them as samples; and to prevent these people from entertaining a notion, that he came for gold, he gave among them, more twenty shilling pieces of the queen's coin, than they were worth. He also took with him some of the spar and ore, to justify his report of the riches of the country; and as the highest testimony of his having obtained the confidence of the natives, the old king sent over his own son Cayworaco into England, where he was afterwards baptized, with much ceremony by the name of Cualtero.

On the other hand, Sir Walter at their own request left behind him two of his company, an excellent draftsman who undertook to describe, as he did, all the country very exactly, and a boy who waited upon Sir Walter, and who was to learn the languages of the Indian nations, which he did to great perfection; but was unfortunately devoured by a wild beast.

After

After this a cacique whose name was Putoma, and another called Warapana, offered to conduct him to a gold mine, which they accordingly performed, but the weather being extremely bad, Sir Walter resolved to return as expediously as possible to his ships; but in his passage was overtaken by a violent storm, and had like to have been lost among the shoals, being obliged to quit his galley, and take to his boat, with which he ventured out upon a very boisterous sea; however he was the next day so happy as to reach Curiapa in the island of Trinidad, where his ships lay at anchor, and where he was soon joined by his galley.

In all this tedious and surprizing expedition, in which they were alike exposed to the severity of the weather, and to the attempts of their enemies, absolutely wanting most of the conveniencies, and frequently the necessaries of life, he lost not a single man, except the negro devoured by the alligator. And yet took a considerable quantity of gold ore, which he brought to England, and proving extremely rich, turned to a very good account.

In his return home he burnt the town of Cumana, because the Spaniards refused to supply him with provisions, and two other Spanish towns underwent the same fate, after which he returned safe to England, where he was received with great acclamations of joy.

Capt. Keymis who was one of the adventurers, wrote a latin poem on this expedition, and Mr. George Chapman, composed an heroic poem of

200 lines on the same subject, in which he bestows the greatest encomiums on the prudence and integrity of Sir Walter, who also published an account of this expedition, written by himself.

Notwithstanding the great success of this voyage, and the high probability of easily forming a settlement in this rich country, Sir Walter's enemies, jealous of his great abilities, endeavoured by the most invidious insinuations to discourage all attempts against Guiana, by throwing the most groundless aspersions on his veracity. These he easily answered, and immediately fitted out two vessels under the command of Capt. Keymis, who left England in the latter end of January following, in order to cherish the friendship he had contracted with the Indians, rather than to pursue any acts of hostility. This gentleman, on his arrival at the port of Morequito, received intelligence of the death of the old king, and that the driftsman who had been left behind, had been carried into captivity by the Spaniards, who had made a settlement at the mouth of the river Caroli, in the passage to the mines, whence Sir Walter had taken ore the preceding year.

Capt. Keymis, therefore, after having had conferences with several of the natives, who were loud in the praises of Sir Walter Raleigh, and expressed their inclinations to support any measures set on foot by his countrymen, returned to England, and arrived at Portland in the latter end of June, having been only five months upon the voyage.

Sir

Sir Walter ſoon after fitted out an handſome pinnace, and having provided her with all neceſſaries for trade and diſcovery, ſhe ſet ſail from Weymouth, the following December, under the command of captain Leonard Berry, who about the beginning of March, fell in with the river Wiapoco on the coaſt of Guiana, where beginning to be in want of proviſions, and finding no inhabitants, he ſteered to a town called Armatto, at which place he was plentifully ſupplied, and treated with great hoſpitality by the natives, who freely traded with the Engliſh; capt. Berry then invited a neighbouring cacique, named Ritimo, on board his ſhip, who accepted the invitation, and was entertained in a very magnificent manner.

The inhabitants of the neighbouring towns being now convinced that this was an Engliſh veſſel flocked to the ſea-ſhore from all quarters, bringing plenty of proviſions and tobacco, and appearing perfectly ſatisfied with what was given them in exchange. Theſe eagerly ſolicited the Engliſh to come and drive the Spaniards out of their territories.

This gentleman afterwards ſailed up ſeveral rivers, and having procured all the intelligence poſſible, quitted the coaſt of Guiana, and arrived at Plymouth on the 28th of June, 1597.

CHAP.

CHAP. VII.

Capt. Leigh forms a settlement at Guiana, but soon after dying, and his people falling sick, they return to England. Mean while his brother sir Olive Leigh, sends a vessel with supplies, but the men despairing of reaching the intended port, form a settlement in the island of St. Lucia, where most of them are cut off by the natives, and the few that remain put out to sea in a boat, when after suffering the greatest hardships, five of them at length return to England. Captain Harcourt's voyage to Guiana, where he leaves a settlement, and returns to England.

THough sir Walter was at this time prevented from making any farther discoveries of this rich country, by the death of the queen, and his own long imprisonment, yet other attempts were made. In the year 1604, capt. Charles Leigh, being assisted by his brother sir Olive, made a voyage to Guiana, at their mutual expence, in a bark of about 50 tons, with 46 men and boys on board and on the 22d of May, entered the river Wiapoco in 8°. 30'. north latitude, intending to fix at the town of the same name on the coast of Guiana.

The captain was received very kindly by the inhabitants, who consented to allow him, for the

the present, a space of ground and some houses, in consideration of which, he was to assist them against their inveterate enemies the Caribbees. This agreement was made by means of two of the natives of Guiana, who had been in England, and could speak some English, and for the better security of the Indians performing their promises, five of them, among whom were two considerable persons, were to be sent to England.

The first settlement made by the English, was on a part of the mountain that lies on the west side of the entrance of a river, to which they gave the name of mount Howard. Captain Leigh might here have lived a quiet life, and have been of great use to his country, had not his men been discontented and mutinous. However, the next year he sent his ship to England for a fresh supply of such things as he wanted, keeping with him 35 of his men and boys, to settle his small village, and by this means set his colony upon a better footing than it had hitherto been. They had some trade with the natives, as well round their settlement, as farther up the river, by which they obtained wax, fine white feathers, tobacco, parrots, monkeys, green and black, cotton-yarn and wool; sweet gums, red pepper, with several sorts of wood, roots, and berries, partly for medicine, and partly for dying: but the flux and other distempers, carried off a considerable number of the company; and at length the captain himself being seized with it also died. By this unhappy stroke the whole undertaking was ruined, and every one

shifting for himself returned to England, very much to the regret of the Indians; some of them in a French ship, and others in two Dutch vessels.

In the mean time, sir Olive Leigh, resolving to support his brother in the establishment of his government at Guiana, before he had an account of his success, fitted out another ship, under captain Catalin, and captain St. John, to carry him a fresh supply of men and necessaries. This ship set sail in April, 1605; but by contrary winds and currents, and the unskilfulness of the master, was carried so far to the leeward, that the men despaired of ever recovering their intended port, and therefore put in first at Barbadoes, and afterwards at the island of St. Lucia, designing to return from thence to England: but examining their stores of provisions, and finding that they were far from being sufficient to supply so large a company for so long a voyage, capt. St. John, with 67 of the passengers, resolved rather to stay and take their lot upon that island than to run the hazard of being starved at sea.

The English soon made an acquaintance with the Indians, who in exchange for trifles, furnished them with roots, fruit, and some fowls: and they had every night an opportunity of taking, with very little trouble, the most delicate turtle upon the sands, so that they were in no want of food. Five or six days they lived in huts of their own building, without making any excursions into the country; but the captain one day seeing some pieces of metal upon the arms of some of the Indians, and being informed by a refiner in

his

his company, that they were at least three parts gold, he enquired of the Indians from whence they had them; upon which they pointed to a very high mountain in the north-west part of the island.

Upon this, capt. St. John, with some of the chief of his men, went in quest of this golden mountain, the rest being appointed to keep guard at home, with the assurance of their returning in a week's time. When they were gone the others expected that the Indians would bring them provisions as usual, but they heard nothing of them for three days together.

It seems, the Indians had observed the captain's departure, and following him, cut him off with his whole company: which they had no sooner done, than they resolved to serve those who staid behind in the same manner. For this purpose they got one Augramant, a man of resolution, and captain of the island of St. Vincent, to head them in this enterprize. However, to cover their design they carried it fair, and frequently visited the English, till one day Augramant having dined with them, persuaded the English to go with him to his quarters, where he promised to furnish them with whatever provisions they wanted.

Upon this invitation, a gentleman set out with 17 of the men, but the Indians, instead of conducting them to their quarters, led them into an ambuscade, where they were surrounded by about 500 of the natives, who discharged their arrows at them on all sides, till the English, after exerting themselves as much as was in their

power, were all of them slain but one, who made his escape from this bloody slaughter, and was forced to hide himself in a wood, whence swimming over a lake, with much difficulty he returned home, just time enough to alarm his companions; for it was not long before the Indians appeared before their houses; but the English discharging some small pieces of ordnance, they quickly marched off; however, in two or three days, they returned, to the number of 13 or 1400, and after having attacked a little fort and houses for seven days together with small success, resolved to burn them, by throwing in fire with their arrows, which in a short time reduced the habitations of the English to a heap of ashes. They continued however to defend themselves in so brave a manner, that the Indians finding that they could not accomplish their design against this handful of men, at last abandoned the enterprise.

After their departure, some of the neighbouring Indians were prevailed upon, to furnish them with an old pitiful boat for some hatchets, knives and beads. This the English fitted up as well as they could, and 19 of them, the miserable remains of 68, ventured out to sea in her, without chart or compass, and with only four or five gallons of water, with a few plantains, and potatoes, about 20 biscuits, and a little rice. What was still worse, they had not one mariner among them, and this little boat was so overladen, that her gunnel lay almost even with the water.

When they had been ten days at sea, during which four of the men were obliged by turns

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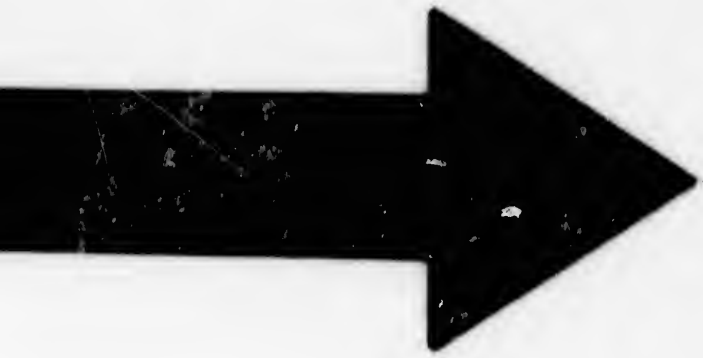

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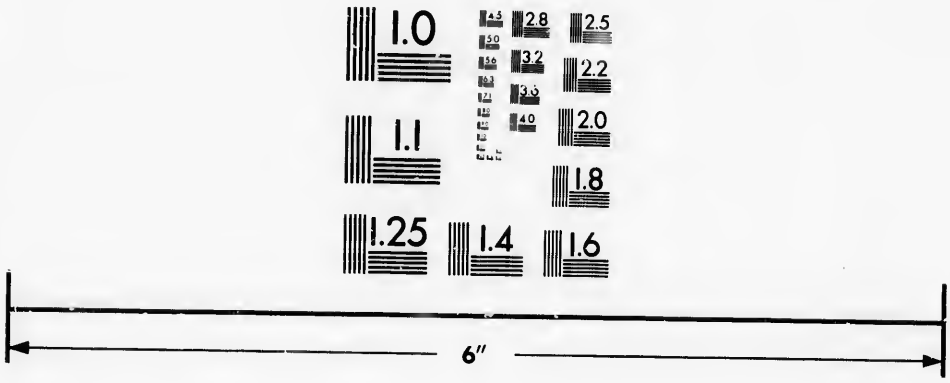

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Indians attack the English in their Settlements.

to continue ſcooping out the water, they, when all hopes began to fail them, diſcovered land; but on their going on ſhore, found to their unſpeakeable diſappointment, that it was an uninhabited iſland which afforded no manner of ſuſtenance. In this miſerable ſtate they had no other remedy, but to ſend five of the men to the continent to ſeek relief. Theſe, after many difficulties reached the main land, and went to an Indian town, called Tocoyo, from whence, after being abſent 15 days, they brought ſuccour to their miſerable companions, who were now reduced to thirteen. By the help of this ſupply they got to a Spaniſh town, called Coro, where they were treated with great humanity, and where two more of them died. Three of them went from thence to Carthagena, and were followed thither by two more, where they procured a paſſage to Spain; but what became of the reſt does not any where appear.

Notwithſtanding ſuch a ſeries of misfortunes as had attended the attempts made for eſtabliſhing this ſettlement, Robert Harcourt, eſq; cauſed a ſquadron of three veſſels, commanded by himſelf, to be fitted out; the Roſe, a ſhip of 80 tons; the Patience of 36 tons, and the Lilly ſhallop of 9 tons burden, which ſailed from Dartmouth on the 29th of March, 1609, and arrived in the bay of Wiapoco on the 17th of May.

It was not long before ſeveral canoes of Indians came to ſee who they were, and finding they were Engliſh, came on board without the leaſt fear or ceremony. Theſe people were of the town, called Carino, on the eaſt ſide of the

hill at the mouth of Wiapoco river. Their king or chief, who had been many years in England, was then with Mr. Harcourt, and another of his countrymen came passenger with him, though he had not discovered his quality, till the joy of his subjects at the sight of him, made him known. Among the Indians who came first on board, was one who spoke the English tongue perfectly well, and was known to some of the sailors, he having served sir John Gilbert in England many years; and the Indian who accompanied the king or chief, having been 14 years in England, these two were of singular service to the adventurers.

The first ceremonies being past, Mr. Harcourt informed them, that he was come to settle a colony there, and to take possession of the country for the king of England, by virtue of their grant of it to capt. Leigh, and by some of their countrymen before, to sir Walter Raleigh, assuring them at the same time, that his majesty intended no unjust usurpation over them; but would only be their friend and protector, and secure them from the insolence of the Caribbees. After some debate, the Indians consented to their living among them, but expressed some diffidence in their performing their promises as sir Walter had been so long without accomplishing his.

This affair being concluded, they all went on shore, where they met with the best reception the Indians could give them, and were dispersed up and down the town, on the side of a hill, while the ships rode at anchor at the foot of it.

The

The great rains, which confined them near a month, being over, the captain endeavoured to discover the golden mountains, which had been the spurs to this undertaking; but his guide, who had promised great things, failed in the performance of them: for when he came to the spot no gold was to be found: and yet all the English were fully satisfied, that the country afforded gold, as well from the assurances given them by the natives, who shewed them some images, which upon an essay appeared to contain at least one third gold, as from their observing great quantities of the white spar in which gold is contained; but they had reason to believe these mines were too far up in the higher parts of Guiana, and were perhaps too strongly guarded for them, to hope that they should be able to reach them; and besides, they had neither time nor power to search in a proper manner for finding these mines.

This disappointment was near occasioning a mutiny among those who came, with no other view but to amass wealth. But the captain with great prudence prevented its running to such a length, and to keep them employed, not only went himself up the river of Wiapoco upon discovery; but sent his brother, with some others, on the same errand, to the river Arrawary, and the country bordering upon it, which reaches to the river of Amazons. He also went and took possession of the mountain Gomoribo, the utmost point of land to the northward in the Wiapoco. This he did, according to custom, by the ceremony of twig and turf, in the presence both of his own people and the Indians.

The attempt of the captain's brother, in making the discovery of the river Arrawary, was attended with great difficulties and hazards; for the length they ran by sea to this river was near 100 leagues, through terrible breaks of flats and shoals. They went also 50 leagues up the river, and all this was done with only flat bottomed canoes, something longer than the common Thames wherries, but not so broad. The Indians they met with in this river, plainly discovered, that they had never seen any Europeans before. It was long ere they could be brought to any sort of trade, or conversation with them, though they had other Indians in their company, but at last the sight of their toys induced them to purchase them with provisions. But the want of these, however, at last obliged them to return to Wiapoco, they nevertheless took possession of the country in form, as Mr. Harcourt had done of Gomoribo.

Some time after Mr. Harcourt returned to England, leaving behind him 50 or 60 of his men, over whom he appointed his brother commander in chief, and joined captain Harvey as his assistant. In his way homewards he made several discoveries upon the coast, and in some of the rivers, and after his return to England, obtained by the favour of prince Henry, a patent for all the coast of Guiana and the river of the Amazons; but being soon involved in many troubles, he was unable to supply his colony. However, his brother kept possession of that part of the country

try wherein he was settled during three years, in all which time he lost but six of his people.

CHAP. VIII.

Sir Walter Raleigh's last voyage to Guiana. His great care in not giving offence to the Spaniards, and his arrival at Caliana. He sends capt Keymis in search of a gold mine, who is so unhappy as not to discover it. He has a smart engagement with the Spaniards, in which young Raleigh is killed; and sir Walter being displeased at capt. Keymis's conduct, the latter puts an end to his life. After which sir Walter returns to England, is called down to his former sentence, and beheaded.

AT length sir Walter Raleigh, after suffering a very long imprisonment in the tower of London, on the pretence of a plot, for which he had been condemned to die, procured his liberty, and though he had been twelve years in prison, obtained a commission to execute his last expedition to Guiana. In order to do this, he turned the best part of his fortune into money, which he employed in fitting out ships for this expedition, and prevailed on many of his best friends to do so too. Several of these embarked with him, and among them his eldest son. This fleet consisted of seven sail of different sizes, with which sir Walter left Plymouth harbour in July 1612, and before he had pas-

led the coast of England, he was joined by as many more, so that his whole fleet consisted of fourteen ships. However, he waited for these last some time, and it had been better if he had left them behind; for they proved a burden to him, and some of them deserted the expedition.

Soon after he obtained this reinforcement, he met with a storm, which obliged him to put into Cork, from whence he sailed on the 19th of August, and on the 6th of September arrived off the island of Lancerota, when he sent to desire leave of the governor to purchase provisions; but though that gentleman at first promised him a meeting, he deferred giving it him, and at length refused to have any dealings with sir Walter, under the pretence, that the inhabitants were so much afraid of him, that he dared not, and therefore, desired him to draw off such of his men as were landed upon the island. But though he complied with this request, they fell upon his men in their retreat, and slew one of them. Of this outrage, sir Walter complained to the governor of the Canaries, who, instead of sending him an answer, sallied out upon his men as they were marching in order to draw water in a desart part of the island; and had not young Raleigh, and some other officers, behaved with great bravery on this occasion, they would all have been slain. But sir Walter was so careful of giving no offence to the court of Spain, that he did not return these acts of hostility.

Hence he steered to Gomera, where the Spaniards also resolved to oppose the landing of the

the English. They lined the beach, and standing close to the water, saluted them very roughly, but were soon dispersed by the ship guns. After this treatment, Sir Walter sent a messenger on shore, to let the Governor know, that he had no hostile intention; that he only wanted a few necessaries, for which he would pay very honourably, and that if any of his men should attempt the least fraud or riot, he would hang them in the market-place: and so well did he keep his word, that the Governor wrote a letter, for him to deliver to Count Gondamar the Spanish Embassador at the Court of London, wherein he acknowledged Sir Walter's polite behaviour, and gave him the character he justly merited. Many civilities passed between Sir Walter, and the Governor's Lady, who was of English extraction, she being related by the mother's side to the Staffords. This Lady sent him sugar, fruits, and other useful presents, for which, in return, he complimented her with a beautiful picture of Mary Magdalen, a ruff finely wrought, and some extracts of amber and rose-water, which were highly valued in the island.

After Sir Walter's leaving the Canaries, his ships companies grew very sickly, and before he reached the island of Trinidad, he lost many of his men, and was himself dangerously ill. In this weak and low condition, he arrived off Wiapoco, where he hoped to have been assisted by Leonard, an Indian who had lived with him three or four years in England; but finding that he was removed so far up into the country, that there was no procuring him, he stood away for

Caliana

Caliana on the coast of Guinea, at the first discovery called Port Howard, where the Cacique had been also his servant, and had lived with him two years in the Tower of London, under the name of Harry. There he arrived in a day or two, having passed by an island remarkable for its being covered with a multitude of birds, from whence he sent to the Cacique, his late Indian servant, who with other Caciques, came and brought him great plenty of cassavi bread, plantains, roasted mullets, pistachios, and pine-apples.

In this place he landed his sick men, and had tents pitched on shore, by which means, both he and his people recovered strength daily, from the benefits they received by the land air, and the refreshments they obtained. He here also set up his barges and shallops, which he had brought in pieces from England; cleansed his ships; fixed up a forge; made such iron works as were wanted; and took in a fresh supply of water.

Thus the English were employed about three weeks on shore, and in the river. During this time, Sir Walter was very much caressed by the Indians, with whom he had been formerly acquainted, and by the other natives of the place, who daily furnished him with the best provisions the country afforded; offered him their obedience, and even proposed to make him their Sovereign, on condition, that he would abide and settle among them; so high was the gratitude they still felt for his former behaviour. These proposals, he mentioned in his dispatches

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to England with the greatest modesty and unconcern.

On the 4th of December they left this river, and the next day came to an island, where Sir Walter's ship ran on the shoals, and was with difficulty got off.

Sir Walter still continuing ill, it was resolved, that he should stay with five of the ships at Punto de Gallo, in the island of Trinidad, while the rest, commanded by Capt. Keymis, young Raleigh, Sir Walter's son, and a few other gentlemen, with five or six companies of foot, should proceed up the river Oronoko, with a month's provisions, in search of the mine, the men being ordered to encamp, till the depth and breadth of the mine was discovered. Sir Walter at the same time desired, that if they found the Spaniards very strong, they would be careful of landing, as a repulse from them, would reflect dishonour on the nation; and he concluded with observing, that if they did not find the mine well worth their pains of working they need only bring a small quantity of the ore, to convince the King, that it was not a mere fiction of his invention.

With these instructions the five ships set forward on the 10th of December, and soon reached a new Spanish town, called St. Thomas, upon the main channel of the Oronoko, where Antonio Berreo, who was taken by Raleigh in the island of Trinidad, had planted a settlement. This town consisted of about 14 houses slightly built, with a chapel, a convent of Franciscans, and a garrison. Keymis and the rest now thought themselves obliged, through fear of leaving the ene-

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my between them and the boats, to deviate from their instructions, by which they had been enjoined first, to take a small party to make trial of the mine, under shelter of their own camp, and then to deal with the town as they should see cause. It was resolved, to go on shore in one body, between the mine and the town; but unhappily landing by night nearer the town than they suspected, and intending to rest themselves by the river side till morning, they were attacked by the Spanish troops, who had been apprized of their coming. This charge was so unexpected, that the common soldiers were struck with such consternation, that had not they been animated by their commanders, they had been all cut to pieces, but soon rallying by the example of these brave men, they made such a vigorous defence that the Spaniards were put to flight. However, in the heat of the pursuit, the English found themselves at the Spanish town, before they knew where they were. Here the battle was renewed, they being assaulted by the Governor himself, Don Diego Palameca, and four or five Captains, at the head of their companies, against whom Capt. Walter Raleigh, a brave and sprightly young man of 23 years of age, rushed forwards at the head of a company of pikes, without waiting for the musketeers, and having killed one of the Spanish Captains, was mortally wounded by another: but pressing still on with his sword, upon Erinetta, probably the Captain who had shot him, that Spaniard knocked him down with the but-end of his musket, upon which the brave youth, crying,

Lord

Lord have mercy upon me, and prosper your enterprize, exphed. But at the same instant, young Raleigh's Serjeant, thrust the Spanish commander through with his halbert. Two other of the Commanders were also slain, and at length the Governor himself, fainting under his wounds, was trampled to death, on which his men dispersed; some of them taking shelter in the houses about the market place, from whence they killed and wounded the English at pleasure; who finding it not easy to dislodge them, set fire to the houses, and drove them into the woods and mountains, whence the Spaniards still continued to alarm them.

Capt. Keymis now leaving a garrison in the place, resolved to make an attempt upon the mines, some of which were not far distant; but the Spaniards who had fled, having taken possession of the passes that led to them, Captain Keymis found all approach to them very difficult, particularly with respect to the mine he had in his eye, for the river was so low, that in most places, he could not approach the banks that were near it by a mile, and where he found an ascent, he received a volley of musket shot from the woods, which killed two of the rowers, and wounded six more of his men, among whom was Capt. Amhurst.

Capt Keymis finding the attempt very hazardous, the passage being full of thick and impassable woods, and thinking that the English, who were left on shore at the Spanish town, would not be able to defend it, especially, if the enemy should be recruited, he gave over the enterprize,

prize, and returned to St. Thomas's where the English plundered the town, and carried away the most valuable part of the treasure: and the enemy not daring to appear, in order to ransom the rest, they set fire to that part of which was still unconsumed.

Sir Walter, upon the news of his son's death, and the ill success of this expedition, which had disappointed him in his hopes, severely reprimanded Capt. Keymis, and exclaimed, that he had undone him; observing, that if he had only brought 100 weight of the ore, though with the loss of 100 men, it would not only have given the King satisfaction, and have preserved his reputation, but have afforded the nation encouragement to have returned the next year with a greater force, and to have held the country for his Majesty, to whom it belonged.

Upon this, Keymis retired in discontent to his cabbin, and soon after a pistol going off, Sir Walter called out to know the occasion, when Capt Keymis answered, that it was nothing, but a pistol he had let off, on account of its being long charged, but in about an hour after, his boy found him lying dead, weltering in blood, with a pistol and long knife lying near him, and upon examination it appeared, that he had endeavoured first to shoot himself, but the bullet being small, had only cracked one of his ribs, so that effectually to put an end to his life, he had thrust the knife through his left pap.

Sir Walter now called a council of his officers who were of opinion, that they ought to retire to Newfoundland, in order to refit and take in re-

refreſhments; but many of his men mutinying on the way, he ſent them home directly to England.

On his arrival at Newfoundland, great diſturbances aroſe on board his own ſhip, which being unable to quell, he joined with the ſtronger party, who, againſt his own inclinations, declared for returning to England.

Sir Walter Raleigh arrived at Plymouth about the end of July, when he found the King had publiſhed a proclamation, requiring him and his people to appear before the Privy-council, for having burnt the town of St. Thomas. He was ſoon after arreſted, and on his being brought to London, was committed priſoner to his own houſe, but endeavouring to eſcape from thence, to a veſſel which waited for him at Graveſend, he was ſeized near Greenwich, carried to the Tower, and on the 28th of October 1618, brought from thence to the court of King's bench, where the record of his former ſentence being examined, he was ordered to the Gate-houſe, and the next morning beheaded in Old Palace-yard, aged ſixty-ſix.

Upon this great occaſion he behaved like a brave man and a Chriſtian. He made a nervous and eloquent ſpeech in juſtification of his conduct, and then feeling the edge of the ax, ſaid with a ſmile, "It is a ſharp medicine, but a "ſound cure for all woes." After which his head was ſtruck off at two blows.

All Europe were aſtoniſhed at the injuſtice and cruelty of this proceeding; but Gondamor, the Spaniſh Embaſſador, thirſted for his blood, on

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account of his having been the scourge of Spain, during the reign of Queen Elizabeth, and King James durst not refuse him the life of a man, who as a soldier, a scholar, and a statesman, was the greatest ornament to his country. That mean-spirited Prince, to his eternal infamy, soon after ordered Cottington, one of the residents of Spain, to inform the Spanish court, how able a man Sir Walter Raleigh was, and yet to give them content, he had not spared him, though by preserving him, he would have given great satisfaction to his subjects, and had at his command upon all occasions, as useful a man as served any prince in Christendom.

CHAP. IX.

The Voyages of Capt. Gosnold, Capt. Pringe, Capt. Gilbert, and Capt. Weymouth, to the countries then called Virginia.

IN the year 1602, the Virginia company fitted out a vessel for that country, under the command of Capt. Bartholomew Gosnold, who sailed from Falmouth on the 26th of March, with only 32 persons on board, and on the 11th of May arrived among the islands, which form the north side of Massachuset's Bay in New England, where finding no conveniencies for forming a settlement, he entered what is now called Plymouth Bay, and afterwards went on shore in a small but uninhabited isle, which he called Elizabeth's island, and

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on another, which he named Martha's Vineyard. Here some of his company sowed English corn, and saw it come up very kindly. On Elizabeth's Island he erected a fort for his own security, that he might trade from thence with the neighbouring Indians, to whom the Europeans seemed to be no strangers. For the Commander of the first body that came for the sake of trade, after the signs of peace being given on both sides, made a long speech, and then boldly came on board the ship; but what was most extraordinary, he was dressed in a waistcoat, a hat, breeches, shoes and stockings, but his attendants had only deer skins about their shoulders, and seal skins about their waists. Their hair was very long, and tied up with a knot behind, and though they were painted all over, the natural swarthiness of their complexions was easily discerned.

On the north west side of Elizabeth's Island, the Captain found a lake of fresh water about a league in circumference, very near the sea, and in the middle of it was a small island, which contained about an acre, and this they pitched upon as the most commodious place for building the above fort. In this lake they found an infinite number of turtle, with several sorts of fish and fowl, whence those who proposed to settle there, had the agreeable prospect of being in no want of provisions. On their visiting the continent near Elizabeth's Island, they found the country extremely delightful, and abounding in meadows, brooks and rivers. They had also some communication with the Indians of the main land, for they traded with them for European commodities,

commodities; and gave in exchange for knives and toys, beavers, martins, otters, foxes and rabbits, together with seals and deer-skins.

The affairs of the plantation might have gone on very prosperously, had all the planters been unanimous, but they were solely intent upon their private interests, and upon making a profitable voyage. The Captain having in vain endeavoured to persuade some of them to stay in the fort, took in a large cargo of sassafras, cedar, furs, &c. and leaving the island on the 18th of June, arrived at Plymouth on the 23d of July following.

At the time of the Queen's decease, a design was on foot for prosecuting the discoveries and trade to North America, in which were concerned several of the gentlemen and merchants of Bristol, among whom was the Rev. Mr. Hackluit, Prebendary of the cathedral of that city, who was chosen to apply in behalf of himself and the rest of the persons concerned, to Sir Walter Raleigh, who was still considered as the proprietor of Virginia, in order to procure his licence for that trade, and upon his application, Sir Walter not only granted him a licence under his hand and seal, but generously made over to them, all the profits that should arise from the voyage.

Being thus impowered, they raised the joint stock of 1000l and fitted out two small vessels, the Speedwell of 50 tons burden, commanded by Matthew Pringe, with 30 men and boys, and the Discoverer, a bark of 26 tons, commanded by Mr. William Brown, who had under him a mate and eleven men and boys. They were victualled

victualled for eight months, and had a large cargo on board of the goods thought most proper for that country.

These vessels sailed from Bristol on the 20th of March 1603, but were obliged by contrary winds, to put into Milford-Haven, where they continued till the 26th of April following, when they proceeded on their voyage, and without any remarkable accident, arrived on the coast of North America in the latitude of 43°. whence they sailed south-west in search of that part of the country, which had been visited by Capt. Gosnold.

They at length found in the latitude of 41°. and some few minutes, a very convenient bay, to which they gave the name of Whitson's Bay, in honour of Mr. John Whitson, who was then Mayor of Bristol. Here they landed, and cut a good quantity of sassafras, which they carried on board; but first to prevent their being surprized in the woods by the natives while they were at work, they erected a small fort or redoubt, in which they left their effects under a guard of about four or five men.

Forty or fifty, and sometimes an hundred of the Indians, frequently came in a company to trade with the English, with whom they eat and drank, and were very merry, and once on their observing an English lad playing upon a guittar, they got round about him, and taking hold of each other's hands, danced 20 or 30 in a ring, after the American manner. The seamen observing, that the natives were more afraid of two mastiffs they had with them, than of 20 men,

men, whenever they wanted to get rid of their company, had the brutality to let loose one of the mastiffs, at which the natives ran shrieking into the woods. This ill treatment, and the erecting a fortification in the country, probably made the Indians look upon the English as their enemies: for soon after a party of them came and surrounded the fort, when most of the English were absent, and would probably have taken it, if Capt. Pringe had not fired two guns, which alarmed the workmen in the woods, who immediately returned to its relief.

The Indians indeed pretended that they had no hostile intentions, but the English did not care to trust them afterwards, and the day before they embarked, the natives came in great numbers, and set fire to the woods where they had cut their sassafras, which was probably to let the English know, that they would preserve nothing in their country, that could invite such guests to visit them again.

About the middle of June they had compleated the freight of their bark, and having sent her to England, made all the dispatch they could in loading their own vessel with a valuable cargo of skins and furs, which they had before procured of the Indians, in exchange for the commodities they had brought with them.

These Indians much resembled those mentioned by Capt. Gosnold, and among the other curiosities, the English found in the country, they took one of the boats used by the inhabitants, made of the bark of a birch-tree, sewed together with twigs, the seams of which were co-

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vered with rosin or turpentine, and though this boat was 17 feet long, four broad, and capable of carrying nine persons, it did not weigh 60 pounds. Those boats were rowed with oars resembling our baker's peels, by the help of which they went at a great rate.

Capt. Pringe having quitted the coast of Virginia on the 9th of August, sailed to England, and on the 2d of October entered King's Road, where he had the satisfaction of finding, that the bark was safely arrived a fortnight before.

In the same year, another attempt was made upon the same account by Capt. Bartholomew Gilbert, who had been the year before at Virginia with Captain Gosnold. This gentleman sailed from Plymouth on the 10th of May, in the Elizabeth, a bark of 50 tons burden, and in his passage touched at St. Lucia, Dominica, and Nevis where he traded, and at the last of these places, cut about twenty tons of lignum vitæ.

On the 3d of July he sailed from thence for the coast of Virginia, and in particular for Chesepeak bay, where he was very desirous of obtaining some intelligence of the manners and dispositions of the people.

He arrived on the 25th near the mouth of that harbour; but the wind blew so hard, and the sea ran so high, that he could not enter it, and therefore, after beating about two or three days, was obliged to steer more to the eastward.

On the 29th, being not far from the shore, the Captain with four of his best men landed in their boat, and being provided with arms, proceeded some way up the country; but in their

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march being attacked and over powered by the inhabitants, they were all killed; and it was not without some difficulty, that the boat, with two young men who were left in her, returned to the ship with this melancholy news.

There being now in all but eleven men and boys in the ship, they were afraid to venture the loss of any more of their small company; and their provisions growing short, Henry Shute the Master, who had taken the command, resolved, though they were in extreme want of wood and water, to return homewards, which they did, and arrived safely in the river of Thames about the end of September.

The business of settling and planting the northern continent of America being now laid open by the attainder of Sir Walter Raleigh, on the ridiculous pretence of a very improbable plot, and those who had been concerned in the last voyages, not only giving a favourable account of the country, but obtaining very considerable profits, several persons of distinction were determined to promote these discoveries; and in particular, Henry Wriothesly Earl of Southampton, and Thomas Lord Arundel of Wardour, resolved to fit out a ship for that expedition.

This vessel, which was called the Archangle, and was commanded by Capt. George Weymouth, sailed from Dartmouth on the 31st of March, 1605, and met with nothing of consequence, till they imagined, that they were near the coast of Virginia, when the winds carrying them to the northward into the latitude of 41°. 36. and their wood and water beginning to grow short, they

became

became very desirous of seeing land, which their charts gave them reason to expect. They therefore bore directly in with it; but found none in a run of almost 50 leagues. However, after much expedition, they obtained sight of an island that was very woody along the shore. It abounded in fruit, and vast numbers of fowls; the sea afforded plenty of fish, while large streams of fresh water ran down the cliffs.

This was the eastern part of what is now called Long Island, from whence they could discern a great many other islands, and the main land stretching from the west-south-west to the east-north-east; they visited several of the islands near the continent, and found them very full of timber, and fruit trees of various sorts.

Among these islands they met with an harbour in which ships of any burden might lie defended from all winds, from six to ten fathom water, and this they call Pentecost harbour, from its being discovered about Whitsuntide. The fir trees which grew in great numbers on the islands, yielded excellent turpentine, and many of the shells they found about the rocks, afforded small pearls.

While they lay here, the natives from the continent came to trade with them for skins and furs, in exchange for knives, beads, and such trifles, very readily giving the value of ten or twelve pounds in their goods, for such English hard-ware, as was not worth above five shillings.

Their bows, arrows, and canoes, were like those of the other Indians on the coast. The heads of their tobacco pipes were sometimes

made of clay, and sometimes were only the claw of a lobster; but they were all sufficient to hold as much as ten or twelve of ours.

The most extraordinary discovery made in this voyage, was that of a river, which was esteemed by those who found it, the most beautiful in America. They sailed several leagues up it with their ship, and found it of a considerable breadth for 40 miles together, it being in most places a mile broad, in some three quarters, but never less than half a mile. It flows sixteen or eighteen feet, and is six or ten fathom deep at low water. On both sides there are at a small distance from each other, many fine coves, some of which are able to contain above 100 sail, where the ground is soft ooze with a tough clay underneath for anchorage. Nature has also formed several convenient places like docks, in which ships of all burdens might be graved and careened. The neighbouring land treads along on both sides in a smooth line, and instead of rocks and cliffs, is bordered with grass, and tall trees of different sorts.

After they had remained here about six weeks, and during all that time carried on a very profitable trade with the natives, they thought of returning to England; for which they set sail on the 16th of June, and arrived that day month in sight of the Land's End.

CHAP.

CHAP. X.

Patents granted by King James I. for erecting two Virginia Companies. The London Company fit out a squadron under the command of Capt. Newport, who settles a colony in a Peninsula in Powhatan, or James's river, and calls the place James's town. The various accidents that befel this colony, till they desert the place, and embark for England; when being met by Thomas West lord Delawar, he carries them back, resettles them, and effectually secures this valuable country to the crown of Great Britain. A description of the climate, soil, beasts, birds, fishes, trees, and plants of Virginia; particularly of Maize or Indian Corn, and the manner of cultivating Tobacco. With an account of the present state and government of that valuable province.

THE above prosperous voyage inducing many persons of rank and fortune to wish this trade thoroughly established, they applied to the crown, for such legal authorities as were necessary, and two Companies were formed for settling this large tract of land, which was at this time divided into north and south Virginia. One of these companies consisted of the adventurers of the city of London, who were desirous of fixing a plantation between 34 41° of

north latitude, and the other of those of the cities of Bristol, Exeter, and the town of Plymouth, who wanted to settle in between 38 and 45°. Each of these companies obtained letters patents in which it was provided, that the above respective colonies, should not plant within 103 miles of each other. That they should possess an hundred miles of the country to the westward, within the land; fifty miles either way along the coast, from the seat of their first settlement, and all the islands opposite to the coast for the space of 100 miles at sea. They were impowered to dig mines in and beyond their respective limits, to the westward, paying the crown a fifth of all the gold and copper ore, they should obtain; they were likewise impowered to seize all the ships that should trade within their respective limits; and even to coin money, and raise forces for their defence.

These two companies no sooner received this extensive authority from the crown, than they began in earnest to provide for making settlements within the bounds, prescribed by their respective grants. With this view, the London company fitted out three vessels, one of 100 tons, another of 40, and a pinnace of 20; on board of which were 110 landmen, and every thing necessary for settling a colony. The command of this small squadron, was given to Capt. Christopher Newport, but the orders relating to the government of the colony, and the name of the council who were to be intrusted with the administration of it when settled, were delivered to them

them in a box sealed up, which was not to be opened till they were on shore.

This squadron sailed from London on the 20th of December, 1606, took in water and other necessaries at the Canaries, and proceeded to the Caribbee islands, where they arrived on the 23d of February, and staid among them, but chiefly at the island of Nevis, about five weeks. On the 3d of April they sailed for Virginia, and on the 26th of the same month, landed at the southern cape of Chesepeak bay, where they built a fort, which they called Cape and Fort Henry, and to the northern cape, gave the name of Cape Charles, in honour of the two princes; but the river Powhatan, they called James's river in honour of the King.

This river they completely searched, before they would come to any resolution about forming a settlement, and then, by unanimous consent, they pitched upon a peninsula about 50 miles up the river, which, besides the goodness of the soil, was esteemed most capable of being made a place of trade and security, two thirds of it being surrounded by the main river, which all along affords good anchorage; and the other third by a small river, able to receive vessels of 100 tons burden, till it comes within thirty yards of the great river, where it generally overflows in spring tides; on which account, this peninsula obtained the name of an Island, and both the town and the river received their name from King James. The whole island thus inclosed, contains about 2000 acres, besides many thousands of very good marsh lands, with as fine pasturage

pasturage as any in the country. The narrow passage rendered this place very secure from being attacked by the enemy, and, to add to its strength, they here built castles and a fort. This was the first English plantation that succeeded.

The first business the colony entered upon, after their landing, was opening their orders, when they found that seven gentlemen were appointed their council, one of whom was Capt. Smith, on whose skill and experience, the company in England seemed to rely more than upon any of the rest; but the other gentlemen had such a dislike to him, that they had confined him prisoner ever since they left England, and now excluded him from the council; but afterwards the planters themselves, after they had by their perpetual jars almost ruined the company's affairs, were obliged, not only to admit him into the council, but in a manner to resign the administration into his hands.

The ships having staid five or six weeks before the intended new town, Capt. Newport departed with them for England, leaving upwards of 100 men settled in the above form of government: but the ships were no sooner gone, than the same feuds and disorders broke out again with fresh violence. However, in the midst of these feuds, they fell to planting, sowing, building and fortifying. They also carried on a very advantageous trade with the natives, of which they might have made much greater profit, and have managed it more to the satisfaction of the Indians, if they had been under any rule, and not at liberty to outbid one another. Thus they

not

not only lessened their own profit, but created jealousies and disturbances among the Indians, by letting one have a better bargain than another, by which means those who had been hardest dealt with, thought themselves cheated and abused, whence they conceived an aversion to the English in general, and even made it a national quarrel. This seems to have been the original cause of most of the vexations the English received from the Indians: However, the former subsisted chiefly by the help of their provisions, till the return of the ships.

But now an object drew their eyes and thoughts not only from trade, but from taking the necessary care of their preservation: They found in the isthmus of the peninsula on which James's Town was built, a spring of water that flowed from a small bank, and washed down with it, a yellow sort of dust-isinglas, which lay shining at the bottom, and filled their minds with an insatiable desire of riches; for, taking this to be gold, they were so stupid as to neglect, both the necessary defence of their lives from the attacks of the Indians, and the support of their bodies by procuring provisions; absolutely relying upon the power of gold; thinking that where this was in plenty, nothing else could be wanting; and thus infatuated with the hopes of obtaining mountains of wealth, they despised the mines of Peru and Mexico, in comparison of their own inestimable stream. They, however, soon grew in some measure sensible of their error; for by their negligence, they were reduced to great scarcity of provisions, and the little they had was lost

by

by the burning of the town, while all hands were employed about this imaginary treasure, so that they were obliged to live upon fruit, crabs, and muscles, without having a day's provision before hand. By this neglect many of them also became a prey to the Indians, while the rest not daring to venture abroad, where forced to be contented with what they could get.

They were in this miserable condition when a ship arrived the next year, freighted with men and provisions for the supply of the plantation, and as they neither thought, nor spoke of any thing but gold, they put on board this vessel all the yellow sand they had gathered, with the skins and furs, for which they had bartered with the Indians, and then sent her away. Soon after, another ship arrived, filled with supplies, when they also stowed her with this imaginary gold-dust, and filled her up with cedar, and clap-board.

However, being at length persuaded, that they might apply themselves to other labours more necessary than collecting yellow sand, which if ever so valuable, would be always in their power, if they did but take care to fortify themselves effectually, they began to do this in earnest, and by the good management of Capt. Smith, made several discoveries in James River and Chesepeak bay, and in the year 1608, they first gathered Indian corn of their own planting. But unhappily Capt. Smith going to make discoveries up the country, was attacked by 300 of the Indians, under the command of one of their chiefs, who slew all his men, and taking him prisoner, carried

carried him to Powhatan, their principal Sovereign, who would have put him to death, had it not been for the intercession of his daughter Pacahunta: However, Capt. Smith being afterwards released, returned to James Town, when the President of the Council resigning his office, he was unanimously desired to accept of it.

While Capt. Smith was employed in making the above discoveries, things ran again into confusion in James Town; and several uneasy people taking advantage of his absence, attempted to desert the settlement, and to run away with a small vessel that was left to attend it; for Capt. Smith was the only man among them who could manage discoveries with success, or keep the people in any order; they, however, now made two other settlements, one at Nansamona in James River, above 30 miles below James Town, and the other at Powhatan, six miles below the falls of the river, which last was bought of Powhatan, for a certain quantity of copper; each settlement consisting of 120 men; and soon after they made a fourth settlement near the mouth of James River.

Two thirds of the adventurers coming over with a view of having every thing provided to their hands, were subsisted by the labour of the other industrious third, till Capt. Smith compelled them all to take a share in the work, which being done, a sufficient quantity of ground was soon planted to subsist the colony in plenty, when by moderate exercise and good food, they were not only restored to health, but became in a very flourishing condition, and being now no longer

longer under the necessity of procuring food from the Indians by violence, they lived and traded together very amicably, and Powhatan suffered them to make several other settlements in the country.

But when their affairs were in this prosperous situation, the arrival of six or seven ships from England, with a large supply of ammunition and provisions, and between 3 and 400 planters, threw the whole colony into confusion, which being made known to the company in England, they obtained a new patent from King James, which impowered them to appoint a Governor, and they prevailed on the Lord Delawar to accept of this office. Whereupon that nobleman made Sir Thomas Gates, Sir George Summers, and Capt. Newport his deputies, till his arrival, and these gentlemen set sail from England with nine ships and 500 men, in May, 1609.

These three deputies, being embarked in one ship were unfortunately cast away on the Bermuda islands, which were then uninhabited; but they and all the crew escaped on shore, where they found plenty of provisions, and took possession of those islands for the crown of England, since which time they have been called the Summer islands, from Sir George Summers.

In the mean time the rest of the fleet arrived safe in Chesepeak bay, where Capt. Smith was still the President, but both the old and the new planters declared, that they were not obliged to obey him, as another commission had been granted, which had superseded his. Capt Smith however, kept them in tame order, while he remained

mained among them: but having the misfortune to be accidentally wounded by the explosion of some gun-powder, it was found absolutely necessary for him to return to England with the vessels that sailed soon after. But he was no sooner on board, than every thing fell into the utmost confusion; all business was neglected, and the people living profusely upon what was contained in the magazines, were quickly reduced to want, which no sooner happened, than they rambled about without order through the country, plundering the natives of their provisions, while they attacking them in their own defence, cut off great numbers of them.

They were in this situation when the deputy governors arrived in two sloops, which they had built in the Bermudas, and those gentlemen had the mortification to see, that the vices of these men, together with sickness and famine, had reduced them from upwards of 400 to less than 80. Sir Thomas Gates and sir George Summers endeavoured all in their power to remove their uneasiness, and to reduce them once more to order; but it was all in vain, for the people shewing their empty warehouses, their ruined settlements, and the number of their sick, obliged them to consent to their embarking for England, as the only means of saving those who were left.

But just as they were sailing out of Chesapeak bay, they were met by a ship in which was their new governor, the lord Delawar, who obliged them to go back to James Town, in order to repair their houses and forts, and they had no

sooner returned on shore, than his lordship set before them, in a free and plain discourse, the folly and madness of their proceedings; reproving them for their divisions, idleness, and ill conduct, which had occasioned their misfortunes; advising them to reform, or he should be compelled to draw the sword of justice, and cut off the delinquents; declaring, however, that he had much rather draw his own sword in their defence, telling them for their encouragement, that he had brought them such plenty of provisions, that there would be no danger of wanting for the future, if they were not wanting to themselves. He then proceeded to constitute a council, and afterwards to furnish the people with flesh, for though there were no less than 5 or 600 hogs in the plantation, when capt. Smith went to England, there was not at this time one left alive, for they had been either eaten by the colony, or destroyed by the Indians, who had likewise driven all the deer and other game out of the country, and the English were so ill provided with nets, that though there was plenty of fish in the rivers, they knew not how to take them.

The company had sent over a supply of cloathing, biscuit, flour, beer and other liquors, but taking it for granted, that there were hogs, venison, fowl and fish enough in the country, had sent no cattle. Upon which sir George Summers was dispatched to Bermudas to bring over live hogs from thence, for he had found plenty of them in that island, when he was cast away upon it. The governor also employed some in fishing,

fishing, but the nets and tackle being so bad, that they had no success; he endeavoured to settle a correspondence with Powhatan, and other of the Indian chiefs, in order to purchase flesh of them for English goods, and in some of these negotiations he succeeded, particularly with the king of Patomack, one of the most powerful of the Indian chiefs. But though Powhatan had already promised to acknowledge the king of England for his sovereign, and had on that account received presents of considerable value, he was so exasperated at the English, that he would return no other answer, than that he desired them to depart the country, or confine themselves within the limits of James-Town-Island, and not continue ranging through his dominions, with a view, as he supposed, of subduing them; threatening to give orders for their being cut off, if ever they went beyond their limits. He also commanded the messengers sent by his lordship not to see his face again, unless they brought him a coach and six horses; for he had been informed by some Indians who had been in England, that all persons of distinction rode in those vehicles.

The lord Delawar, exasperated at this answer, had an Indian taken prisoner, whose right hand he caused to be cut off, and in this condition he sent him to Powhatan, with orders to tell him, that he would send him all his subjects in that manner, and burn all the corn in the country, which was then ripe, if he did not for the future forbear all acts of hostility. This instance of barbarity had its effect, and the colony lived

for some time in peace and plenty, making fresh discoveries, and forming new alliances with the Indian princes.

Mean while sir Thomas Gates was sent to England to give an account of the state of the colony; when the ships being freighted home with cedar, black walnut, and iron ore, these returns appeared so inconsiderable, that the company were in some suspence, whether they should not send for the lord Delawar and the colony home; but sir Thomas Gates told them, that if they would send over men, who knew how to make pitch and tar, and plant flax and hemp, they might furnish England with all kind of naval stores. That as the country abounded in mulberry-trees, they might easily set up a manufactory of silk; that the soil was exceeding fertile, producing corn, grass, grapes, and a variety of other fruits; that European cattle and corn multiplied prodigiously, and that their colony would never want fish and fowl, was it provided with boats, nets and engines, which would enable the English to support themselves.

This representation made the patentees resolve to proceed with alacrity in improving this plantation, in which resolution they were confirmed by the lord Delawar, who having left the honourable Mr Percy as his deputy, returned to England for the recovery of his health.

While the lord Delawar was in England, his deputy brought about a peaceable correspondence with the natives, which at last advanced so far, that several intermarriages took place, and

and among these, the Indian princess Pacahunta, who had saved capt. Smith's life, espoused Mr. John Rolf, an English gentleman, whose posterity still enjoy the lands descended to them from this lady.

The situation of Virginia is remarkably happy and convenient, it having the river Potomac, which separates it from Maryland on the north-east; the Atlantic ocean on the east; the province of Carolina on the south, and the Apalachian mountains, which separate it from Florida, on the west. It is in between 36 and 39° north latitude and between 74 and 88° west longitude; extending about 248 miles in length from north to south, and about 120 miles in breadth from east to west. The winter is dry and clear, and though the snow falls in great quantities, it seldom lies above a day or two; the frosts indeed are quick and sharp, but they seldom last long. Their spring is somewhat earlier than ours. In April they have frequent rains: May and June are very pleasant months, the heat being greatly tempered with cooling breezes; but July and August are sultry hot; the air growing in a manner stagnant, which produces dreadful thunder and lightning; and in September there fall prodigious showers of rain, at which time the inhabitants are most sickly. It ought however to be observed, that in this, and indeed in all our colonies, the climate daily grows better, and these thunder seasons less violent, which the inhabitants very justly ascribe to the clearing of the country, and cutting down the woods, as this gives the air a free passage.

The soil is generally low towards the sea-coast, and for an hundred miles up into the country there is hardly a hill or stone to be met with, except some rocks of iron ore, which appear above ground, and some banks of a kind of petrified oyster-shells, that are of a prodigious thickness. However, at the water-falls, there are stones of different kinds, fit for paving and other uses; and towards the hills there are quarries of slate and free-stone. There are also a sort of shining pebbles not at all inferior to Kerry-stones, though they are generally speaking soft, yet if long exposed to the air, they are said to become very hard, and if polished are extremely beautiful.

The bay of Chesepeak runs directly up the country almost due north for 300 miles. At the entrance it is about 20 miles broad, or something more, and it continues navigable much beyond the coast of Virginia. Into the west side of this bay fall four great rivers, which rise in the Aligany mountains, all of them running from the north-west to the south-east. The most southerly of these is James-River, which is generally about two miles over, and navigable at least fourscore miles. A little to the northward is York-River; and in some places these two rivers approach each other so near, that they are not five miles asunder. Farther to the northward is the river Rapohanack, which in some places is not ten miles distant from York-River, and either of them is as broad, or broader, than James-River. North of Rapohanack is the great river of Potowmac, which in some places is not above seven miles

distant

distant from Rapohanack-River, and in others upwards of fifty. It is navigable above 200 miles, and in some places is nine miles broad, but in general does n t exceed seven. Though the mouth of this last river, and that of James River, are about 100 miles asunder, the heads of all the four rivers rise in the same hills pretty near each other.

There were neither horses, cows, sheep, nor hogs in this country before the coming of the English, but they have now plenty of them all. They have also a sort of elks, but they are not common, and plenty of deer. They have likewise hares, squirrels of several kinds, musk-rats racoons, wild-cats, beavers, foxes, and a sort of dogs like wolves; as for reptiles, they have lizards, and several kinds of snakes. They have likewise many insects, as musketos, bugs, seed-ticks, &c.

They have also eagles of three or four sorts; the first is the grey eagle, of about the size of a kite; the second, the bald eagle, so called because the upper part of the head and neck is covered only with a kind of white down; the third is a black eagle, which resembles those in Great-Britain. These are very ravenous, and do a great deal of mischief. They have most sorts of hawks, and two kinds of owls, both of which are very large. The white owl is very beautiful, all the feathers of her back and breast being as bright as silver, except a black spot immediately below the throat. They have wild turkeys so large that some of them weigh 40 pounds. Their partridges are smaller than ours,

but are as well tasted. They have also the mocking-bird, which is of two sorts, the grey and the red. This is esteemed the finest singing-bird in the world: and it receives its name from its readily imitating the notes of all the birds it hears. They have likewise the humming-bird, which is very small, has a long bill, and very fine feathers. In short, they have all sorts of water fowl, and wild swans, geese, ducks, teal, wigeons, gulls, cormorants, herons, bitterns, and curlews; but they all differ in some respects from ours.

As for fish, no country has greater plenty; for, in February, March, April, and May, shoals of herrings much bigger than ours come up into the rivers; there is also plenty of cod, and stingrays, which last is said to be peculiar to this country; it is so called from its having a sting in its tail, and is esteemed good food. In their rivers they have sturgeons, trout and green fish in great plenty, and also plaise, flounders, whitings, carp, pike, mullets and perch. The old-wife, and the sheep's-head are excellent fish. Their shell-fish are oysters, crabs, cockles and shrimps.

Of those that are not commonly eaten, they have in the sea, whales, dog-fish, sharks, porpoises, gar-fish, and sword-fish. They have also another species called the toad-fish, from its swelling monstrously when taken out of the water: and the rock-fish, some species of which are poisonous. The skip-jack, so called from its skipping out of the water, is tolerable good food,

food, as is also the tobacco-pipe-fish, which has its name from being long and slender.

Few countries are better stocked with trees, or afford a greater variety. As timber, they have large oaks, cedars, firs, cypress, elm, ash and walnut. They have also beech, poplar, hazle, &c. besides sassafras, sarsaparilla, and many other sweet woods, and such as are used in dying. They have grapes of several kinds, various sorts of cherries, plums from the size of a damson to that of a pear, peaches in such plenty, that in some places they feed their hogs with them; quinces in abundance, and great plenty of apples and pears.

They have all sorts of English corn, which thrive well, and also maize or Indian corn, which grows in a great ear as big as the handle of a large horse-whip, having from 300 to 700 grains in one ear, and sometimes one grain produces two or three such ears. It is of various colours, white, yellow, red, blue, green, and black, and some speckled and striped, but the white and yellow are most common. The stalk is as thick as an ordinary walking-cane, and grows six or eight feet high, in which is a sweet juice whereof a syrup is sometimes made, and from every joint of the stalk there grow long leaves resembling that of sedge. This corn is planted in holes or trenches, about five or six feet distant from each other, the earth is opened four inches deep with a plough, and four or five grains thrown into each hole or trench at about the distance of a span from each other, and then covered with earth. They weed the corn from

time to time, and as the stalks grow high, they raise the mould about them in the same manner as the hillocks in an hop-garden. They begin to plant in April, but the chief plantation is in May, and they continue to plant till the middle of June: what is planted in April is reaped in August; that planted in May is reaped in September, and the last in October.

As the great produce of this country is tobacco, and as that of Virginia is considered as the best in the world, we shall give a particular account of it. It is certain that the country produced vast quantities of this vegetable, before any Europeans went thither, and that the use of it was taught them by the natives; but the manner in which they cultivated it, is now no longer known, since they buy what they consume from the English, and therefore we shall here give their manner of managing this plant.

The tobacco-seeds are first sown in beds, where having remained a month, the plants are in the first rainy weather transplanted, and the earth raised into little hillocks about them; being grown near a foot high, they, within the space of another month, top them and prune off all the bottom leaves, leaving only seven or eight on the stalk, that they may be the better fed, after which, these leaves in six weeks time come to their full growth. The planters prune off the suckers, and clear them of the horn-worm twice a week, which is called worming and tuckering. This work lasts three weeks, or a month, by which time, the leaf, from being green, begins to turn brownish and to spot and

thicken,

thicken, which is a ſign of its repining. They then cut the plants down as faſt as they ripen, heap them up, and let them lie a night to ſwear. The next day they carry them to the tobacco-houſe, where every plant is hung up at a convenient diſtance from each other, for about a month or five weeks; they take them down in moiſt weather, when the leaf gives, or elſe it will crumble to duſt; they are then laid upon ſticks and covered up cloſe in the tobacco-houſe, for a week or fortnight to ſweat; and then opening the bulk in a wet day, the ſervants ſtrip and ſort them, the top leaves being the beſt and the bottom the worſt tobacco. The laſt work is to pack it in hogſheads, or to bundle it up, which is alſo done in a wet ſeaſon; for in curing of tobacco, wet ſeaſons are as neceſſary as dry, to make the leaf pliant.

Beſides tobacco, this country alſo produces flax, hemp, and cotton, and all kinds of naval ſtores might be produced in Virginia, with great eaſe and in vaſt plenty.

This colony is now divided into 25 counties, of which the firſt is James-County, ſituated on both ſides James River. But there are only two towns in all Virginia. The firſt, James-Town, which does not contain above 60 or 80 houſes, and even the greater part of theſe are taverns or public houſes, for the entertainment of ſea-faring people. The ſecond is Williamſburg, to which the ſeat of government is now transferred, and yet it does not conſiſt of above 40 houſes, the gentlemen of Virginia chuſing to live on their plantations, in order to ſee how

their estates are managed. The rest of the counties are, Henrico county, Prince George, Charles county, Surry, Isle of Wight, Nansemond, Norfolk, Princess Ann, York county, Warwick, Elizabeth, New Kent, King William, King and Queen, Gloucester, Middlesex, Essex, Richmond, Stafford, Westmoreland, Lancaster, Northumberland, Accomack, and Northampton. The number of people in these counties, reckoning the men, women, children, and negroes, amount to above half a million, of whom 120,000 are freemen, or their wives and children, and above 20,000 are capable of bearing arms. There are still many nations of the Indians, but some of them are very small, and it is thought that amongst them all, they can scarce raise 700 fighting men.

The government of Virginia resembles that of England; for the legislative authority is lodged in the governor and assembly. The governor represents the king, gives his assent to the laws, and has a negative voice. As governor, he is at the head of the civil administration, and being by his commission lieutenant-general, and vice-admiral, the military and naval power are also in his hands.

CHAP.

CHAP. XI.

The first attempts of the Plymouth, or North-Virginia company. A particular account of the manner in which New-England was settled. The transactions of the first colony with the Indians; and the surprizing increase of the settlements. The situation and climate of New-England. The animals found there, and a minute description of the Moose. The fowls, fish, and produce of the soil. The political state of the four colonies, and a short description of Boston the capital.

IN the last chapter we have given an history of the settlements made by the London or South-Virginia company, and are now to mention the proceedings of the western or Plymouth company, as they are stiled by the writers of that age. They were for some years contented with trading with the natives of North-Virginia for furs, and with fishing upon that coast; but at length two ships being employed in this fishery in the year 1614, commanded by capt. John Smith, and capt Thomas Hunt, the former went on shore, took a particular view of the country of the Massachusets, and had some skirmishes with the natives. After which, he ordered Hunt to dispose of his fish in Spain, and then return to England; but Hunt, basely proposing to make a market of the natives, as well as of their fish, treacherously inticed 27 of the Indians on board his ship, and then setting sail with them to Malaga, sold them to the Spaniards for slaves,

at

at the rate of 20*l.* a man, keeping only an Indian called Squanto, who was afterwards of great service to the English.

This outrage was so resented by the Indians, that for the present all commerce between them became impracticable; and though capt. Dormer was sent to new England, in the year 1619, with Squanto for his interpreter, in order to conclude a peace with the natives, and to settle a colony near Massachusets-Bay, the Indians refused to be reconciled, and attacking the English, Dormer was wounded, upon which he left Squanto on shore, and proceeded to Virginia.

The patentees were at last so affected by these discouragements, as to give up all thoughts of making a settlement. However other adventurers carried on a trade to New-England, that turned to a very good account; and it is probable that this commerce might have been carried on for several years in the same manner, without any thoughts of planting, had it not been for a congregation of Brownists, or Independants, who being persecuted in England, had retired to Holland, and formed themselves into a church, under Mr. John Robinson, their minister, and soon after projected the design of seeking an establishment in the new world. In order to this, they, by means of sir Robert Nanton, obtained the consent of King James I. for settling in America; and afterwards, by means of their agents in England, contracted with some merchants for a settlement on the bank of Hudson's river.

These merchants were proprietors of the country; and agreed to a contract, which bore hard

hard upon those who were to be the first settlers. Mr. Robinson's congregation, however, sold their estates, and made a common bank for a fund to carry on this undertaking. They then hired a ship of 180 tons, which they freighted with proper goods and merchandize, and the whole company, consisting of about 120 persons, coming to England, embarked on board this vessel at Southampton.

This ship sailed from Plymouth, on the 6th of September 1621, and fell in with Cape Cod on the 9th of November, a very improper time of the year for beginning to build and plant. Here they refreshed themselves for about half a day, and then tacked about to the southward for Hudson's River; but Jones, the master of the ship, having been bribed by the Dutch, who intended to take possession of these parts themselves, as they did some time after, instead of putting out to sea, entangled them among dangerous shoals and breakers, where meeting with a storm, the ship was driven back again to the cape, on which they put into the harbour, and resolved to attempt a settlement there; but Cape Cod not being within the limits of the land, for which they had obtained a grant, they associated themselves into a body politic, by a formal instrument, wherein having declared themselves the subjects of the crown of England, they solemnly engaged submission to the laws, that should from time to time be made for the good of the country.

Having chosen a very commodious place for building a town, with a very agreeable country

about

about it, they resolved not to trouble their friends about obtaining any farther licence, but to risk their fortunes where providence had cast them; and in consequence of this resolution went hard to work, in building a town, in 42° north latitude which they named Plymouth. The planters who agreed to stay in this place were about 100, including women and children, and of these there were only 19 families; but such were the fatigues endured by this infant colony during the first winter, that 50 persons out of the 100 died within the space of two months, and had the Indians attacked them, they had probably all perished.

They, however, saw none of the natives till the middle of March, when Samoset, one of their sagamores, or captains, came to them into the country, and told them, that his people would be glad to trade with them. The next day, coming to them again with other Indians, he informed the English, that Massasoiet, their great sachem, had his residence three days march to the northward, and intended them a visit. Accordingly, Massasoiet arrived on the 22d of March, with a retinue of 60 people, and being received by captain Standish, at the head of a file of musqueteers, was conducted to a kind of throne, prepared in one of the houses. He was of a large stature, was middle-aged, had a grave countenance, and was sparing in his speech. His face was painted red, and both his head and face were smeared over with oil. He had a deer skin mantle; his breeches

and

A Repast at the Governor's where he entertained by Capt. Standish.

and ſtockings, which were of a piece, were of the ſame materials, and his arms were covered with wild cats ſkins. His knife hung by a ſtring at his breaſt, and his tobacco-pouch behind. His principal attendants were dreſſed in the ſame garb, and there appeared no marks of diſtinction between this prince and his ſubjects, unleſs it were a chain of fiſh-bones, which Maſſaſſoiet wore about his neck. This chief had not been long ſeated when Mr Carver, the governor, came in with a guard of muſqueteers, whereupon Maſſaſſoiet roſe up and kiſſed him, after which they both ſat down, and an entertainment was provided by the Engliſh, of which, no part appeared more acceptable than the brandy, the ſachem himſelf drinking very plentifully of it.

In Maſſaſſoiet's retinue was Squanto, who had been carried to England by Hunt, and brought back again into the country. This Indian had, it ſeems, a very great affection for the Engliſh, among whom he had lived ſeveral years, and from his favourable repreſentation of the colony, the ſachem was induced to make them this friendly viſit. At this firſt meeting he entered into an offenſive and defenſive alliance with the Engliſh, acknowledged King James for his ſovereign, and as an evidence of his ſincerity, granted part of his country to the planters and their heirs for ever: for the ſachem being informed by Squanto, of the great power of the Engliſh, both by ſea and land, promiſed himſelf their aſſiſtance againſt his enemies the Naraganſet Indians, while the Engliſh ſtood in no leſs

need

need of his friendship, to establish themselves in this country. This alliance being therefore founded upon the mutual interests of the contracting parties, was inviolably maintained for many years.

The treaty being concluded, Massasiet returned to his capital, leaving Squanto with the colony, who was extremely serviceable to them, not only as an interpreter, but by instructing them how to plant and manage their Indian corn, in piloting them along the coast, and supplying them with fish, fowl, and venison. The English however still remained sickly, and several of them died, among whom was Mr. Carver, their governor, and the seamen were so ill that they were not in a condition to set sail till May, when the ship returned to England, to give their friends an account of the situation of the colony.

When the ship was gone to England, the colony made choice of Mr. Bradford for their governor, who enjoyed that post for many years, and saw the plantation thoroughly established, though in his time there arose great feuds and jealousies, on account of differences about religion.

The colony remained without a charter till in the year 1624, they sent a person to England, who procured one that enabled the planters to elect a governor, council, and magistrates, and to make laws, provided they were not contrary to those of England, or incroached on the prerogatives of the crown. Thus this colony became firmly established without any assistance from the North-Virginia company.

We

We are now to ſpeak of that, which though latter in point of time, is now become in every reſpect the moſt conſiderable; for in the year 1625, Mr. White, miniſter of Dorcheſter, obſerving the ſucceſs of the Plymouth colony, projected a new ſettlement in Maſſachuſet's Bay, and while ſome of his friends went over to make choice of a proper ſettlement, procured a grant from the North-Virginia, or New-England Company, for himſelf and his friends, of all that part of New-England, that lies between the great river Merimack and Charles River, at the bottom of Maſſachuſet's Bay, and of all the lands, &c. three miles north of Merimack River, and three miles ſouth of Charles River, and in length between theſe rivers, from the Atlantic Ocean to the South Sea.

This new colony, which ſettled the town called Salem, was ſupported with the ſame ſpirit and vigour as the former, and ſoon after obtained a patent from King Charles I. whereby they were incorporated, by the name of the Governor and Company of the Maſſachuſet's Bay, in New-England, and were impowered to make laws for the good of the plantation, not repugnant to thoſe of England, and liberty of conſcience being granted to all who would ſettle there, great numbers went over, and in a little time, two new ſettlements were made, the one ſtiled Charles-Town, on the north ſide of Charles River, and the other, Dorcheſter, at the bottom of Maſſachuſet's Bay. Soon after, part of the inhabitants of Charles-Town, paſſing over to

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the opposite shore, erected Boston, which is now the capital of New-England.

As new planters arrived every year, the colony soon became over stocked, and divisions breaking out among them, Mr. Roger Williams, pastor of a church of Brownists, settled without this government, and called this his plantation, Providence, which was afterwards united to the government of Rhode Island.

At length the Pequen Indians beginning to grow very troublesome, it was considered that a town and fort on Connecticut River would make a good frontier on that side. Agents were therefore sent to view the country, who made such an advantageous report of the fertility of the soil, and the largeness of the river, as induced many of the planters in several of the towns, to entertain thoughts of removing thither, they being already straitened for room where they were.

Upon this, Mr Hooper, minister of Newtown, put himself at the head of about 100 of these new adventurers, who set out in the month of July, and travelling on foot with their children and baggage, about nine or ten miles a day, arrived at the banks of the river, where they began a town, which they called Hartford. After these came another draught, who built a little town which they called Windsor; a third detachment built Weathersfield; and a fourth Spring-field.

The towns thus built being from 50 to 60 miles up this river, a ship freighted with provisions for these planters, at the Massachusets colony, came so late in the year, that its mouth was frozen up 60 miles from some of these plantations,

tations, upon which many of the new adventurers travelled back in the depth of winter, and others who attempted it were frozen to death. However, those who had courage to stay till the spring, carried on their settlements with such success, that they were not only in a capacity of subsisting, but of making head against their enemies. They had a form of commission from the government of the Massachusets Bay; but finding they had extended their plantations beyond the limits of that colony, they entered into a voluntary association, to obey the laws that should be made by proper persons for the common good, and then chose a Governor.

In this situation the colony of Connecticut continued, till they obtained a charter from King Charles the II. authorizing them to elect their own Governor, Council, and Magistrates, to form a political association, like that of England, and to enact such laws as should be thought most advantageous to the colony, provided they were not opposite to the laws of the mother country.

Great numbers of people still removing to New-England, and the old colonies being over flocked, there was an absolute necessity of forming new plantations, and in 1638, Theophilus Eaton, Esq; and the reverend Mr. Davenport, finding there was not room at the Massachusets Bay, and being informed of a larger bay to the south-west of Connecticut River, purchased of the natives all the land between that river, and New-York or Hudsons river: thither they removed, and having seated themselves in the bay, over-against Long-Island, built New-Haven from

from whence that colony, province, and government were so denominated. They also built Guildford, Stamford, Milford, and Brainford; then going over to Long-Island, formed several settlements there, and erected churches in all places where they settled. But being without the limits of the Massachusets jurisdiction, they had no charter and no other title to the lands than what they purchased from the natives. The men who settled in this country were generally London merchants, who first applied themselves to trade, in which they followed the example of their Governor, Mr. Eaton; but they met with so many losses and discouragements, that they resolved to remove to Maryland or to Ireland; but at last applying themselves to husbandry, they had surprizing success, and therefore laid aside all thoughts of removing.

While the south-west parts of New-England were thus filling with inhabitants, the north-east were not neglected; for as the English frequented the coast for the benefit of fishing and the fur-trade, this put some of them on attempting a settlement between the rivers Merimack and Sagabahock, which succeeded so well, that in a few years two countries were laid out, New-Hampshire and Main, and several towns built, as Dover, Hampton, Wells, Kittery, &c. These planters and traders being also settled without the limits of the Massachusets colony, voluntarily formed themselves into a body politic, after the example of the Connecticut colony. Thus they continued, till being wearied out with feuds and divisions, they petitioned the General-Court of

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the Maſſachuſets colony to be brought within their juriſdiction; yet in 1684, they made an abſolute reſignation of their charter, and the government has remained in the hands of the crown ever ſince.

In ſhort, in the ſpace of about 20 years, New England had above forty towns, and the people were in a happy and thriving condition.

The country of New England at preſent comprehends, four conſiderable colonies or governments. The Maſſachuſets, which, with New Plymouth and the Main, are now included in one charter; New Hampſhire, which remains a ſeparate government; Connecticut comprehending New Haven; and Rhode Iſland, with Providence Plantation. The whole country extends from 41 to 45°. North latitude, and lies between 67 and 73°. of Weſt longitude. It is bounded on the North-weſt, by Canada; on the North-eaſt, by Nova Scotia; on the Eaſt and South, by the Atlantic Ocean; and on the Weſt, by New York. It being in length ſomewhat more than 300 miles, and in ſome places it is near 200 in breadth. The air is ſharper than ours, and the winters ſeverer, though it lies ſo much farther to the South. But then the ſummers are warmer. Their longeſt day at Boſton is about 16 hours, and their ſhorteſt about nine. The land next the ſea is generally low, and in ſome places marſhy; but farther up it riſes into hills, and along the North-eaſt the country is rocky and mountainous.

As new England is on the Eaſt and South waſhed by the Ocean; it has many good harbours, ſome of which are able to receive large fleets. There are few countries better watered;

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for besides several small lakes and rivulets, there are no less than seven navigable rivers; the most western of these is the Connecticut, which rising in the North of New England, runs almost directly South, till it falls into the sea. The course of this river is at least 200 miles, and it is navigable to a great height. At its mouth are two large towns, Saybrooke and Lime. To the East of this river lies the Thames, which is less considerable; it also runs South, and falls into the sea a little below New London: The river Patuxet rises in the North-west of the Massachusets colony, and running South east, falls into a noble bay near Swansey: The river Merimack rises in the North, and runs directly South, for near 100 miles, and then turning East, falls into the sea between Salisbury and Newberry: The river Piscataway runs from West to East, and falls into the sea at Portsmouth, where the opening is so large, that it affords a port capable of receiving the largest ships: the river Saco rises in the North of New-England, and running south, falls into the sea between the capes Porpus and Elizabeth; and the river Casco runs parallel with it, till it falls into a bay of its own name.

It is owing to the conveniency of so many fine rivers, that this country is so full of large and populous towns; and in the country between the rivers, there is such plenty of springs, that there is scarce any place where water may not be had by sinking a well to the depth of ten feet.

New England abounds with four footed animals both tame and wild; among the former are

cows,

cows, sheep, hogs and horses, which though they were all originally brought from England, are now very numerous, the latter are however of a smaller breed than ours, but they are extremely serviceable and travel at a great rate.

As for beasts of the forest, they have most sorts, as deer, elks, racoons, bears, and a sort of wolves, which were used by the natives for dogs, and when taken very young, may be made tame. They have here also hares, rabbits, foxes, squirrels, beavers, martins, and opossums, which last are of the size of a fox, and as grey as a badger: they are remarkable for having a false belly, wherein they hide their young; and from whence they may be taken without any prejudice either to them or to the animal itself.

But the most extraordinary beast is the moose-deer, somewhat like an Elk, which has not yet been found in any other country, except North America, though it is one of the noblest beasts of the forest. There are two sorts, the common grey moose, that are more like the ordinary deer, and sometimes herd 30 in a company, and the large black moose, which is made much like a deer, as it parts the hoof, chews the cud, has no gall, and his ears are large and erect. The hair upon the ridge of his back, which is of a dark grey, is ten or twelve inches long, and he has a short tail. A stag moose is sometimes 14 spans in height from the withers, reckoning nine inches to the span, that is ten feet and a half. The horns of the moose when full grown, are about four or five feet from the head to the tip, and have shoots or branches to each horn, which generally

nerally spread about six feet. When the horns come out of the head they are round like those of an ox, but about the distance of a foot begin to grow a palm broad, and farther up are still wider, and of these the Indians make good ladles that will hold a pint.

When a moose goes through a thicket, or under the boughs of a tree, he lays his horns back on his neck, not only to place them out of his way, but to secure himself from being scratched in the wood; and these prodigious horns are shed every year. This annual does not spring or rise in going like a deer; but a large one in his common walk, has been seen to step over a gate five feet high. When a moose is unharboured he will run a course of 20 or 30 miles before he turns about or comes to a bay; but when they are chased they generally take to the water. He is however not so swift as the common deer, though he runs much farther. As the moose is tall and has a short neck, he does not graze like other cattle, for when he eats grass, it is only the top of that which grows very high, or on steep rising grounds. They are fond of water plants, for which they will wade far and deep. In summer they also feed upon other plants, herbs, and young shrubs; and in winter live upon the tops of bushes and young trees. The flesh of the moose is very good food, it is more substantial than common venison, and will bear salting. The nose is admired as a great dainty.

There is hardly any where greater plenty of fowls, as turkeys, geese, partridges, ducks,

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wigeons, swans, heathcocks, herons, stockdapers, blackbirds; all sorts of ducks, cormorants, ravens, &c. and vast flights of pigeons come and go at certain seasons of the year.

The sea and rivers afford excellent fish in vast abundance, as sturgeon, salmon, cod, thornback, mackrel, herrings, smelts, lampreys, whales, grampuses, porpuses, seals, sharks, and other fish great and small. The best months for fishing are March, April, May, and June.

The woods and swamps afford plenty of good timber, as oak, elm, fir, cypress, fine chestnut, walnut, cedar, ash, beech, aspin, and sassafras. All sorts of garden and orchard trees grow in perfection, so that a planter may make 100 hogsheads of cyder in a season, and the export of apples to the sugar-islands is one of the constant articles in the trade of this province. Their apples are said to be larger and sweeter than ours in England, and the same observation extends to their plumbs, cherries, peaches, pears, &c. There are also pompions and onions, water-mellons, and squashes. All sorts of roots for the table are likewise here in great plenty, as turneps, carrots, parsnips, and radishes, which are much larger and richer than in England, though their seeds originally came from hence. Flax and hemp grow as naturally here as in any country on the Baltic, and in as great perfection. Oats, barley, peas, beans, and indeed every thing of this kind, succeed, as well as can be wished, and particularly maize, of which they plant great quantities. This corn, and

kidney-beans were found among the natives, and the Indians have a tradition, that the first grain of corn was brought thither by a black-bird, and the first bean by a crow.

The commerce of New-England extends over a great part of America and Europe. From thence our sugar-colonies are furnished with fish, cattle, boards, hoops, pipe-staves, bark, skins, butter, cheese, oil, tobacco, corn, apples, turpentine, &c. and that in such vast abundance, that it is computed the island of Barbadoes alone, takes off to the value of 200,000l. every year. They sell the same articles to all the other sugar colonies; and ship off prodigious quantities of fish to Italy, Spain and Portugal. They take from us all kind of mercery goods, linen, stockings, shoes, sail-cloth, cordage, haberdashery ware, and a vast quantity of other things: in return, they build a prodigious number of ships for our merchants, and export to England a great deal of iron, and a vast quantity of masts, planks and yards for the royal navy, and also pitch, tar, turpentine, skins, furs, oil, whale fins, log-wood, and other commodities.

We shall now consider the political state of the four colonies established within the limits of New-England. The first is the old form of charter-government, which allows the people to chuse annually, their own Governor, Deputy Governor, Council and Assembly, with all their officers civil and military; and to make such laws as they shall think proper, provided they are not repugnant to the laws of Great-Britain.

Britain. This kind of government, of which there are several in North America, is perhaps more independent than that of any colony belonging to nations, and is enjoyed in its full extent by the people of Connecticut and Rhode-Island; but they make a very different use of it; for those of the first mentioned colony are very rigid in point of religion; whereas those of Rhode-Island have among them people of all the sects into which protestants are divided, without the least prejudice to their temporal concerns, every man being alike capable of magistracy. They have no established church, but each body of christians live according to their own system, and chuse and pay their Ministers as they think fit.

The great colony of Massachusets-Bay is also a charter government; but the appointment of the governor, lieutenant-governor, secretary, and the officers of the Admiralty, is vested in the crown. The people have not only the choice of the assembly, but of the council. The governor however has a negative, and by virtue of his commission, as captain-general, has the power of the Militia; so that the supreme authority rests neither in the governor nor the people, but in them both.

The government of New-Hampshire is intirely in the hands of the crown, in the same manner as that of Virginia and some other colonies.

The capital of New-England is Boston, in the county of Suffolk, and in the province of the Massachusets Proper. It is situated in the latitude of 42°. 21. and in 71°. west longitude from London; and stands at the bottom of a

fine bay, in a peninsula about four miles in circumference. At the entrance of this Bay are several rocks which appear above water, and upwards of a dozen small islands, some of which are inhabited. There is but one safe channel to approach the harbour, and that so narrow, that two ships can scarce sail through a-breast; but within the harbour there is room for 500 sail to lie at anchor. The entrance is defended by the castle of Fort William, the finest piece of military architecture in British America, it being surrounded by a covered way, and joined by two lines of communication to the main battery, as also a line of communication from the main gate to a redoubt. There are 100 guns mounted in the castle, 20 of which lie on a platform level with the water, so that it is scarce possible for an enemy to pass the castle. To prevent surprize, they have a guard placed on one of the rocks at about two leagues distance, from whence they make signals to the castle when any ships come near it. There is also a battery of great guns at each end of the town, to the fire of which any enemy would be exposed, if he should be so fortunate as to pass the castle.

At the bottom of the bay there is a pier near 2000 feet in length, with warehouses for merchants on the north side, and to this pier, ships of the greatest burden many come up and unload, without the help of boats. The greatest part of the town lies round the harbour in the form of a crescent: the country beyond rising gradually, and affording a delightful prospect from

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the sea. The town has several streets not much inferior to the best in London, the chief of which runs from the pier up to the town-house, a handsome building, with walks for the merchants, as in the Royal Exchange; and in this edifice there are the council-chamber, the house of representatives, and the courts of justice. They have ten churches of all denominations, of which six are independents, the most prevailing party in New-England, there being about 14 or 15000 in the town, of that persuasion. The episcopal church is handsomely built and adorned, and the congregation is said to be about 1000. The church furniture, and some pieces of plate, were given by King William and Queen Mary, and there is a magnificent seat for the Governor, when he happens to be of the church of England. The number of houses is computed at about 5000, and the number of people at about 25,000. The shipping of this port is computed at between 6 and 700.

There are besides this several large towns and ports, and a multitude of small ones in New-England. According to Major Rogers, who wrote his account so lately as the year 1765, the number of the inhabitants in these several governments are as follow: In Massachuset's Bay 200,000. In Connecticut 210,000. In New-Hampshire 70,000; and in Rhode-Island 70,000. So that the inhabitants of New England amount to 550,000.

CHAP.

CHAP. XII.

The first settlement of the Bermudas or Summer-Islands. An account of five persons who sailed from thence in a boat to Ireland. A description of those Islands, and of the plants and animals found in them, and in particular of the Bermudas Spider, with an account of the present state of the Summer-Islands, their inhabitants and government.

WE shall give a short view of the plantation of our next colony, which though it cannot be called one of the most profitable, yet must be allowed one of the most pleasant of our plantations.

The Bermudas islands were discovered by John Bermudas, a Spaniard, after which they were frequently touched at by his countrymen, in their passage to the West-Indies; but were unknown to us till the year 1593, when one Henry May was shipwrecked upon them in a French vessel: but they became much more famous by sir George Summers and sir Thomas Gates suffering the like misfortune in their passage to Virginia in 1609, of which we have before given an account, as well as of sir George's being sent thither a second time to fetch hogs, when he died upon the island, at above 60 years of age; but though sir George directed his men to return to Virginia with black hogs for the relief of that co-

colony, they having stored their ship with provisions, set sail for England, and arrived at White-church, in Dorsetshire, with sir George Summers's corpse on board, leaving only the heart and bowels at Bermudas, where twelve years after, capt. Butler built a handsome monument over them.

These men gave such an account of the country to the Virginia company, that 120 persons of the same society obtained a charter from king James, and became the proprietors of these islands, whose name was changed to Summer's islands, from the above gentleman, and are by our mariners called the Summer-islands, a name they well deserve from their pleasantness and fertility.

When sir George Summers first left these islands, two of his men who had committed some crime, for which they would have been put to death, stayed behind, and were there at his return. They lived in St. George's island, where they supported themselves on the productions of the place, and built them a hut. These two men, whose names were Christopher Carter, and Edward Waters, also staid behind sir George's second company, and even persuaded Edward Chard to remain with them; and now, Carter, Waters, and Chard, were the sole lords of the country; but they soon fell out among themselves, and Chard and Waters were going to fight, when Carter, though he hated them both, yet not liking to be alone, prevented it, by threatening to declare against the man who struck first. At last, necessity made them good friends, and they

they joined together in making discoveries, in one of which expeditions they found a large piece of ambergris among the rocks, that weighed 80 pounds, besides other smaller pieces. This treasure made them almost mad, they grew giddy with the thoughts of it, and that they might have an opportunity of making use of it, resolved on the most desperate attempt that men could run upon; which was, to built a boat after the best manner they could, and to sail to Virginia or Newfoundland, just as the wind happened to blow: but before they could put their project in execution, they were prevented by the arrival of a ship from England; for captain Matthew Summers, Sir George's brother, had promised to come to them, or send a vessel to their relief. This ship was the Plough, with 60 persons on board, sent by the New Bermudas company, to make a settlement, of which Mr. Moore was governor. That gentleman pitched upon a plain in St. George's island, and there built a cabin of palmetto leaves, large enough for his wife and family; and the rest of the adventurers following his example, it grew in time into a town of considerable bigness. This is now St. George's Town, one of the strongest and best built in our American colonies; for all the houses are of cedar, and all the forts are of hewn stone. Moore proved an excellent governor; and in the year 1614, disappointed the Spaniards in a design they had formed of conquering these islands.

This governor was succeeded by Capt. Daniel Tucker, who having a better education, and more experience, established a regular form of govern-

government, traced out plantations, and obliged every man to build uniformily in the town, and to plant regularly in the country; by which means the islands were much improved, and the exportations to England increased. He also established a tolerable militia, and placed the islands in such a posture of defence, as put it out of the power of any of their enemies to hurt them.

The severity of capt. Tucker's government gave such disgust to some licentious persons, that five of them executed a desperate design to escape, as Waters and his companions had proposed. They knew the governor would not give them leave to go off, and therefore, hearing that captain Tucker had a great desire to go a fishing out at sea, but was afraid of doing it, because several fishing boats had been driven off by the weather; they proposed to build a boat of two or three tons, with a deck, and so fitted that she should live in all weathers. The governor consenting to this, they began to build in a private place, under the pretence of its being convenient for getting timber and launching the boat. These persons were Mr. James Parker, a gentleman; Richard Saunders, who contrived the design; William Goodwin, a ship carpenter, who undertook to build the boat, and Henry Puet, a common sailor, who promised to navigate it.

They finished the boat sooner than was expected, and the governor sending for it in order to go on board a ship that was ready to sail for England, the men on coming to the place, could neither find the boat nor the builders, and all

all that they could hear of them was, that the boat being finished the night before, those who built it went off to sea, in order to try how it would sail; but at last they found, by some letters they had left behind them, that they were gone for England.

These men had, on some pretence or other, borrowed a compass-dial of a neighbour; and then going on board the ship bound for England, exchanged such things as they could spare for provisions; and one of them, as parting, told the mariners, that though they were forbidden to go with them, yet they hoped to be in England before them; at which the master of the ship laughed, and away these fearless adventurers sailed, with a fair wind and weather, that lasted for twenty-one days. They then met with a storm, which lasted 48 hours, and drove them a little out of their course to the westward; but the wind coming fair again, and continuing ten days, they went on cheerfully. In that time they met with a French privateer, and went on board to beg some relief; but instead of assistance, the French plundered them of all the little they had, took away even their instruments of navigation, and then cruelly turned them adrift. In this miserable condition they sailed on, growing every day weaker and weaker. Their provisions were almost spent, their fire wood quite gone, not a drop of fresh water left, not food for above a day, when at last, in the very hour when they expected to perish, they, to their unspeakable joy, made land, which proved to be Ireland, where going on shore in the county of

Corke,

Cork, they were nobly entertained by the earl of Thomond, to whom they related their voyage, which had lasted 42 days.

But to proceed. In the year 1619, capt. Tucker resigned to capt. Butler, who arrived with four good ships, in which he brought 500 passengers, and there being as many English before on the island, the colony now began to make a considerable figure. This governor divided the islands into districts; and now the government, by a governor, council, and assembly, was established, which before consisted only of the governor and council; and the laws of the country were settled as much like those of England, as the circumstance of the place would admit.

These islands lie in 32°. 30'. north latitude, and in 35°. west longitude, at a vast distance from either continent, since the nearest land, which is cape Hattaras in Carolina, lies at least 250 leagues to the west of them, and they are above 1600 leagues from England. They lie very contiguous to each other, in the form of a shepherd's crook, but authors differ greatly as to their number, some asserting there are but 300 of them, while others affirm there are more than 500. However scarce an eighth part of them are inhabited, and all but St. George's, St. David's, and Cooper's isles, have only a few houses scattered up and down. There are none of them of any considerable bigness, the main or greatest island, which is called St. George's, is only about 16 miles in length, and not a league over in the broadest place. But it is fortified by nature all round,

with rocks every way extending themselves a great way into the sea. To its natural strength, especially to the eastward, where it is most exposed, the inhabitants have added that of forts, batteries, parapets and lines, so well disposed, that they command the several channels, and inlets into the sea. There are no more than two places where shipping can safely enter, and the rocks lie so thick, that without a good pilot from the shore, a vessel of ten tons could not find the way into these harbours, which being once known the biggest ships in the world may enter. But they are so well fortified, that if an enemy should attempt either of them, he might be easily kept out. Indeed all these islands are so environed with rocks, that they seem to be eaten all the ships that venture on the coast with present destruction; and so many have been wrecked upon them, that the Spaniards gave them the name of Los Diabolos, or the Devil's Islands.

The air of these islands has been always thought extremely salubrious, and the appearance of every thing very delightful and charming, whence people have been accustomed to remove thither from the other colonies, in order to recover their broken constitutions. The heat in summer is very supportable, and with respect to winter they have really none; some even go so far as to affirm, that there is but one season, and that a perpetual spring, in which the trees never lose their verdure; for though the leaves at one time of the year fall off, others bud out at the same time. But notwithstanding the fineness of the climate,

climate, these islands are subject to storms of thunder and lightening.

There grow here all the plants found in the West-Indies, and all kind of trees, herbs, roots and flowers, brought from Europe, thrive to perfection. Maize, or Indian corn, which is the principal support of the people, is twice reaped; for what they sow in March, they reap in July; in a fortnight after they sow again, and reap in December. Laurel, olive, mulberry and date trees, are very common, as are also palmettos, which are a kind of palm-tree, and are extremely useful, for the leaves being eight or ten feet long, and near as broad, they cover their houses with them instead of thatch or tiles. These trees produce a very luscious fruit, in shape, size and colour resembling a damson. Their forests also abound with a variety of odoriferous woods, some black, some yellow, and some of a red colour. The berries of these trees have the styptic quality of a sloe, and are much used by the English to cure the flux, which they frequently get by eating the luscious palmettos too greedily.

But amongst a multitude of shrubs and trees, peculiar to these islands, and equally valuable for their timber and fruit, there are two, which though found in other parts of the world, have a peculiar excellence here; the first is their orange tree, whose fruit in point of size, scent and flavour, far exceeds those either in the West or East-Indies; the second is their cedar, which is finer and more durable than any of its kind we are acquainted with, and answers in every

respect to oak timber. It is therefore used in ship-building, and the best so as brigantines, and other small vessels, both for service and sailing in use throughout the West-Indies, are built at the Bermudas. They have also a very singular plant called the Summer Island redwood, the berry of which is red as the prickle pear, and also gives the same kind of tincture; out of this berry come first worms, these afterwards turn into flies, something bigger than the cochineal fly, and have a medicinal virtue much exceeding it. They have also a plant called the poison-weed, that grows much in the same manner as our ivy, but this is the only noxious thing in any of these islands.

As for animals, there were none in the Bermudas, but hogs, insects and birds, when Sir George Summers was shipwrecked there; these hogs he found by sending out two or three of his own golfeed, which rambling home, a huge wild boar followed them, and being killed was found excellent meat. The hogs they afterwards killed were all black, whence it is concluded that the Spaniards left them there to breed, because they were of the same kind with those they carried to the continent of America.

These islands abound in more fowl, and in a greater variety than are to be found in any part of America. There are swans, moor-hens, teal, snipe, ducks, widgeons, herons, terns, osprey, baldcoots, cormorants, and hawks of all sorts; bats and owls are also very common, and there are multitudes of small birds, as woodpeckers, sparrows, &c. The English at the

first coming, found a sort of fowl, called cowkoes, that breed in the holes of the rocks, and in burrows like rabbits. They were extremely numerous, and so gentle that they were taken by hand; but they are now almost destroyed. This bird is of the size of a swan. There is also the tropic bird, and the pelican.

They have as great plenty of fish as of fowl, and so many sorts, that authors have not yet found out names for them; and in particular, they have great numbers of turtle, which are as good and as large, as any in the world.

The insects in these islands are generally the same as in our other plantations, except the spider, which is thought to be larger here than in any other country in the world, but the beautiful colours wherewith they are adorned, take off very much from that distaste which otherwise the sight of creatures of this kind, and of so enormous a size, would naturally occasion. One of these spiders, with his legs extended, takes up a space equal to that of a man's hand with his fingers spread out. Their bodies are composed of two parts, one flat and the other round, not unlike, either in shape or size, to a pigeon's egg. On their backs they have an orifice, which, as in American hogs, is taken for a navel; their mouths are covered with a kind of grey hairs, sometimes intermixed with bright red, and on each side of their mouths, they have a crooked tooth of a fine polished substance, extremely hard, and of a bright shining black, and therefore they are offered in silver or gold for

for tooth picks. When these creatures grow old they are covered all over with a dark brown or black down, smooth and soft resembling velvet. On the flat part they have their ten legs, five on each side, each of these has four joints, and two small claws at the end. They cast their skins every year, together with the above teeth, and live upon flies and gnats, in the catching of which they show great cunning, and no less agility. Their nests are very large, and fastened between two trees that grow at some distance, and are so strong, that birds of the size of a thrush, have some times caught in them.

The town of St. George stands at the bottom of the haven of the same name, covered by no less than six or seven forts or batteries, mounted with above 70 pieces of cannon, so disposed, that they may be all brought to bear upon any ship, before she can make her entrance. In this town there is a fine church, with a good library, for which all inhabitants are indebted to Dr. Thomas Bray. It has near 1000 handsome houses, and a town hall, in which the governor, council and assembly meet.

Besides the town and division of St. George, there are eight tribes, viz. Hamilton's tribe; Smith's tribe; Devonshire tribe; Pembroke's tribe; Paget's tribe; Warwick's tribe; Southampton's tribe; and Sandy's tribe; of which Devonshire in the north, and Southampton in the south, are parishes, and have each a church and particular library; but there are no parish churches in any of the lesser islands, for all the inhabitants are ranged under one or other of these eight tribes.

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The number of people in all these islands has been computed at 9000.

The government is like that of Virginia, the crown appointing both the governor and council; but the people by their representatives compose the assembly. They have fewer bye-laws than any of our other settlements, which may be imputed to the smallness of their trade; for this colony produces no considerable commodity, whereby the inhabitants may obtain riches; for their commerce chiefly consists in timber and provisions, in building ships and sloops, and sending some tobacco to England. The people of the Summer-Islands seems to content themselves with the plenty and pleasure of their country, and with enjoying a safe and quiet retreat, from the troubles and cares of the rest of the world. In short, the inhabitants have constantly maintained a most excellent reputation, and the Bermudas are equally remarkable for the sweetness of the country, and the honesty and integrity of the people.

The beauty of the country, and the amiable character of the inhabitants, induced the learned dean Berkley to endeavour to erect an academy at the Bermudas for promoting useful learning and true religion in the west-Indies, when the society for the propagation of the gospel assisted him in procuring a patent from king George I. for erecting a seminary there, and contributed to the expence of the undertaking. Dr. Berkley, and three fellows of trinity College in Dublin, with several of the doctor's relations, actually embarked on this undertaking, but being

driven by a storm to Long Island, in the province of New York, whence the Doctor, with his companions visited Boston, and several other great towns in New England, where they preached; but the design of erecting a college being laid aside, they returned home, and Dr. Berkley was soon after promoted to the see of Cloyne in Ireland.

CHAP. XIII.

Hudson's and Button's voyages for the discovery of a north-west passage.

WHILE these discoveries were making, the merchants of England again attempted to find a new passage to the Indies by the north-east and north-west, and in particular fitted out Mr. Henry Hudson in 1607, who undertook sail directly north, which he did to the height of 80°. 30′, where he found the weather in July pretty warm. He proposed to have passed round the great tract of country called by the Danes Groenland; afterwards to fall into Davis's Streights, and then to return home: but being disappointed in this he undertook two voyages for the discovery of a north-east passage with no better success. At last he resolved to make an attempt towards the north-west, and set sail on this voyage in April 1610. He now proceeded to the mouth of Davis's Streights, then steered directly west, and afterwards sailed through those streights that now

now bear his name, till he doubled cape Worsenham, after which he sailed down the west coast of New Britain, to the very bottom of the bay, where he made choice of a place to winter in, that was almost as far south as any part of Great Britain, in hopes of performing something very considerable the next spring. However, the hardships the men endured while they wintered in this place were exceeding great. The cold was so extreme that it lamed most of the company; but during the first three months, they saw such flights of white partridges that they killed above 100 dozen, besides other fowls.

At the approach of spring, the partridges left them, and were succeeded by swans, geese, ducks and teals, but these were hard to catch. They flew from the south to the north, and whenever a bird only wind arose, had till the wind turned round.

At the approach of summer, the fowls disappeared, and the men were obliged by hunger to search the woods, hills and valleys for any thing that might serve for food. The frogs, though in their engendering time, when they were in pairs, were not spared, and they also fed on the moss that grew on the ground. As soon as the ice began to break, one of the natives came to the ship and sold them furs and skins for knives and hatchets; and when the sound began to be clear of the ice, so that the boat could move from place to place, several of the men were sent to catch fish, in which they had indifferent success, though not

enough to supply the wants of the ship's company. At length, some of the men resolving to get the little provisions that were left to themselves, barbarously [illegible] to turn captain Hudson, the carpenter, and all the sick men, out of the ship, and to make the best of their way for England. This they performed by forcing captain Hudson and eight more into the shallop without provisions, though most of them were taken sick out of bed, and after that time they were never heard of more. The leaders of this mutiny did not escape much better; for being obliged to land frequently on the desart coast to obtain subsistance, most of them were killed by the inhabitants, and the few who remained returned to England in a miserable condition.

Upon the imperfect account of Hudson's Bay received from Fricket, one of these men, several persons who had already been engaged in expeditions for the discovery of a north-west passage, began to hope that they had now a fairer prospect than ever of bringing it to bear, and therefore applying to Henry, prince of Wales, who was then the great patron of learning, his royal highness resolved to send one captain Button, his own servant, and a man of great abilities, courage and experience; and accordingly he sailed in the year 1611 on this expedition; passed Hudson's Streights, and then leaving Hudson's Bay to the south, sailed above 200 leagues to the north-west, through a sea above 60 fathoms deep, and discovered a great continent, called by him New Wales. He wintered at Port Nelson,

Nelson, in 57°. 10 north latitude, where the men suffered greatly by the cold, and many of them died, though he kept three fires in the ship all the winter, and had great plenty of white partridges, and other fowl, besides deer, bears and foxes. The next summer he carefully searched all the bay, from him called Button's Bay, back almost to Digg's Island, and discovered the great island called Cary's Swan's Nest.

Upon his return from this voyage he received the honour of knighthood, and great expectations were raised from his discoveries, which would certainly have been farther prosecuted, if prince Henry had not died soon after.

CHAP. XIV.

An account of the settlement and province of Barbadoes.

WE are now brought by the order of time to the settlement of Barbadoes, an island that may be esteemed the best peopled, and best cultivated, not only in America, but in the whole known world. It is not easy to determine by whom this small island was discovered; but it is most probable that it was first seen by the Portuguese. However, the first Englishmen who landed there are said to have been some of sir William Curteen's seamen, that were cruising in those seas, in the latter end of the reign of King James I. and they at their return to England, reporting

porting that the soil was fruitful, some adventurers went thither in order to plant it; but the island being covered with wood, and there being scarce any other animals upon it than hogs, it was a long time before it answered their expectations.

In the first year of the reign of king Charles I. the property of this island was granted by that prince to James, earl of Carlisle, of whom several adventurers purchasing shares, transported themselves thither, and began with planting tobacco, which not succeeding, they proceeded to try cotton and indigo, which yielded considerable profit. But little sugar was made in the island till the year 1641, when colonel Modiford, colonel Walton, colonel Drax, and several other cavaliers, not chusing to stay in England after the king's death, converted their estates into money, and transported themselves to Barbadoes, with such machines and implements as were proper for carrying on sugar-works, and had such success that in a few years colonel Drax is said to have acquired an estate of 7 or 8000*l.* per annum. The adventurers fixed their principal settlement on the great bay, in the south-west part of the island, and gave it the name of Carlile-bay, in honour of the proprietor, which it still retains.

Afterwards the island was divided into four circuits, and eleven parishes, each parish sending two representatives to the general assembly; and so prodigious was the increase of the inhabitants, that in the year 1650, they amounted to between 30 and 40,000 white persons, besides

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the negroes, who were much more numerous, and frequently plotted the destruction of their masters; but their plots were constantly discovered, and the most terrible punishments inflicted on the ringleaders; however, the cruelties suffered by those who thus endeavoured to recover their liberty, did but increase the disaffection of the rest, and lead the way to a succession of fresh conspiracies: notwithstanding which, no colony of so small an extent, ever arrived within the space of twenty or thirty years, to such riches and grandeur. The parliament thought this island of such consequence, that in 1652, they sent thither a strong squadron of men of war, under the command of Sir George Ascue, who compelled lord Willoughby, the governor to surrender the island, upon condition that the royalists should remain in the possession of their estates and liberties, and Mr. Searl was appointed governor.

In the Dutch war the colony was prohibited from trading with the Hollanders, who till this time had constantly furnished the island with negroes, and taught the barbarians to plant and manage their sugars to the best advantage, most of which they took off their hands, in order to supply themselves and the rest of Europe; and the Barbarians were compelled by the parliament to bring all their sugars directly to England: this step was also taken by the ministry after the restauration of king Charles II. and this was the foundation of the act of navigation, which requires all the British colonies to bring their sugars and tobacco to England, and

prohibits

prohibits their trading with foreigners in these and some other articles.

The vast success of this first sugar colony promoted the settlement of the others; and as the sugar plantations increased, more hands were required to carry on the work than could at that time be spared from home. This gave birth to the Guinea trade, for supplying those colonies with negroe slaves; and as the planters flourished and increased, so did their demands for all sorts of British manufactures, and such of the necessaries of life as could not be produced in that climate, which also opened new sources of trade for the British merchants. In short, the act of navigation, by obliging all the sugar to be brought to Great-Britain, soon made London the chief mart in Europe for sugar, and there being annually more imported than was necessary for home consumption, the merchants exported the surplus to foreign markets, and by underselling the Portuguese, they in time beat them out of almost all their sugar trade to the northward of Cape Finisterre.

In the year 1668, king Charles II purchased the property of this island of the lord Kinowl, heir to the earl of Carlisle, and appointed the lord Willoughby of Parham, governor; upon which the colony granted a duty of four and a half per cent. for the support of the civil government, and for maintaining the forces and fortifications of the island, which duty is said to amount to 16,000*l.* a year.

The island of Barbadoes is situated in the Atlantic Ocean, in 13°. north latitude, and 59° west

weſt longitude. It is of a triangular form, and where broadeſt, about 25 miles from north to ſouth, and only 15 from eaſt to weſt. It is, for the moſt part, a plain, level country, with ſome ſmall hills of an eaſy aſcent, and though it was covered with woods when the Engliſh firſt ſettled there, they have been all cut down to make way for plantations of ſugar-canes; which at preſent take up almoſt the whole iſland, for their very corn, fleſh, and fiſh, are for the moſt part imported from the north colonies.

There is ſcarce an harbour in the iſland; the beſt is that of Bridge-Town, in Carliſle-Bay, which lies open to the weſtward, but is ſecure from the north eaſt. This is here the conſtant trade wind, and blows all night and all day, except when they have their tornadoes and hurricanes, which uſually happen in the three ſummer months, and blow from every quarter. At ſuch times the ſhips in the bay are in the utmoſt danger of being wrecked on ſhore, if they cannot get out to ſea, and therefore they ſeldom attempt to ride out theſe ſtorms.

The coaſt is defended on the eaſt from the invaſion of an enemy, by rocks and ſhoals; and on the weſt, where it is moſt expoſed to a deſcent, breaſt works and redoubts are erected for its ſecurity. There is ſcarce a ſtream in the iſland that deſerves the name of a river, though there are two on the eaſt ſide, to which they have given the names of Scotland River and Joſeph's River. However they have good water in their wells almoſt all over the iſland, and do not dig very deep for it: they have alſo large

ponds

ponds and reservoirs, where they reserve rain-water. The weather is generally fine and serene, and their rains, as in other parts of the torrid zone, fall chiefly when the sun is vertical, and after these are the proper seasons for planting.

Their heats are not so excessive as in the same latitude on the east side the continent of America; the air being constantly refreshed by the trade-wind in the day-time, which increases as the sun advances, and abates as the sun declines; but there being no mountains on the island, the trade wind is not interrupted.

The only town of any consequence in the island is that of Bridge-Town, or St. Michael's, in Carlisle Bay, which was formerly encumbered with a morass that rendered it unhealthy; this has been in a great measure drained. However, the low situation of the town renders it still subject to inundations. It is said to contain 1000 or 1200 houses built with brick and stone; and there are commodious wharfs and keys for loading and unloading of goods. The chief produce of the island, as has been already intimated, is sugar; of the molasses or dregs of which, they make great quantities of rum; they have also some cotton, indigo, and pimento. They have scarce any forest-trees; but their fruits are oranges, limes, citrons, pomegranates, pine-apples, guavas, plantains, cocoa-nuts, indian figs, prickle pears, melons, and almost all manner of roots and garden-stuff, but very few flowers.

Their

Their horses they import from New England, &c. and they have a little breed of their own. They have also tame asses, cows, and sheep; but the last do not thrive here: however, they have a great number of hogs. They have good poultry, and sea fish, but no fresh water fish, and all manner of provisions are so dear, that there is no living at an ordinary under a crown a head. Fresh meat is indeed a rarity, and chiefly the food of people of condition: the rest are glad of salt pork, beef and fish imported from the northern colonies, from whence also come their wheat, flour, Indian corn, beans, peas, &c. They make bread also of the cassavi root, and the negroes feed on yams, potatoes, and other roots and fruits. The gentry chiefly drink Madeira wine, and wine and water, and great quantities of rum punch are drank by the vulgar. They have also strong beer imported from Old and New England, and liquors made of maize and fruit.

The government resembles that of the rest of our American islands, the governor and council being appointed by the crown: these, with the house of representatives, are invested with the legislative power, and make laws for the government of the island. The white people amount to about 25,000, and the negroes to near 80,000. Their militia consists of about 1500 horse and 3000 foot. There are annually shipped from hence above 25,000 hogsheads of sugar, valued at 360,000 l. besides the tafia, rum, cotton, ginger, and aloes.

CHAP.

CHAP. XV.

A concise account of the settlement of St. Christopher's, Nevis, Montserrat, Barbuda, Anguilla, and Antigua, and of the produce of those islands.

WE shall next speak of the island of St. Christopher's, which was called by the Indians, Liamuega, and was discovered by Christopher Columbus, in his first voyage to America. He gave it the name of St Christopher's from the figure of its mountains, there being in the upper part of the island a very high mountain, bearing on its summit another of a smaller size, as St. Christopher is painted like a giant carrying our Saviour on his back. It is situated in 17° north latitude, and is about 75 miles in circumference. Sir Thomas Warner, an English adventurer, and monsieur Desnambue, a French gentleman, who commanded for the French in America, at St. Christopher's on the same day, and both took possession of the island in the names of their respective masters. It was then inhabited by the Caribbees, and the Spaniards used to put in there, in their West-India voyages, to take fresh water. These last were on such good terms with the Caribbees, that they sometimes left their sick there, of whom the natives took great care.

The above gentlemen left some of their men in the island, and returned to their respective countries

countries for recruits, when their masters approved of their conduct, sent them back in 1626, with supplies of men and provisions, and with commissions to be governors of the new settlements. Monsieur Desnambue arrived there about the month of January, 1627, with about 300 people, after a long and sickly voyage. The English colony had as many men, and sir Thomas had proceeded a good way in his settlement before Monsieur Desnambue's arrival. The two governors therefore, to prevent any differences among the people about the limits of their respective territories, on the 13th of May, 1627, set boundaries to their several divisions, with this particular proviso, that fishing and hunting should be equally free to the inhabitants of both nations; that the salt ponds, and most valuable timber should be in common, together with the mines and havens; and a league offensive and defensive was concluded between them against all enemies; after which they proceeded with great harmony.

However, the English receiving supplies of men and provisions from London, throve better than the French; and not only became strong enough to keep what they had, but to spare men for settling plantations at Nevis, of which sir Thomas Warner took possession, and left a settlement there in the year 1628.

Mean while the Spaniards being alarmed at the progress of the English and French in the Caribbee Islands, thought the safety of their own plantations required their preventing those nations from settling in their neighbourhood, and therefore

fore in the following year sent Don Frederic de Toledo with a fleet of 24 ships and 15 frigates to dispossess the English and French of the island of St. Christopher's. Don Frederic seized some English ships near the isle of Nevis, and then anchored in the road of Marigot, under the cannon of a fort called the Basse Terre, where Monsieur Rossey commanded. Neither the French nor the English forts were in a condition to oppose such an enemy. Rossey, therefore, after a small opposition, abandoned the Basse Terre, and retreated to Cabes Terre, another fort, commanded by Monsieur Desnambue in person; but they could not prevail on their men either to defend themselves there, or to retire to the forests and mountains, where a few men might have resisted a thousand; and nothing could content them but embarking, and leaving the place, which Monsieur Desnambue was obliged to comply with. Meanwhile the English being in great consternation, on their hearing the news of Desnambue's being gone with his colony, some endeavoured to escape by sea; others fled to the mountains, and all who were left, sent deputies to treat with the Spaniards.

Don Frederic having them now in his power, commanded all on the island to depart immediately, on pain of being put to the sword, and to forward their going, sent them the English ships he had taken at Nevis; but as there was not room in these ships to carry off all the people with their families, he consented that those who could not embark, should stay till they could be removed.

Don

Don Frederic having made these regulations, weighed anchor, taking with him 600 of the English, who were fitted for his service. But he was no sooner gone, than the English who were left resolved to go on with the settlement; when the French who were gone no farther than Antigua and Montserrat, sent a ship for intelligence to St. Christopher's, and being informed that the Spaniards were gone, and the English busy in rebuilding and planting, they rejoiced at this happy and unexpected event, and sailing back to St. Christopher's, resumed the possession of their former habitations.

The English now continued carrying on their colony till they were able to spare more men for settlements at Barbuda, Montserrat and Antigua, which were peopled and planted by sir Thomas Warner. At the same time the Dutch made themselves masters of St. Eustatia, and the French took possession of some other islands. In Mean while the English built themselves good houses at St. Christopher's, and had wives and families; but the French lived in huts after the Caribbean manner, and as few of them married, they took less pains to furnish themselves with all the necessaries and conveniencies of life. Monsieur Desnambuc died about the year 1629, and sir Thomas Warner did not long survive him; but before this last gentleman's death, the colony was so increased, that the English in the island amounted to between 12 and 13,000.

The chief employment of the first planters, was cultivating tobacco, by which they gained a competent livelihood, but afterwards, the

the quantity lowering the price, they in several places applied themselves to the planting of sugar, ginger, indigo, and cotton, and in a little time became a rich and flourishing people, both the French and English living cordially together, till the war in the reign of Queen Anne, when the English drove the French entirely from their settlements; and the country being yielded to the crown of Great Britain, by the peace of Utrecht, all the French territory was sold for the benefit of the public, which must have produced a very large sum, since out of it were paid 80,000l. for the marriage portion of the Princess of Orange.

Though St. Christopher's is the largest of all the Caribee islands, the middle part of it being extremely mountainous, it is thought there are not above 24,000 acres of land fit for sugar in the whole island, and yet it annually produces about 10,000 hogsheads of that valuable commodity.

It has been already observed that sir Thomas Warner settled Nevis or Mevis about the year 1628, and notwithstanding the English had been dispossessed by the Spaniards, as has been already related, the inhabitants of that island in 20 years amounted to at least 4000 people, and they continued increasing in the same manner, for a considerable time, having no enemy to struggle with, but the hurricanes, which generally visited them once a year.

When sir William Stapleton was governor of these islands, he usually made this the place of his residence, and most of the affairs of government

ment were transacted here; for each of the Leeward islands has a particular lieutenant-governor, council, and assembly, while the general government centers in the captain general.

In the reign of King James the II. Nevis supplied the others with almost all their wines and negroes, and was computed to contain above 10,000 persons, besides the negroes, who amounted to above 20,000. What prodigious improvement must then have been made of this little island, which is not more than 20 miles in circumference, to render it capable of maintaining above 30,000 men, women, and children! Its annual produce is about 6000 hogsheads of sugar.

The island of Montserrat, so called by the Spaniards from its resembling a mountain in Catalonia of the same name, famous for a chapel dedicated to the Blessed Virgin, is situated in 17° north latitude, and is about three leagues in length, and almost as much in breadth, so that it seems to be round. It was discovered by Columbus, at the same time with St. Christopher's, but no settlement was made upon it, till sir Thomas Warner procured a small colony to settle there in 1632.

This island at first flourished more than Antigua; but since the lord Willoughby's time, the latter has got, and kept, the start of it. Sixteen years after its being first inhabited, there were 700 men in the island, and the rolls of the militia amounted to 360.

The climate, soil, animals, trade, and productions of Montserrat are the same with those

of

of the other Caribbee islands. This, however, is fuller of mountains, which are covered with ceda s, and other trees, that afford a delightful prospect from the sea. The vallies are fruitful, and better supplied with fresh water than those of Antigua; and it is computed, that at present there are in this island about 4500 white people, and about 12,000 negroes. As Montserrat is less than any other of the Caribbee islands, it annually produces only 2500, and sometimes 3000 hogsheads of sugar.

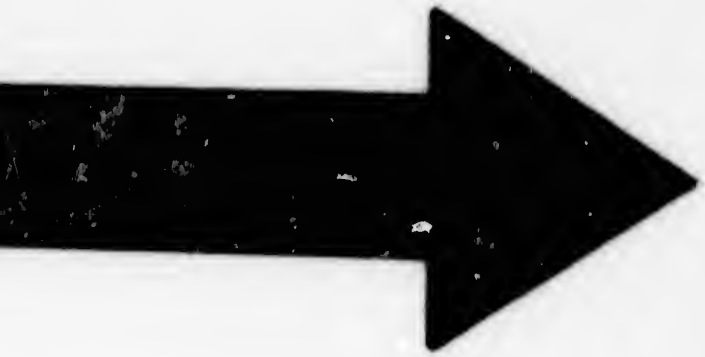
The island of Barbuda, which was planted by sir Thomas Warner as early as Montserrat, is situated in 17° 30 north latitude, and is about 15 miles long. The first colony was so often disturbed by the Caribbees, that the people were frequently forced to desert their plantations, for they hardly passed a year in which they did not make one or two incursions, and that generally in the night, for they durst not attack them by day; so that the English grew weary of dwelling in a place where they were so much exposed to the fury of the natives; and therefore deserted the island: but the Caribbees diminishing daily in number, and the Europeans in the other islands increasing, the English again possessed themselves of Barbuda; in a few years the inhabitants amounted to 500, and they are now increased to about 1200 persons. The proprietor chuses the governor, and has the same privileges as the other lords-proprietors in their several jurisdictions in America. The inhabitants apply themselves chiefly to the breeding of cattle

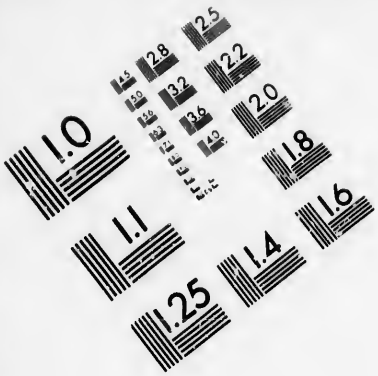
for

for which there is always a good market in the sugar-islands.

The next plantation is that of Anguilla, or Snake-island, so called from its figure; it being long, narrow, and winding almost about. It is near St. Martin's, from whence it may be seen, and lies in 18°. 12. north latitude. The country is extremely level, and there is not a mountain in it; however, it is very woody. In the broadest part of it there is a pond, about which the English settled in the year 1653, and applied themselves to the planting of corn and the breeding of tame cattle. They were afterwards joined by some people from Barbadoes, and other of the English Caribbee-islands, who incorporating with the rest, learned their manners, and though they are said to amount to about 150 families, or 600 souls, yet they have neither minister nor magistrate among them. They apply themselves to farming, in which they have had very good success, and live like the old Patriarchs, every man being a kind of sovereign in his own family.

Antigua, or Antego, is the last of these islands settled by the English. Sir Thomas Warner attempted to form a settlement there, but without success. However, Francis, Lord Willoughby, who was governor of Barbadoes, obtained a grant of the island of Antigua, in 1663, from King Charles II and planted a colony in it about three years after. It is situated in 16° 11 north latitude, and in 63° west longitude from London. It is of a circular form, about 20 miles in diameter, and near 60 in circumference.





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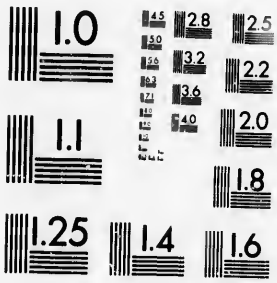

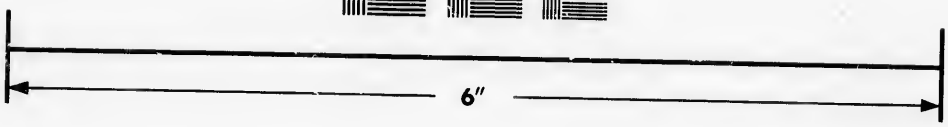

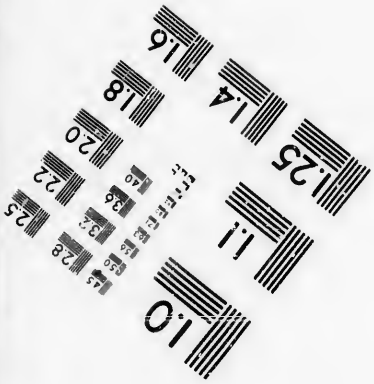

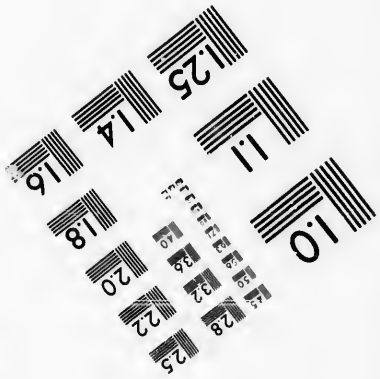


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The climate is far from being agreeable, since it is hotter than in Barbadoes, and very subject to hurricanes. The soil too is sandy, and great part of the land is overgrown with wood. The greatest disadvantage is, there being but few springs, and not so much as a single brook in the whole island; so that the people depend chiefly upon rain water, for which they are sometimes distressed; yet notwithstanding these inconveniencies, it is a very considerable and a very thriving plantation.

Antigua is divided into five parishes, four of which are towns, as St. John's Town, to the northwards, which is the capital of the island, and consists of about 200 houses; and Falmouth, Parham, and Bridge Town, to the southward. The other parish is St. Peter's.

Besides St. John's harbour, which is the most commodious, there are other very good ones, as Five-Island Harbour, so called from five little islands to the westward of the isle of Carlisle-bay; English Harbour, at the bottom of which is Falmouth Town, defended by Charles Fort; next to it is Willoughby-Bay; on the east shore Green-Bay; of which is Green-Island; next to this is Nonsuch Harbour, which is a spacious bay. There are also several little islands, particularly to the northward. The forts are in pretty good repair; Monk's Hill Fort is mounted with 30 pieces of ordnance; the other fort erected at St. John's Harbour, is mounted with fourteen; and there are seven other batteries for the defence of so many landing-places.

There

There are greater plenty of cattle and other beasts, especially venison, in this, than in any other of the Caribbee islands, the other animals and vegetables are much the same. When Antigua was first planted, sugar, indigo, ginger, and tobacco were its chief commodities; but now, ginger and indigo are seldom cultivated there. The ginger and tobacco were however, both bad of the sort, and the former was so black and course, that no art seemed capable of refining it. It was therefore generally shipped off for Holland and Hamburgh, and sold for sixteen shillings the hundred weight; while other Muscovado sugar fetched 28 or 30 shillings an hundred. But the planters of Antigua have since improved their art, and now make as good Muscovado sugar as any of our sugar-islands; and though there is not much tobacco planted in this island, yet what there is now, is not so bad as it was formerly.

The number of people in this colony are computed at about 20,000 whites, and 30,000 blacks.

CHAP. XVI.

Maryland planted by Leonard Calvert, Esq. A particular description of the climate, soil, and produce of the country.

MARYLAND was esteemed a part of Virginia, till the year 1632, when king Charles I. made a grant of all the country not

then planted, on the north of Potowmac River, to Cecilius Calvert, Lord Baltimore, and his heirs, and this part of the country was afterwards called Maryland, in honour of Henrietta-Maria, the Queen Consort. The lord Baltimore sent his brother, Leonard Calvert, Esq; with some Roman catholic gentlemen, and other adventurers, to the number of 200, to take possession of the country, who sailing into England on the 25th of November, 1633, arrived at Point Comfort, in Chesepeak Bay, on the 24th of February following, where being supplied with provisions by the English of Virginia, they continued their voyage northward to the river Potowmac, which was appointed the boundary between Virginia and Maryland.

The adventurers sailed up this river, and landing at several places on the northern shore, informed the inhabitants, that they were come to trade and settle among them; but though the natives did not seem to desire their company, no acts of hostility were committed on either side, and the English returning down the river Potowmac again, chose a place near the mouth of a river which falls into it, and which they called St. George's River, and there settled their first colony. They afterwards advanced to an Indian town called Yeamaco, the capital of the country, and at a conference with the Weorance, or sovereign of the place, to whom they made considerable presents, the Weorance consented, that the English should dwell in one part of the town, and his own people in the other till after harvest, and that being over, they should resign the

the whole to the English, and retire farther into the country, which they accordingly did. It was also agreed on both sides, that if any wrong was done by either party, the nation offending should make full satisfaction. The reason why the Yeamoca Indians were so ready to enter into a treaty with the English, and to yield them a part of their country, was the hopes of obtaining their protection and assistance against their northern neighbours, the Susquahannagh Indians, with whom they were then at war.

The English having thus, by the most lawful methods, obtained the possession of the town, gave it the name of St. Mary's, and immediately applied themselves with great diligence in cultivating the ground, and raising large quantities of Indian corn, while the natives went every day into the woods to hunt for game, bringing venison and turkeys to the English colony in great plenty, for which they received knives, tools and toys. Thus both nations lived in the greatest friendship, doing mutual good offices to each other, till some of the English in Virginia, envying the happiness of this thriving colony, wickedly suggested to the Indians, that these strangers were not really English, as they pretended, but Spaniards, and would enslave them, as they had done many of their countrymen.

The Indians being so credulous as to believe this report, grew jealous of Mr. Calvert, and made preparations for attacking the colony, which the English perceiving, stood upon their guard, and erected a fort for their security, on which they planted several pieces of ordnance,

at the firing thereof, the natives were so terrified, that they abandoned their country, and left the English in full possession of it, who continually receiving supplies, and reinforcements from England, soon became a flourishing people, many popish families of quality and fortune transporting themselves thither, to avoid the penal laws made against them in England; and ever since, Maryland has been a place of refuge for those of that persuasion. However, no country in America can boast of having had fewer disturbances on account of religion; for though the colony now consists of persons of all persuasions, they live together in the greatest tranquility, as if they made it their business to forget the points about which they differ, and to remember that they agree in those of being Englishmen and Christians, as sufficiently appears by their kind behaviour to the Indians, with whom they have scarce had any difference.

Maryland is situated in between 38 and 40°. north latitude, and between 74 and 78° west longitude; however, the western boundaries are very uncertain, some extending them beyond the Alligany mountains. This province is bounded by part of Pennsylvania and the Atlantic ocean on the east; by Virginia on the south; and the Alligany mountains lie on the west. The length from north to south is about 140 miles, but the breadth, so far as it is planted, is not so considerable. The north end of the bay of Chesepeak divides Maryland into two parts, called the eastern and western shores.

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The face of the country, like that of Virginia, may be divided into the low lands next the sea, the hilly country towards the heads of the rivers, and the Alligany mountains, which are exceeding high, and run from the north-east to the south west, parallel to the Atlantic ocean. The low lands formerly consisted of swamps of woods, and were almost one continued forest, till the English cleared the wood and burnt it to make room for their plantations, or for building of ships and houses, or the making of tobacco casks, and pipe staves for exportation, which has made such havock among the woods, that the people begin to want timber, especially near their forts and rivers; towards the heads of which there is a mixture of hills and valleys, well planted with variety of timber and fruit trees; and where these are wanting, there are large savannahs or meadows, where the grass grows to a surprising height.

The country is watered by innumerable springs and a great many fine rivers. The chief where of are, Potowmac, which rising in the mountains north-west, runs to the south-east, and separates Maryland from Virginia, on the south-west, and then falls into the middle of Chesepeak bay. The River Rocanoac, which rises near the ocean, and runs directly south, till turning to the west, it also falls into Chesepeak-bay, near Walker's point. The river Patuxent rises in Arundel county, and turning to the south east, falls into Chesepeak-bay, about 20 miles to the northward of the river Potowmac. Severn river, rises on the north-west, runs south-

south-east, and falls into the upper part of the same bay. Cheptonk, rises on the eastern shore, and running to the south-west, falls into the same bay. Sassafras river, rises in the north-east, and running almost due west, falls into the north end of the same bay. Wicomo river, rises on the eastern shore, runs to the south-west, and falls into the bay almost against the mouth of Potowmac river, and St. George's river, on the west side of the bay, runs from north to south, and falls into the mouth of the river Potowmac. There are many other rivers capable of receiving large ships, which, with the numerous bays and creeks wherewith the land on every side is indented, afford the advantage of bringing vessels to the very doors of the planters.

Though the weather in summer is excessively hot, and in winter very cold, when the north wind blows, yet their heats are seldom troublesome; and then only in a perfect calm, which does not happen above two or three days in the year, and then but a few hours at a time; and even this inconvenience is made very tolerable, by their cool shades, their open and airy rooms, arbours and grottoes. In spring and autumn the weather is as pleasant as can be wished; even the winters do not last above three or four months, and in these they have seldom one month's bad weather. During all the rest they have a clear air and a bright sun, and they are scarce ever troubled with fogs. They have indeed sometimes hard frosts, but they last no longer than while the wind blows from the north, and north-west point, which is seldom more

more than three or four days; and at other times, they have no frost at all. Their rains, except in the depth of winter, are pleasant and refreshing, and in summer continue but a few hours. However, the summer showers are very heavy for the time they last, and that part of the country which lies on the bays of the sea, and the mouths of the rivers, is certainly hot and moist, but higher up in the country the air is more agreeable, especially since their lands have been cleared of wood. In the heat of summer they have, however, dreadful thunder, but as it cools and refreshes the air, the people rather wish for it than fear it.

Maryland is divided into ten counties, of which the six following are on the west side of the bay. St Mary's county; Charles county; Prince George county; Calvert county; Anne-Arundel county; and Baltimore county. The counties on the east side of the bay are, Somerset county; Dorchester county; Talbot county; and Cecil county. The capital of the province is Annapolis, which is situated on the Severn; but though the governor resides there, and the courts of justice and the general assemblies are held in the town, it scarcely consists of 100 houses, for throughout the whole colony of Maryland, the English live in their several plantations, and therefore all the towns are extremely small, and indeed every plantation is a little town of itself, provided with provisions and necessaries; a considerable planter's warehouse being like a shop, where he supplies not only himself, but the inferior planters, servants,

and

nd labourers, and has commodities to barter for obacco and other goods; there being but little money in the province, and but little occasion for any, as tobacco answers all the uses of gold and silver in trade; and indeed there are few shopkeepers who live intirely by buying and selling. The tobacco of this province called Oronoke, is stronger than that of Virginia, and is very disagreeable to an Englishman, notwithstanding it is as profitable to the planter, and to England, there being a greater demand for it in the eastern and northern parts of Europe, where it is preferred before the sweet-scented tobacco of James and York rivers in Virginia, whence the planters of Maryland finding so good a vent for it in foreign markets, have cultivated it so much, that this province is thought to produce as much tobacco as Virginia, and several hundred sail of ships are annually employed in the commerce between Great Britain and this country.

The soil is here as fruitful as in any country, it being a large plain interspersed with hills, of so easy an ascent, and of such a moderate height, that they rather seem an artificial than a natural ornament. The abundance of rivers and brooks is no small help to the fertility of the soil, and there is no grain, plant or tree which grows in Virginia, but thrives as well here; the produce, the animals, and every thing else, are the same here as there. The number of white people in Maryland, amounts to about 30,000, and the negroes or slaves to about 85,000.

CHAP.

CHAP. XVII.

An account of the conquest of Jamaica. A description of that island and its productions, particularly the Cacao, or Chocolate-Nut, Pimento, or Jamaica Pepper, the wild Cinnamon-Tree, and the manner in which Indigo is cultivated and prepared.

OLIVER CROMWELL, being sensible of the advantages the Spaniards obtained from their provinces in America, formed a project for taking from them the fine island of Hispaniola, and for that purpose sent a considerable squadron of men of war commanded by general Penn, with a fleet of transports under general Venables, with which they sailed from Portsmouth, and arrived at Barbadoes on the 15th of January, 1654. They afterwards sailed to Hispaniola, where being repulsed with loss, it was resolved to try what could be done against the island of Jamaica.

The fleet and troops being arrived at this last island, general Venables issued orders, that if any man attempted to run away, the next man to him should put him to death, and that if he failed to do it, he should be liable to be tried for his life. The troops were no sooner landed than they advanced towards the fort, which they made themselves masters of with little loss, and the next morning when the sun arose, began to march

march towards the savannah near the town, when some Spaniards coming forwards desired to treat; but this that general refused, unless they would send his men a constant supply of provisions, of which they were in great want, and to this the Spaniards consented, and actually performed their promise. After which the following articles were at last agreed upon. That all the forts, arms, ammunition, and necessaries of war; that all the shipping in the harbours of the island; and all wares, merchandize, &c. should be delivered up to general Venables, for the use of the Protector and the Commonwealth of England. That all the inhabitants of the island, except some that were particularly named, should have their lives granted. That those who chose it, should have leave to stay, and the others be transported to New-Spain, or some other of his Catholic Majesty's dominions in America, together with their apparel, books and papers. That the commission-officers alone at their departure should be permitted to wear their rapiers and ponyards, and that the artificers and meaner sort of the people, should be permitted to remain in the island, and to enjoy their goods, provided they conformed to the laws that should be established.

Thus the fine island of Jamaica was subdued, and though the Spaniards continued to lurk about some parts of it for several years afterwards, and once made a bold attempt to recover the place, yet colonel Doyly forced them to withdraw, and so effectually reduced the whole island, that at the restoration the Spaniards yielded it to the crown

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Venables attacks and takes Jamaica.

They had no occaſion for a lading of freſh water, for they quenched their thirſt with the liquor of a few cocoa nuts. The Dutch ſent them all back to their veſſel, where the women expreſſed their joy, by embracing their huſbands, and then they ſailed away to the ſouth-eaſt.

On the 11th, they came up with a very high iſland, and about two leagues farther to the ſouthward, found another which was much lower. About this time another of the ſame kind of barks came up to them, which had a looſe canoe on board to put out upon occaſion, and this veſſel ſailed ſo faſt, that few Dutch ſhips could outſtrip her. Sending their ſhallop to ſound by one of the iſlands, they caſt anchor at about a cannon ſhot from ſhore, though the natives, by their ſigns, directed them to go to the other iſland, and ſailed thither before them.

The firſt of theſe iſlands, which is ſituated in 16°. 10. is one entire mountain; it reſembles the Moluccas, and being covered with cocoa trees, they gave it the name of Cocoa Iſland. The other is much lower, but of greater length. While they were at anchor, there came three large veſſels, and nine or ten canoes with three or four men in each, ſome of them hanging out white flags; in which they were imitated by the Dutch. Theſe canoes were flat at one end and ſharp at the other. They were each of them hewn out of a ſolid piece of red wood, and were remarkable for the ſwifneſs with which they ſailed. Many of the natives on their approaching the Dutch ſhip, leaped into the water with their hands full of cocoas, and ubes roots, which they

bartered for nails and beads, giving four or five cocoas for a nail, or a ſmall ſtring of beads. But this trade inducing ſo many of the natives to come on board, that the Dutch ſcarcely knew how to ſtir in the ſhip, they ſent the ſhallop to the other iſland in ſearch of a more convenient ſtation. But the ſhallop was ſcarcely out, when ſhe was ſurrounded by a vaſt number of canoes, filled with a mad ſort of people armed with great clubs, who immediately boarded her, and attacked the men, when firing upon theſe ſavages, they laughed without ſhewing the leaſt apprehenſion; but one of them being ſhot through the breaſt at the next diſcharge, they took care for the future to keep at a greater diſtance. Theſe men were luſty and well proportioned. They were excellent ſwimmers, yet were not only thieviſh, but appeared very fantaſtical in dreſſing their hair, which ſome wore ſhort, and others long; ſome had it curled, and others plaited and folded up in ſeveral faſhions.

The next day they came again with their canoes laden with cocoas, bananas, ubes roots, hogs and freſh water, when there was a great contention among them who ſhould get firſt to the ſhip, and thoſe who were behind being ſhut out by thoſe who got before them, jumped into the water with bunches of cocoas in their mouths, and diving under their canoes, climbed up the ſides of the ſhip like ſo many rats, in ſuch ſwarms, that they were forced to keep them off with ſtaves, however the Dutch bartered with them that day for 1200 cocoas. The natives were much ſurpriſed at the ſtrength of the ſhip, and

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to try it some of them crept under it, and beat upon its bottom with stones.

Mean while the king sent the commander a present of a black hog, charging the messenger to take no reward, and soon after came himself in a large vessel, attended with 35 canoes; being come near the Dutch ship, he began to call aloud, and his example was followed by all who accompanied him, this being their manner of bidding strangers welcome. The Dutch received them with trumpets and drums, with which they were both pleased and surprised, when to shew their sense of the honour done them, they bowed and clapped their hands over their heads. The king then sent the Dutch a present, which they returned with a gift of an old hatchet, some rusty nails, glass beads, and a piece of linen cloth, which his majesty received with a low bow, and seemed much pleased with them. He was only to be distinguished from his subjects, by the reverence they shewed him, for both he and they being entirely naked, he had no ensign of dignity. He however would not be persuaded to go on board, though his son did, and was well entertained.

On the 13th at noon, the Dutch vessel was surrounded with a fleet of 23 ships and 45 canoes, in which were no less than 7 or 800 men. The king himself commanded the fleet. But though they at first pretended to come only with a view of trade, and attempted by their signs to make them sail to the other island, where they would find much better accommodations, yet the Dutch suspecting some mischief, put themselves on their guard, and indeed not without just cause, for the

Indians surrounding the ship on all sides, gave a great cry, and began the attack. The king's ship was the foremost in the action, and rushed with such force at the Dutch ship, that the heads of two canoes, which lay before it were dashed to pieces with the violence of the shock, while the rest came on as well as they could, throwing a shower of stones; but the Dutch discharging their musquets, and three great guns loaded with musket shot and nails, all in the canoes, who lay within reach of the guns, were glad to seek for safety, by leaping into the water, and the rest endeavoured to escape as well as they could. From this instance of treachery, committed by the inhabitants of the lower of the two islands, they gave it the name of Traitors Island.

They set sail the same day, and continuing their course to the westward, came on the 14th to another island, 30 leagues distance from the former. This they called Hope Island, from the hopes they entertained of its furnishing them with some refreshment; but finding no ground, they sent their shallop to sound along the shore, which returned with the news of there being a stony bottom at 40 fathoms water, about a musket shot from the shore. Hither the Indians came in ten or twelve canoes, with a small number of flying fish, for which they had beads in exchange, and whatever the one gave or the other received, was conveyed by a rope let down by the stern of the ship. Mean while the shallop being employed in sounding at some distance, others of the natives offered to board her, and carry her off; but the sailors gave them so warm a reception,

a reception, with their guns, pikes, and cutlasses, that having seen two of their companions killed, they were glad to hurry away as fast as they could. This island was full of black cliffs, whose tops were covered with vegetables, and was well stocked with cocoa trees. There were several houses along the sea side, and a great village close by the strand; but finding no convenient anchoring, Mr. Schouten left it, and sailed to the southwest.

M CHAP.

CHAP. III.

They resolve to sail Northward for the coast of New Guinea, and arrive at Horn island. The manners of the inhabitants described. A description of Green-island, and St. John's-island. They arrive at the coast of New Guinea, and sailing along it discover a great number of other islands. They land in an island called Mosa, whence they carry off by force a considerable quantity of Cocoas. They feel a violent earthquake; are met by several Canoes, which conduct them to the village of Soppy in Gilolo, whence proceeding to Ternate, they are treated with great respect by several of the most considerable officers of the East-India company, but proceeding to the port of Jacatra, in the island of Java, their ship is seized by the president of the Dutch East-India company of Bantam, and their effects confiscated, upon which they return to Holland.

TWO days after their leaving Hope Island, Mr. Schouten observed to the officers, that they were now at least 1600 leagues to the westward of the coast of Peru, and as they had not yet discovered any part of the south land they had expected, there was no probability of their now doing it. That they had sailed much farther to the westward than was first intended, and if they proceeded in the course they had hitherto pursued, they should certainly fall to the southward of New Guinea, where if they found no passage they

they must inevitably be lost, since it would be impossible to sail back to the eastward, on account of the easterly winds that blew continually, whence he proposed that they should sail northward, so as to reach the north of New Guinea. This proposal was immediately embraced, and it was determined to hold a north west course.

On the 19th, they observed two islands at about eight leagues distance, which seemed to be a cannon shot from each other. On the 21st, being about a league from the land, they were visited by two canoes, and though they gave them no manner of provocation, were rudely insulted by some of the people, who began to shout, and threatened to dart their wooden assagayas at them, upon which the Dutch discharged two of their guns, and killing two of these Indians, the rest fled with the utmost haste and confusion.

On the 22d, more of the Indians came to the ship, but behaved in a very friendly and peaceable manner, bringing cocoas, ubes, roots, and roasted hogs, which they exchanged for knives, beads, and nails. These people were as expert in swimming and diving as those of Traitors Island, and as well versed in stealing, which they always practised whenever they had an opportunity. Their houses, which stood along the strand, were covered on the top with leaves, and had a kind of penthouse of the same materials, to carry off the water. These edifices, which were ten or twelve feet high, and 25 in compass, were furnished with nothing but a bed of dry herbs, an angling rod or two, and a great club;

and the house where the king himself resided, had no other furniture.

On the 24th, Mr. Schouten sent three of his principal officers to establish a friendship with the Indians, and to stay on shore as hostages in the room of six Indians of distinction, who went on board, and were made very welcome. While the Dutch on shore were treated by the king with very great respect. He made them a present of four hogs, and if any of his people came near the Dutch boat to disturb them, while they were taking in water, he would drive them away himself, or order some of his men to do it. For his subjects stood in very great awe of him, and were afraid of his being acquainted with any of their crimes: for one of them having stole a cutlass, and complaint being made to one of the king's officers, the thief was pursued and severely drubbed, besides being forced to make restitution. The officer signified that he came off very well too; for if the king had known it he would certainly have lost his head.

These people were extremely frightened at the noise of the guns, and whenever they were discharged, would fly with the utmost precipitation. The king however had a desire to hear one of the great guns, and for that purpose was seated under a canopy, with some of his favourites about him in great order; but upon the discharge of the gun, he leaped from his seat, and began running into the woods, with all his courtiers after him, while the Dutch were unable to stop them, by all the friendly signs they could make.

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On the 25th and 26th, they again went on ſhore to barter for hogs, but could obtain none, for the Indians had only a few of them left. The king however continued to treat them with the ſame kindneſs and reſpect as before, and both he and his principal attendant pulled off their caps of feathers, and placed them upon the heads of two of the company. Theſe caps were made of white, red, and green feathers, furniſhed them by their parrots and doves, which laſt are white upon the back, and black every where elſe except upon the breaſt. Every one of the king's council had one of theſe doves ſitting by them upon a ſtick.

On the 28th, that had got all their water on board, when Mr. Schouten and ſome of the officers went on ſhore with the trumpets, the muſic of which afforded the king great delight. Though this prince treated them with great reſpect, he ſeemed afraid of their having entertained a deſign of ſlaying in his country, and let them know, that if they would go in two days time, he would give them ten hogs, and a conſiderable number of cocoas, yet notwithſtanding his ſuſpicions, he paid them a viſit on board. His men behaved with the utmoſt ſubmiſſion to the Dutch, and with all the tokens of awe and fear frequently kiſſed their feet and placed them upon their necks.

On the 30th, the king had a viſit from the Sovereign of the other iſland, who came with a train of 300 naked Indians, who had bunches of green herbs ſtuck round their waiſts, and brought, to

insure his welcome, 16 hogs. When these two princes came within sight of each other, they bow[illegible] and muttered something to themselves; and [illegible]n their meeting, both fell with their faces flat upon the ground, and after using several strange gestures, walked to the seats prepared for them, where again muttering to themselves, they bowed to each other, and then sat down under a canopy. The prince of the island, in order to welcome the stranger, sent a messenger to acquaint the Dutch that he wanted their music, which they understanding, came on shore with their drums and trumpets, with which the two kings were highly delighted. After this, preparations were made for a banquet, when a company of men came in with a good quantity of cana, an herb of which they make their drink, and each of them having taken a mouthful, they for some time chewed it together, and then put it into a wooden trough, poured water upon it, and having stirred and strained it, presented this strange kind of liquor in cups to their two kings, and very civilly offered some of it to the Dutch, who declined tasting of it. The other part of the entertainment consisted of ubes roots roasted, and hogs dressed after the following strange manner: They had ripped up the bellies and taken out the entrails, and then putting in hot stones, and singeing off the outside hair, they were without any other preparations fit for the king's table. Two of these hogs were also presented to the Dutch, with all the form and ceremony which they used to their kings, putting them first upon

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their heads, and then kneeling with much humility, they left them at their feet. They also gave them eleven more that were alive, for which they received a present of knives, old nails and beads.

These people were of a dark yellow complexion, had strong and well proportioned bodies, and were so tall that the largest among the Dutch was equal in stature only to the least of them. Some of them wore their hair curled, others had it tied up in knots, and others again had it standing upright like bristles. That of the king and some of his courtiers was very long, hanging down below their hips, but the women were cropped close, and were very disagreeable figures; they were short and ill-shaped, with long hanging breasts, and both sexes were naked from the waist upwards. These people live upon what the earth spontaneously produces, without the labour of agriculture, or the care of attending cattle. To this place the Dutch gave the name of Horn Island, and to the harbour where they anchored, they gave that of Unity Bay.

On the 1st of June they set sail, but made no land till the 21st, when they came up to a very low island, in 4° 47 south lat. near which were several sand banks, and three or four smaller islands very full of trees. Here they were visited by a canoe, the people in which were blacker than those they had seen before, and armed with bows and arrows, which were the first they had observed among the Indians of the South Seas. These people told them by signs, that there was more land and good conveniences for shipping to

the westward, where the king dwelt; upon which they again held a westerly course, and the next day saw twelve or thirteen islands close to each other. On the 24th, they saw three low islands, lying to the south-west, one of which was very small, and the others only two miles long. These they called the Green Islands. They were surrounded with cliffs, and had no convenience for anchoring.

The next day they observed another island, upon which they saw seven or eight huts, and that being St. John Baptist's day, they called it St. John's Island. At this time they observed a very high land to the south-west, which they imagined was the point of New Guinea, this they reached by noon, and finding no anchoring sent the shallop to sound, but no bottom could be discovered. Here two or three canoes filled with a barbarous sort of people, assaulted the shallop with slings, but the Dutch firing upon them, they appeared greatly terrified and soon dispersed. They were of a very dark complexion, entirely naked, and spoke a language quite different from the other. They kept fires upon the coast all that night, and some of them in their canoes came lurking about the ship, which the Dutch no sooner discovered, than they strove to oblige them; yet they would understand none of the signs, by which they endeavoured to let them know that they were in want of provisions, but all the answer they made, consisted in horrible noises and outcries.

The Unity came to an anchor that night, in a bay which had 45 fathoms water, where the

country

country was high and green, and afforded a pleasant prospect. This bay they supposed to be 1840 leagues distant from Peru.

On the 25th in the morning, three canoes came up to the ship filled with these savages, who were all armed with clubs, wooden swords and slings; but though the Dutch still treated them kindly, and gave them several toys to procure their favour, or at least peace and freedom from any disturbance, they soon found that they were not to be conquered by kindness, nor taught good manners by any thing but the great guns; for they assaulted the ship with all their force, and continued their attack till 10 or 12 of them were killed by the cannon shot, when they leaped into the water, and began to swim for their lives; but the Dutch pursuing them in the shallop, knocked some on the head, took three prisoners, and four canoes, which they broke in pieces, and used in the ship for fire wood. The severity of this treatment made the natives of the island more attentive to the signs made by the Dutch, and therefore brought hogs and bananas to ransom the prisoners, giving ten hogs for one person. In this island were birds that were entirely red.

On the 28th in the evening, they again set sail, and the next day saw three high islands to the north of the former. On the 30th in the morning, several canoes of very swarthy Indians, came up to the ship, and being allowed to go on board, broke staves over the heads of the Dutch, as a sign of peace. Their canoes were nearer than the others, and the people appeared more civil and modest,

modeſt, wearing a covering about the waiſt, which the others did not. They alſo rubbed their black hair with chalk, which made it appear as if powdered. They pretended to be ſo poor that inſtead of bringing any thing to the ſhip, they came to beg, and yet the three iſlands from whence they came afforded great plenty of cocoas.

On the 1ſt of July, in the morning, the Unity caſt anchor between an iſland two miles long, and the main land of New Guinea, and was ſoon ſurrounded with 25 armed canoes, ſuppoſed to be filled with people of the ſame iſlands as thoſe, who the day before had, in token of peace, broken their ſlaves over their heads. Two of theſe fixing themſelves upon two anchors faſtened their girdles to them, and began to tug the ſhip, thinking to draw her on ſhore, while the reſt attacked her ſides, with their ſlings and other weapons; but the Dutch firing upon them with their great guns, forced them to retire with the loſs of 12 or 13 killed, and a much greater number wounded.

After this engagement, the Dutch again ſet ſail, and on the 4th paſſed by 23 other iſlands, ſome of them a league, and others not more than a cannon ſhot diſtant from each other. On the 6th, they obſerved a very high mountain to the ſouth-weſt, which they ſuppoſed to be Greemenaſſi in Banda; but on a nearer approach diſcovered three more lying to the north, at about ſix or ſeven leagues diſtance. The next day they found ſome of theſe mountains to be volcanoes, for which reaſon they named the iſland Vulcan's Iſle. It was well inhabited, and full of cocoas;

but

but they had no conveniency for anchoring: the people were naked and extremely fearful of the Dutch, and their language so very different from that of the other of the neighbouring islands, that none of the Indians the Dutch had taken on board, could understand them. There soon after appeared more islands to the north and north-west, but they steered to a very low one to the westward, which they reached that evening. They here observed the water to be of several colours, as green, white, and yellow, which was probably occasioned by the mixture of some rivers, for it was much sweeter than the sea-water, and full of leaves and boughs of trees, some of which had birds and crabs upon them.

On the 8th of July, they cast anchor before an island in 3°. 40. south lat. which seemed to be an unhealthy place, and yielded nothing of any value, except a little ginger. It was inhabited by Papoos, a people, whose ridiculous dress added to their natural deformity, made them appear little short of monsters in human nature. There were scarcely any of them that had not something odd and strange, either in the bigness or position of their limbs, which added to strings of hog's teeth hung about their necks, and rings fastened in their noses, with their short frizzled hair, and very bad faces, rendered them perfectly disagreeable. Their houses were entirely void of ornament, and fixed upon stakes eight or nine feet from the ground.

The next day they anchored in a more convenient bay, near two villages belonging to these Indians,

Indians, when some of their canoes brought hogs and cocoas, but held up both at so dear a rate that there was no bartering with them.

Though the Dutch had sailed so long by an extensive tract of land, they were unable to determine whether it was New Guinea, or not, their charts neither agreeing one with another, nor with the land they had in prospect. On the 13th and 14th they kept sailing by the coast, and on the 15th, pursuing the same course, reached two low islands, about half a league from the main land, and in about 2° 54′ south latitude; when seeing the country well stored with cocoas, they dispatched the boat and shallop, which were well provided for an attack, with orders to land and get some, but the Indians having observed them, prepared to receive them at their landing, and gave them the warmest reception with their bows and slings they ever met with, wounding at least 16 of them, and forcing them to retire, notwithstanding their being armed with muskets. However the next morning they sailed in between the two islands, and having cast anchor, landed upon the lesser island, burnt some of the Indian houses, and brought off as many cocoas as amounted to three to every man's share, when the natives finding how little able they were to defend themselves against these strangers, came to make their peace, by bringing cocoas, bananas, and ginger, and going on board the ship, the quarrel was perfectly made up, and the hearts of the Indians won, by the Dutch giving them a few beads and nails. The next day they continued

bartering

bartering for cocoas, bananas, cassave, and papade, and obtained such a number of the former as amounted to 50 nuts and two bunches of bananas a man.

This island, which is the most easterly, the natives called Mosa, the other over against it Jusan, and another which was a very high one and about five or six leagues from New Guinea, they called Arimea. These people had probably been visited by some Europeans before, for they had Spanish jars and pots among them, were not surprised like others, at the firing of the great guns, nor so curious in examining the ship as those who had never seen one might be supposed to be.

On the 21st, they sailed to the north-west along the main land, and anchored among a cluster of islands, which they left on the 23d in the morning; soon after which they were overtaken by six great canoes bringing dried fish, cocoas, bananas, a small sort of fruit like prunes, and tobacco. From another island, some Indians brought them provisions and china porcelain: these people, like most of the others, were extremely fond of beads and iron work, and were remarkably distinguished from those in the last island, by the largeness of their size, and their having more of an orange coloured complexion. Their arms were bows and arrows, and their principal ornaments were glass ear-rings of several colours, by which it appeared, that these Dutchmen were not the first Europeans they had seen.

On

On the 24th they ſteered along by a very pleaſant iſland, to which they gave the name of Schovten, though it is diſtinguiſhed in the maps by the name of Horn Iſland, and the weſt point of it they called the Cape of Good Hope. On the 26th, they perceived three iſlands more, and on the 29th at night, felt ſo violent a ſhock of an earthquake, that the men ran frightened out of their cabbins, imagining that the ſhip had run a-ground or bulged againſt a rock; but upon trial they found that the depth of water was unfathomable, and plainly ſaw that they were clear of all danger of rocks and ſhelves. On the 30th, they put into a great bay, out of which finding no opening, they returned to a northern courſe again. Here the ſhip trembled and they had loud and horrible claps of thunder, while the ſhip would have been in danger of taking fire, by the lightning, had it not been for prodigious ſhowers of rain.

On the 31ſt in the evening, they paſſed the Equator a ſecond time, and in the three following days came in ſight of ſeveral iſlands, and ſuppoſed that they reached the end of the continent of New Guinea, having ſailed 280 leagues along the coaſt.

On the 6th of Auguſt, in the morning, ſeveral canoes came up to the ſhip, bringing Indian beans, rice, tobacco, and two birds of Paradiſe; when the Dutch purchaſed one of thoſe fine birds, which was white and yellow. Theſe Indians ſpoke the Ternate language, and ſome of them the Malayan and Spaniſh. They were all finely cloathed

cloathed about their waists, some with loose silks, and others with breeches. Some of the company were Mahometants, and had silk turbans on their heads. They had all in general coal black hair, and many gold and silver rings upon their fingers. But though they bartered with the Dutch for beads and other toys, they had a much greater mind for linen cloth. These people were so fearful and suspicious, that they would not tell the Dutch the name of the country, though they imagined they were at one of the three easterly points of Gilolo, and that these were natives of Tydore, which they afterwards found to be true.

On the 6th in the morning, they weighed and stood to the northward, and on the 18th were saluted by two canoes of Ternateens, who shewed their peaceable disposition by hanging out a white flag, and informed them that they came from the village of Soppy, where they had lately seen an English ship, and a pinnace from Amsterdam, which laid there three months for a lading of rice, and some of them offered to conduct them the next day into the road of Soppy, which they accordingly entered on the 19th, and bartered there for poultry, sagoe, rice, and turtle, when several of the natives coming on board, told them that an English and Dutch ship had been lately in those parts, and had procured a sufficient supply of provisions for their voyage home. This news was extremely agreeable to these people, who had spent almost their whole store, and there was a kind of public rejoicing among the

whole

whole crew, which now consisted of 85 men, all healthy and vigorous, who had no other apprehensions than what arose from their scantiness of provisions, and the next day they had an account that there were no less than twenty English and Dutch ships at Ternate.

On the 25th, they again set sail, and on the first of September, the wind being contrary, entered into the bay, of what appeared a desart island, when some of the officers going on shore in order to view the country, endeavoured to ascend a very high mountain, but found it so very steep and rugged, that they soon abandoned the attempt. The name of this island is Moro.

On the 5th, they anchored off the coast of Gilolo, where some of the seamen going on shore unarmed, to catch fish, four soldiers of Ternate suddenly rushed out of the woods, sword in hand, intending to have killed them while they were drawing up their net, but the surgeon calling out Oran Hollanda, the Indian soldiers stopped, and throwing water on their heads, which in those countries is a sign of peace, approached them in a civil manner, assuring them that the reason of their attempt was their taking them for Spaniards. At the request of the seamen, they were persuaded to go on board, where having beads and other trifles given them, they promised to bring provisions and refreshments, which they accordingly did.

On the 14th, they set sail; but the wind being slack for two or three days, they made no progress in

in their voyage. However, on the 17th, they came to an anchor before Malaya in Ternate, and Capt. Schovten and James Le Maire going on shore, were entertained by the general, the governor of Amboyna, the admiral Verbaghen, and the whole council of India, and the next day sold two of their shallops, with a great deal of what they had saved out of the Horn, which was burnt in the king's Island, for which they received in money 1350 rials, with part of which they purchased two lasts of rice, a ton of vinegar, the like quantity of Spanish wine, and about three tons of biscuit.

On the 24th, eleven men and four boys desired leave of the captain to enter into the company's service, which, at the general's request, Mr. Schovten readily granted, and two days after, took leave of the general, who treated him with the greatest kindness and respect, and accompanied him and Mr. Le Maire on board with colours flying.

On the 27th, they sailed for Bantam, and on the 28th of October, anchored at Jacatra, where they found three Dutch and as many English ships in the road. But on the last day of October, John Peterson Koen, president of the East-India company at Bantam, arriving in that city, he the very next day sent for the captain and both the Supercargoes, before the council of the Indies, and after very little discourse, required them, in virtue of his commission from the East-India company, to deliver up the ship and cargo imme-

immediately. The captain and ſupercargoes inſiſted that this ſeizure was unlawful, ſince they entered the Indies by neither of the forbidden paſſages, the Cape of Good Hope, or the Streights of Magellan, but by a paſſage they themſelves had diſcovered, which would be of great advantage to the commerce of their countrymen and to the whole trading world. But all their arguments were to no purpoſe, the preſident telling them that they might ſeek for redreſs in Holland. This happened on Monday the firſt of November, according to the reckoning of thoſe who ſailed in the Unity, and upon Tueſday the ſecond of November, according to the reckoning of their countrymen, who had ſailed directly from Holland. For as the Unity had ſailed weſtward, and had with the ſun ſo far encompaſſed the globe, they had one night, or ſun-ſetting, leſs than their countrymen who had ſailed to the eaſt.

Their ſhip being in this manner taken from them, ſome of the men entered into the Eaſt-India company's ſervice, and the reſt were put into two ſhips, that were returning to Holland; but Mr. James Le Maire, was ſo ſhocked at this diſaſtrous end of a voyage, which till that time had been ſo proſperous, that he died of grief and vexation, within a little more than a fortnight after the loſs of the veſſel. The reſt of the company had a proſperous voyage to Holland, and arrived at Amſterdam on the 1ſt of July. Their voyage round the world being performed in two years and eighteen days, which, conſidering the

the difficulties they met with, and the nature of their course, must appear extremely wonderful. But what renders it still more surprizing is, that they lost only four men by sickness in encompassing the whole earth, and that one of these died of grief.

FINIS.