

# THE GENESIS OF THE UNITED STATES

A NARRATIVE OF THE MOVEMENT IN ENGLAND, 1605-1616, WHICH  
RESULTED IN THE PLANTATION OF NORTH AMERICA BY  
ENGLISHMEN, DISCLOSING THE CONTEST BETWEEN ENGLAND  
AND SPAIN FOR THE POSSESSION OF THE SOIL NOW OCCUPIED  
BY THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA; SET FORTH THROUGH

*A Series of Historical Manuscripts now first printed*

TOGETHER WITH A REISSUE OF RARE CONTEMPORANEOUS TRACTS,  
ACCOMPANIED BY BIBLIOGRAPHICAL MEMORANDA, NOTES, AND

*Brief Biographies*

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## XLVII. PERCY'S DISCOURSE.

"Observations gathered out of a Discourse of the Plantation of the Southerne Colonie in Virginia by the English, 1606. Written by that Honorable Gentleman Master George Percy. H."

This is one of the manuscripts preserved by Hakluyt, which came to the hands of the Reverend Samuel Purchas. The original MS. is now probably lost. We have only the extracts from it as published in the fourth volume of "Purchas his Pilgrimes," in 1625, which I will give, because it has not been reprinted, I believe, in this country.

"On Saturday the twentieth of December in the yeere 1606. the fleet fell from London, and the fift of January we anchored in the Downes; but the winds continued contrarie so long, that we were forced to stay there some time, where wee suffered great stormes, but by the skilfulnesse of the Captaine<sup>1</sup> wee suffered no great losse or danger.

<sup>2</sup> The next day Cap. Smith was suspected for a supposed Mutinie, though never no such matter. "The twelfth day of February [1607] at night we saw a blazing starre, and presently a storme. . . .

"The three and twentieth day [of March] we fell with the Iland of Mattanenio in the West Indies.

"The foure and twentieth day we anchored at Dominico, within fourteene degrees of the Line, a very faire Iland, the Trees full of sweet and good smels. inhabited by many Savage Indians, they were at first very scrupulous to come aboard us. Wee learned of them afterwards that the Spaniards had given them a great overthrow on this Ile, but when they knew what we were, there came many to our ships with their Canoas, bringing us many kindes of sundry fruites, as Pines, Potatoes, Plantons, Tobacco, and other fruits, and *Roane* Cloth abundance,

<sup>1</sup> Newport is the "Captaine" of this narrative.

<sup>2</sup> The side-notes are by Purchas.



which they had gotten out of certaine *Spanish* ships that were cast away upon that Iland. We gave them Knives, Hatchets for exchange which they esteeme much, wee also gave them Beades, Copper Jewels, which they hang through their nostrils, eares and lips, very strange to behold, their bodies are all painted red to keepe away the biting of Muscetos, they goe all naked without covering: the haire of their head is a yard long, all of a length, pleated in three plats hanging downe to their wastes, they suffer no haire to grow on their faces, they cut their skinnes in divers workes, they are continually in warres, and will eate their enemies when they kill them, or any stranger if they take them. They will lap up mans spittle, whilst one spits in their mouthes in a barbarous fashion like Dogges. These people and the rest of the Ilands in the West Indies and *Brasill*, are called by the names of *Canibals*, that will eate mans flesh, these people doe poyson their Arrow heads, which are made of a fishes bone: they worship the Devill for their God, and have no other beliefe. Whilst we remayned at this Iland we saw a Whale chased by a Thresher and a sword-fish: they fought for the space or two houres, we might see the Thresher with his flayle lay on the monstrous blowes which was strange to behold: in the end these two fishes brought the whale to her end.

Brutishness  
of the  
Dominicans.

Fight be-  
twixt a  
whale, the  
Thresher,  
and Sword-  
fish.

“The sixe and twentieth day we had sight of *Marigalanta*, and the next day wee sailed with a slacke saile alongst the Ile of Guadalupa, where we went ashore, and found a Bath which was so hot, that no man was able to stand long by it, Our Admirall Captaine Newport caused a piece of Porke to be put in it; which boyled it so in the space of halfe an houre as no fire could mend it. Then we went aboard, and sailed by many Ilands, as Mounserot and an Iland called Saint Christopher, both uninhabited; about two a clocke in the afternoone wee anchored at the Ile of Mevis. There the Captaine landed all his men being well

Margalanta.

Guadalupa.

Bath very  
hot.

Mevis.



fitted with Muskets and other convenient Armes, marched a mile into the woods; being commanded to stand upon their guard, fearing the treacherie of the Indians, which is an ordinary use amongst them and all other Savages, on this Ile we came to a Bath standing in a Valley Bath at Mevis. betwixt two Hills; where wee bathed our selves and found it to be of the nature of the Bathes in England, some places hot and some colder; and men may refresh themselves as they please, finding this place to be so convenient for our men to avoid diseases, which will breed in so long a Voyage, wee incamped ourselves on this Ile sixe dayes [March 27 to April 3], and spent none of our ships victuall, by reason our men some went a hunting, some a fouling, and some a fishing, where we got great Commodities there. store of Conies, sundry kinds of Fowles, and great plentie of fish. We kept Centinels and Courts *de gard* at every Captaines quarter, fearing wee should be assaulted by the Indians, that were on the other side of the Iland: wee saw none nor were molested by any: but some few we saw as we were a hunting on the Iland. They would not come to us by any means, but ranne swiftly through the woods to the Mountaine tops; so we lost the sight of them: whereupon we made all the haste wee could to our quarter, thinking there had beene a great ambush of Indians thereabouts. We past into the thickest of the Woods where we had almost lost ourselves, we had not gone above halfe a mile amongst the thicke, but we came into a most pleasant Garden, being a hundred paces square on every side, having many Cotton-trees growing in it with abundance of Cotton-Wooll, and many *Guicum* trees: wee saw the goodliest tall trees growing so thicke about the garden, as though they had beene set by Art, which made us marvell very much to see it.

“The third day, wee set saile from *Mevis*: the fourth day we sailed along by *Castutia* and by *Saba*: This Aprill. day we anchored at the Ile of *Virgines*, in an excellent Bay able to harbour a hundred ships: if this Bay



stood in England, it would be a great profit and commoditie to the Land. On this Iland wee caught great store of fresh-fish, and abundance of Sea Tortoises, Tortoises. which served all our Fleet three daies, which were in number eight score persons. We also killed great store of wilde Fowle, wee cut the Barkes of certaine Trees which tasted much like Cinnamon; and very hot in the mouth. This Iland in some places hath very good ground, straight and tall Timber. But the greatest discommoditie that wee have seene on this Iland is that it hath no Fresh-water, which makes the place void of any Inhabitants.

“Upon the sixt day, we set saile and passed by Becam, and by Saint *John deportorico*. The seventh day, we arrived at Mona: where wee watered, which we stood in great need of, seeing that our water did smell so vildly that none of our men was able to indure it. Whilst Mevis water unwhole-some. some of the saylers were a filling the Caskes with water, the Captaine, and the rest of the Gentlemen, and other Soldiers marched up in the Ile sixe miles, thinking to find some other provision to maintaine our victualling; as wee marched we killed two wild Bores, and saw a huge wild Bull, his hornes was an ell betweene the two tops. Wee also killed Guanas, in fashion of a Serpent, and speckled like a Toade under the belly. These wayes that wee went, being so troublesome and vilde going upon the sharpe Rockes, that many of our men fainted in the march, but by good fortune wee lost none but one Edward Brookes, gentleman, whose fat melted Ed. Brookes faint with thirst. within him by the great heate and drought of the Countrey; we were not able to relieve him nor ourselves, so he died in that great extremitie.

“The ninth day in the after noone, we went off with our Boat to the Ile of Moneta, some three leagues Moneta. from Mona, where we had a terrible landing, and a troublesome getting up to the top of the Mountaine or Ile, being a high firme Rocke step, with many terrible sharpe stones: After wee got to the top of the Ile, we



found it to bee a fertill and a plaine ground, full of goodly  
 Store of Fowles. grasse, abundance of Fowles of all kindes, they  
 flew over our heads as thicke as drops of Hale ;  
 besides they made such a noise, that we were not able to  
 heare one another speake. Furthermore, wee were not able  
 to set our feet on the ground, but either on Fowles or Egges  
 which lay so thicke in the grasse : wee laded two Boats full  
 in the space of three houres, to our great refreshing.

“ The tenth day [of April] we set saile and disimboged  
 out of the West Indies, and bare our course Northerly.  
 The fourteenth day we passed the Tropicke of Cancer. The  
 one and twentieth day, about five a clocke at night there  
 began a vehement tempest, which lasted all the night, with  
 winds, raine, and thunders in a terrible manner. Wee  
 were forced to lie at Hull that night, because wee thought  
 wee had beene neerer land then wee were. The next morn-  
 ing, being the two and twentieth day wee sounded ; and the  
 three and twentieth and foure and twentieth day, but we

We were  
 driven to try  
 that night,  
 and by the  
 storme were  
 forced neere  
 the shoare,  
 not knowing  
 where we  
 were.

could find no ground. The five and twentieth  
 day we sounded, and had no ground at an hun-  
 dred fathom. The six and twentieth day of  
 Aprill about foure a clocke in the morning, wee  
 descried the Land of Virginia : the same day  
 wee entred into the Bay of Chesupioc directly,  
 without any let or hinderance ; there wee  
 landed and discovered a little way, but we could  
 find nothing worth the speaking of, but faire  
 meddowes and goodly tall Trees, with such Fresh-waters  
 running through the woods, as I was almost ravished at the  
 first sight there of.

They land in  
 Virginia.

“ At night, when wee were going aboard, there came the  
 Savages creeping upon all foure, from the Hills like Beares,  
 with their Bowes in their mouthes, charged us very des-  
 perately in the faces, hurt Captaine Gabrill Archer in both  
 his hands, and a sayler in two places of the body very dan-  
 gerous. After they had spent their Arrowes, and felt the  
 sharpnesse of our shot, they retired into the Woods with a  
 great noise, and so left us.



"The seven and twentieth day we began to build up our shallop: the gentlemen and souldiers marched eight miles up into the Land, we could not see a Savage in all that march, we came to a place where they had made a great fire, and had beene newly a roasting Oysters: when they perceived our coming, they fled away to the Mountaines, and left many of the Oysters in the fire: we eat some of the Oysters, which were very large and delicate in taste.

"The [28th] day we lunched our shallop, the Captaine and some Gentlemen went in her, and discovered up the Bay, we found a River on the South side running into the Maine; we entered it and found it very shoald water, not for any Boats to swim: We went further into the Bay, and saw a plaine plot of ground where we went on Land, and found the place five mile in compasse, without either Bush or Tree, we saw nothing there but a Cannow, which was made out of the whole tree, which was five and fortie foot long by the Rule. Upon this plot of ground we got good store of Mussels and Oysters, which lay on the ground as thicke as stones: wee opened some and found in many of them Pearles. Wee marched some three or foure miles further into the Woods, where we saw great smoakes of fire. Wee marched to those smoakes and found that the Savages had beene there burning downe the grasse, as wee thought either to make their plantation there, or else to give signes to bring their forces together, and so to give us battell. We passed through excellent ground full of Flowers of divers kinds and colours, and as goodly trees as I have seene, as cedar, cipresse, and other kindes: going a little further we came into a little plat of ground full of fine and beautifull strawberries, foure times bigger and better than ours in England. All this Strawberries. march we could neither see Savage nor Towne. When it grew to be towards night we stood backe to our ships, we sounded and found it shallow water for a great way, which put us out of all hopes for getting any higher with our Ships, which road at the mouth of the River. Wee rowed



over to a point of Land, where wee found a channell, and sounded six, eight, ten or twelve fathom: which put us in good comfort. Therefore wee named that point of Land, Cape Comfort.

Point Com-  
fort.

“The nine and twentieth day we set up a Crosse at Chesupioc Bay, and named that place Cape Henry. Thirtieth day, we came with our ships to Cape Comfort; where wee saw five savages running on the shoare; presently the Captaine caused the shallop to be manned, so rowing to the shoare, the Captaine called to them in signe of friendship, but they were at first very timersome, until they saw the Captain lay his hand on his heart: upon that they laid down their Bowes and Arrowes, and came very boldly to us, making signes to come a shoare to their Towne, which is called by the Savages Kecoughtan. Wee coasted to their Towne, rowing over a River running into the maine, where these Savages swam over with their Bowes and Arrowes in their mouthes.

Kecough-  
tan.

“When we came over to the other side, there was a many of other Savages which directed us to their Towne, where we were entertained by them very kindly. When we came first a Land they made a dolefull noise, laying their faces to the ground, scratching the earth with their nailes. We did thinke that they had beene at their idolatry. When they had ended their Ceremonies, they went into their houses and brought out mats and laid upon the ground, the chieftest of them sate all in a rank; the meanest sort brought us such dainties as they had, and of their bread which they make of their Maiz or Gennea wheat, they would not suffer us to eat unlesse we sate down, which we did on a Mat right against them. After we were well satis-

Tobacco.

fied they gave us of their Tobacco, which they tooke in a pipe made artificially of earth as ours are, but far bigger, with the bowle fashioned together with a piece of fine copper. After they had feasted us, they shewed us, in welcome, their manner of dancing, which was in this fashion: One of the Savages standing in the



midst singing, beating one hand against another, all the rest dancing about him, shouting, howling, and stamping against the ground, with many Anticke tricks and faces, making noise like so many Wolves or Devils. One thing of them I observed; when they were in their dance they kept stroke with their feet just one with another, but with their hands, heads, faces, and bodies, every one of them had a severall gesture: so they continued for the space of halfe an houre. When they had ended their dance, the Captaine gave them Beades and other trifling Jewells. They hang through their eares fowles legs: they shave the right side of their heads with a shell, the left side they weare of an ell long tied up with an artificiall knot, with a many of Fowles feathers sticking in it. They goe altogether naked, but their privities are covered with Beasts skinnnes beset commonly with little bones, or beasts teeth: some paint their bodies blacke, some red, with artificiall knots of sundry lively colours, very beautifull and pleasing to the eye, in a braver fashion then they in the West Indies.

[The 1st, 2d, and 3d of May seem to be omitted.]

"The fourth day of May, we came to the King or Werowance of Paspihe: where they entertained us with much welcome; an Old Savage made a long Oration, making a foule noise, uttering his speech with a vehement action, but we knew little what they meant. Whilst we were in company with the Paspihes, the Werowance of Rapahanna came from the other side of the River in his Cannoa; he seemed to take displeasure of our being with the Paspihes: he would faine have had us come to his Towne, the Captaine was unwilling; seeing that the day was so far spent he returned backe to his ships for that night.

"The next day, being the fift of May, the Werowance of Rapahanna sent a Messenger to have us come to him. We entertained the said Messenger, and gave him trifles which pleased him: Wee manned our shallop with Mus-

kets and Targatiers sufficiently; this said Messenger guided us where our determination was to goe. When wee landed, the Werowance of Rapahanna came downe to the water side with all his traine, as goodly men as any I have seene of Savages or Christians: the Werowance comming before them playing on a Flute made of a Reed, with a Crown of Deares haire colloured red, in fashion of a Rose fastened about his knot of haire, and a great Plate of copper on the other side of his head, with two long Feathers in fashion of a paire of Hornes placed in the midst of his Crowne. His body was painted all with Crimson with a chaine of Beads about his necke, his face painted blew, besprinkled with silver Ore as wee thought, his eares all behung with Braslets of Pearle, and in either eare a Birds claw through it beset with fine Copper or Gold, he entertained us in so modest a proud fashion, as though he had beene a Prince of civill government, holding his countenance without laughter or any such ill behaviour; he caused his Mat to be spred on the ground, where hee sate downe with a great Majestie, taking a pipe of Tobacco: the rest of his company standing about him. After he had rested a while he rose, and made signes to us to come to his Towne: Hee went formost, and all the rest of his people and our selves followed him up a steepe Hill where his Palace was settled. Wee passed through the Woods in fine paths, having most pleasant Springs which issued from the Mountaines: Wee also went through the goodliest corne fieldes that ever was seene in any countrey. When we came to Rapahannos Towne, hee entertained us in good humanitie.

A Flute  
made of a  
Reed.

[6th and 7th of May omitted?]

“The eight day of May we discovered up the River. We landed in the countrey of Apamatica, at our landing, there came many stout and able Savages to resist us with their Bowes and Arrowes, in a most warlike manner, with the swords at their backes beset with sharpe stones, and pieces of yron able to cleave a man in sunder. Amongst the rest



one of the chieftest standing before them crosse-legged, with his Arrowe readie in his Bow in one hand, and taking a Pipe of Tobacco in the other, with a bold uttering of his speech, demanding of us our being there, willing us to bee gone. Wee made signs of peace, which they perceived in the end, and let us land in quietnesse.

[9th, 10th, and 11th of May omitted?]

"The twelfth day we went backe to our ships, and discovered a point of Land called Archer's Hope, which <sup>Archer's Hope.</sup> was sufficient with a little labour to defend ourselves against any Enemy. The soile was good and fruitfull, with excellent good Timber. There are also great store of Vines in bignesse of a man's thigh, running up to the tops of the Trees in great abundance.

"We also did see many squirrels, conies, Black Birds with crimson wings, and divers other Fowles and Birds of divers and sundrie collours of crimson, watchet, Yellow, Greene, Murry, and of divers other hewes naturally without any art using. We found store of Turkie nests and many Egges. . . . If it had not beene disliked, because the ship could not ride neere the shoare, we had settled there to all the Collonies contentment.

"The Thirteenth day, we came to our seating place in Paspahas countrey, some eight miles from the point of Land, which I made mention before; where our shippes doe lie so neere the shoare that they are moored to the Trees in six fathom water.

"The fourteenth we landed all our men which were set to worke about the fortifications and others to watch and ward as it was convenient. The first night <sup>Their Plantation at James-Towne.</sup> of our landing, about midnight, there came some Savages sayling close to our quarter; presently there was an alarum given; upon that the savages ran away, and we not troubled any more by them that night. Not long after there came two Savages that seemed to be Commanders, bravely drest, with Crownes of coloured haire upon their heads, which came as Messengers from the Werowance of



Paspihe; telling us that their Werowance was comming and would be merry with us with a fat Deare.

"The eighteenth day, the Werowance of Paspihe came himselfe to our quarter; with one hundred Savages armed, which garded him in very warlike manner with Bowes and Arrowes, thinking at that time to execute their villany. Paspiha made great signes to us to lay our Arms away. But we would not trust him so far: he seeing he could not have convenient time to worke his will, at length made

Land given. signes that he would give us as much land as we would desire to take. As the Savages were in a

These Sav-  
ages are nat-  
urally great  
theeves.

throng in the Fort, one of them stole a Hatchet from one of our company, which spied him doing the deed: whereupon he tooke it from him by force, and also strooke him over the arme: presently another Savage seeing that, came fiercely at our man with a wooden sword, thinking to beat out his brains. The Werowance of Paspiha saw us take to our Armes, went suddenly away with all his company in great anger.

"The nineteenth day, myselfe and three or foure more walking into the Woods by chance wee espied a path-way like to an Irish pace; wee were desirous to knowe whither it would bring us; wee traced along some foure miles, all the way as wee went, having the pleasantest Suckles, the ground all flowing over with faire flowers of sundry colours and kindes, as though it had beene in any Garden or Orchard in England. There be many Strawberries, and other fruits unknowne: wee saw the Woods full of Cedar and Cypresse trees, with other trees, which issues out sweet Gummes like to Balsam: wee kept on our way in this Paradise, at length wee came to a Savage Towne, where wee found but few people, they told us the rest were gone a hunting with the Werowance of Paspiha: We stayed there a while, and had of them Strawberries, and other things; in the meane time one of the Savages came running out of his house with a Bowe and Arrowes and ranne mainly through the Woods: then I beganne to mistrust some villanie, that he went to



call some companie, and so betray us, wee made all the haste away wee could: One of the Savages brought us on the way to the Woodside, where there was a Garden of Tobacco, and other fruits and herbes, he gathered Tobacco, and distributed to every one of us, so wee departed.

"The twentieth day the Werowance of Paspaha sent fortie of his men with a Deere, to our quarter: but they came more in villanie than any love they bare us; they faine would have layne in our Fort all night, but wee would not suffer them for feare of their treachery. One of our Gentlemen having a Target which hee trusted in, thinking it would beare out a flight shot, hee set it up against a tree, willing one of the Savages to shoot; who tooke from his backe an Arrow of an elle long,<sup>1</sup> drew it strongly in his Bowe, shoots the Target a foote thorow, or better: which was strange, being that a Pistoll could not pierce it. Wee seeing the force of his Bowe, afterwards set him up a steele Target; he shot again, and burst his arrow all to pieces, he presently pulled out another Arrow, and bit it in his teeth, and seemed to bee in a great rage, so hee went away in great anger. Their Bowes are made of tough Hasell, their strings of Leather, their Arrowes of Canes or Their arrowes. Hasell, headed with very sharpe stones, and are made artificially like a broad Arrow: other some of their Arrowes are headed with the ends of Deeres hornes, and are feathered very artificially. Paspaha was as good as his word; for hee sent Venison, but the Sawse came within a few dayes after.

"At Port cotage in our Voyage up the River, we saw a Savage Boy about the age of ten yeares, which had a head of haire of perfect yellow and a reasonable white skinne, which is a Miracle amongst all Savages. Yellow haired Virginian.

<sup>1</sup> Purchas refers to this incident in his Pilgrimage of 1614, p. 671; but I do not think that Percy's Discourse was at his service until after Hakluyt's death.

“This River which wee have discovered is one of the  
 River of Powhatan. famousest Rivers that ever was found by any  
 Christian, it ebbes and flowes a hundred and  
 threescore miles where ships of great burthen may harbour  
 in safetie. Wheresoever we landed upon this River, wee  
 saw the goodliest Woods as Beech, Oke, Cedar, Cypresse,  
 Walnuts, Sassafras and Vines in great abundance, which  
 hang in great clusters on many Trees, and other Trees  
 unknowne, and all the grounds bespred with Strawberries,  
 Mulberries, Rasberries and Fruits unknowne, there are  
 many branches of this River, which runne flowing through  
 the Woods with great plentie of Fish of all kindes, as for  
 Sturgeon all the World cannot be compared to it. In  
 this cuntry I have seene many great and large  
 \* Low Marshes. Medowes \* having excellent good pasture for  
 any Cattle. There is also great store of Deere both Red  
 and Fallow. There are Beares, Foxes, Otters, Bevers,  
 Muskats, and wild beasts unknowne.

“The foure and twentieth day [May] we set up a Crosse  
 at the head of this River, naming it Kings River, where we  
 proclaimed James King of England to have the most right  
 unto it. When wee had finished and set up our Crosse,  
 we shipt our men and made for James Fort.  
 Wee came down the River. By the way wee came to Pohatans Towre where  
 the Captaine went on shore suffering none to  
 goe with him, hee presented the Commander of this place  
 with a Hatchet which he tooke joyfully, and was well  
 pleased.

“But yet the Savages murmured at our planting in the  
 Cuntry, whereupon this Werowance made answeare againe  
 very wisely of a Savage, Why should you bee offended with  
 them as long as they hurt you not, nor take anything away  
 by force, they take but a litle waste ground, which doth  
 you nor any of us any good.

“I saw Bread made by their women which doe all their  
 drugerie. The men takes their pleasure in hunting and



their warres, which they are in continually one Kingdome against another. The manner of baking of bread <sup>Bread how made.</sup> is thus, after they pound their wheat into flowre with hote water, they make it into paste, and worke it into round balls and cakes, then they put it into a pot of seething water, when it is sod thoroughly, they lay it on a smooth stone, there they harden it as well as in an Oven.

“There is notice to be taken to know married women from Maids, the Maids you shall alwayes see the fore <sup>Distinct habit of Maids and Wives.</sup> part of their head and sides shaven close, the hinder part very long, which they tie in a pleate hanging downe to their hips. The married women weares their haire all of a length, and is tied of that fashion that the Maids are. The women kinde in this Countrey doth pounce and race their bodies, legges, thighes, armes and faces with a sharpe Iron, which makes a stampe in curious knots, and drawes the proportion of Fowles, Fish, or Beasts, then with paintings of sundry lively colours, they rub it into the stampe which will never be taken away, because it is dried into the Flesh where it is sered.

“The Savages beare their yeeres well, for when wee were at Pamunkies, wee saw a Savage by their report <sup>Savage 160 yeeres old.</sup> was above eight score yeeres of age. His eyes were sunke into his head, having never a tooth in his mouth, his haire all gray with a reasonable bigge beard, which was as white as any snow. It is a Miracle <sup>Bearded.</sup> to see a Savage have any haire on their faces, I never saw, read, nor heard, any have the like before. This Savage was as lustie and went as fast as any of us, which was strange to behold.

“The fifteenth day of June, we had built and finished our Fort which was triangle wise, having three Bulwarkes at every corner like a halfe Moone, and foure or five pieces of Artillerie mounted in them, we had made ourselves sufficiently strong for these Savages, we had also sowne most of our Corne on two Mountaines, it sprang a mans

height from the ground, this countrey is a fruitfull soile, bearing many goodlie and fruitfull Trees, as Mulberries, Cherries, Walnuts, Cedars, Cypresse, Sassafras, and Vines in great abundance.

Cap. New-  
ports depart-  
ure.

“ Munday the two and twentieth of June, in the morning Captaine Newport in the Admirall departed from James Port for England.

“ Captaine Newport being gone for England, leaving us (one hundred and foure persons) verie bare and scantie of victualls, furthermore in warres and in danger of the Savages. We hoped after a supply which Captaine Newport promised within twentie weekes. . . . But if the beginners of this action doe carefully further us, the country being so fruitfull, it would be as great a profit to the Realme of England, as the Indies to the King of Spaine. If this River which wee have found had beene discovered in the time of warre with Spaine, it would have beene a commoditie to our Realme, and a great annoyance to our enemies.

“ The seven and twentieth of July the King of Rapa-hanna, demanded a Canoa which was restored, lifted up his hand to the Sunne, which they worship as their God, besides he laid his hand on his heart, that he would be our speciall friend. It is a general rule of these people when they swere by their God which is the Sunne, no Christian will keepe their Oath better upon this promise. These people have a great reverence to the Sunne above all other things at the rising and setting of the same, they sit downe lifting up their hands and eyes to the Sunne making a round circle on the ground with dried Tobacco, then they began to pray making many Devillish gestures with a Hellish noise foming at the mouth, staring with their eyes, wagging their heads and hands in such a fashion and deformitie as it was monstrous to behold.

The Savages  
use to Sacri-  
fice to the  
Sunne.



"The sixt of August there died John Asbie of the bloudie Flixie. The ninth day died George Flowre of the swelling. The tenth day died William Bruster gentleman, of a wound given by the Savages, and was buried the eleventh day. The fourteenth day, Jerome Alikock, Ancient, died of a wound, the same day Francis Mid-winter, Edward Moris Corporall died suddenly.

"The fifteenth day, their died Edward Browne and Stephen Galthrope. The sixteenth day, their died Thomas Gower gentleman. The seventeenth day, their died Thomas Mounslie. The eighteenth day, theer died Robert Pennington, and John Martine Gentleman. The nineteenth day died Drue Piggase gentleman.

"The two and twentieth day of August, there died Captaine Bartholomew Gosnold one of our Councell, he was honourably buried having all the Ord-  
Death of  
Cap. Bar.  
Gosnold.  
 ance in the Fort shot off with many vollies of small shot.

"After Captaine Gosnols death, the Councell could hardly agree by the dissention of Captaine Kendall, which afterward was committed about hainous matters which was proved against him.

"The foure and twentieth day, died Edward Harrington and George Walker, and were buried the same day. The sixe and twentieth day, died Kenelme Throgmortine. The seven and twentieth day died William Roods. The eight and twentieth day died Thomas Stoodie, Cape Merchant.

"The fourth day of September died Thomas Jacob Sergeant. The fift day, there died Benjamin Beast.

. . . . .  
 "Our men were destroyed with cruell diseases as Swellings, Flixes, Burning fevers, and by Warres, and some departed suddenly, but for the most part they died of  
Miserable  
famine.  
 meere famine. There were never Englishmen left  
 in a forreigne Countrey in such miserie as wee were in this new discovered Virginia. Wee watched every three nights lying on the bare cold ground, what weather soever came;

warded all the next day, which brought our men to bee most feeble wretches, our food was but a small can of Barlie sod in water to five men a day, our drinke cold water taken out of the River, which was at a flood verie Salt, at a low tide full of slime and filth, which was the destruction of many of our men. Thus we lived for the space of five months in this miserable distresse, not having five able men to man our Bulwarkes upon any occasion. If it had not pleased God to have put a terrour in the Savages hearts, we had all perished by those vild and cruell Pagans, being in that weake estate as we were; our men night and day groaning in every corner of the Fort most pittifull to heare, if there were any conscience in men, it would make their harts to bleed to heare the pittifull murmurings & outcries of our sick men without reliefe every night and day for the space of sixe weekes, some departing out of the World, many times three or foure in a night, in the mornings their bodies trailed out of their Cabines like Dogges to be buried: in this sort did I see the mortalitie of divers of our people.

“It pleased God, after a while, to send those people which were our mortall enemies to releeve us with victuals, as Bread, Corne, Fish, and Flesh in great plentie, which was the setting up of our feeble men, otherwise wee had all perished. Also we were frequented by divers Kings in the Countrie, bringing us store of provision to our great comfort.

“The eleventh day [September], there was certaine Articles laid against Master Wingfield which was then President, thereupon he was not only displaced out of his Presidentship, but also from being of the Councill. Afterwards Captaine John Ratcliffe was chosen President.

“The eighteenth day, died one Ellis Kinistone which was starved to death with cold. The same day at night, died one Richard Simmons. The nineteenth day, there died one Thomas Mouton.” . . .

He was a  
mad man.