

---

Florida Heritage

---

1664

## A relation of a discovery lately made on the coast of Florida: (From lat. 31. to 33 deg. 45 min. north-lat.).

Hilton, William, d. 1675

Long, Anthony

Fabian, Peter, 17th cent

Find similar works at: <https://stars.library.ucf.edu/floridaheritage>

University of Central Florida Libraries <http://library.ucf.edu>

This Monographic is brought to you for free and open access by STARS. It has been accepted for inclusion in Florida Heritage by an authorized administrator of STARS. For more information, please contact [STARS@ucf.edu](mailto:STARS@ucf.edu).

---

### Recommended Citation

Hilton, William, d. 1675; Long, Anthony; and Fabian, Peter, 17th cent, "A relation of a discovery lately made on the coast of Florida: (From lat. 31. to 33 deg. 45 min. north-lat.)." (1664). *Florida Heritage*. 91. <https://stars.library.ucf.edu/floridaheritage/91>

A  
RELATION  
OF

A Discovery lately made on the Coast of

*FLORIDA,*

(From Lat. 31. to 33 Deg. 45 Min. North-Lat.)

By *William Hilton* Commander, and  
Commissioner with Capt. *Anthony Long*,  
and *Peter Fabian*, in the Ship *Adventure*, which set  
Sail from *Spikes Bay*, Aug. 10. 1663. and was  
set forth by several Gentlemen and Mer-  
chants of the Island of *BARBADOES*.

Giving an account of the nature and tempera-  
ture of the Soyl, the manners and disposition  
of the Natives, and whatsoever else is  
remarkable therein.

Together with

Proposals made by the Commissioners  
of the Lords Proprietors, to all such per-  
sons as shall become the first Settlers on the  
Rivers, Harbors, and Creeks there.

LONDON,

Printed by *J. C.* for *Simon Miller* at the Star near the  
West-end of *St. Pauls*, 1664.

car 1840

SAB-31919  
Howes H-497  
see Howes F247



# Licensed

JUNE 22, 1664.

*Roger L'Estrange.*



---

**Force's Collection of Historical Tracts.**

VOL. IV.—No. 2.

---



A true Relation of a Voyage, upon discovery of part of the Coast of FLORIDA, from the Lat. of 31 Deg. to 33 Deg. 45 m. North Lat. in the Ship *Adventure*, *William Hilton* Commander, and Commissioner with Captain *Anthony Long* and *Peter Fabian*; set forth by several Gentlemen and Merchants of the Island of *Barbadoes*; sailed from *Spikes Bay*, Aug. 10. 1663.



**A**FTER Sixteen days of fair weather, and prosperous windes, *Wednesday* the 26 instant, four of the clock in the Afternoone, God be thanked, we espied Land on the Coast of *Florida*, in the lat. of 32 deg. 30. min. being four Leagues or thereabouts to the Northwards of *Saint Ellens*, having run five hundred and fifty Leagues; and to the Westward of the Meridian of *Barbadoes*, three hundred thirty and one Leagues. This Evening and the Night following we lay off and on: *Thursday* the 27th instant, in the morning, we stood in with the Land, and coasted the Shoar to the Southward, Ankering at Nights, and sending our Boat out a Mornings, till we came into the lat. of 31 deg. but found no good harbour that way. On *Sunday* the 30th instant, we tacked, and stood Northward: and on *Wednesday* the second of *September*, we came to an Anchor in five fathoms at the mouth of a very large opening of three Leagues wide, or thereabouts, in the lat. of 32 deg. 30 min. and sent our Boat to sound the Channel. On *Thursday* the third, we entered the Harbour, and found that it was the River *Jordan*, and was but four Leagues or thereabouts N. E. from *Port Royal*, which by the *Spaniards* is called *St. Ellens*: within Land, both Rivers meet in one. We spent some time to sound the Chanels both without and within, and to search the

the Rivers in several branches, and to view the Land. On *Saturday* the fifth of *September*, two *Indians* came on Board us from the N. E. shoar, whom we entertained courteously, and afterwards set them on shoar. On *Sunday* the sixth, several *Indians* came on Board us, and said they were of *St. Ellens*; being very bold and familiar; speaking many *Spanish* words, as, *Cappitan*, *Commarado*, and *Adues*. They know the use of Guns, and are as little startled at the firing of a Peece of Ordnance, as he that hath been used to them many years: they told us the nearest *Spanyards* were at *St. Augustins*, and several of them had been there, which as they said was but ten days journey; and that the *Spanyards* used to come to them at *Saint Ellens*, sometimes in Canoa's within Land, at other times in small Vessels by Sea, which the *Indians* describe to have but two Masts. They invited us to come to *St. Ellens* with our Ship, which they told us we might do within Land. *Munday* the 14 *September*, our Long-Boat went with twelve hands within Land to *St. Ellens*. On *Wednesday* the 16th, came five *Indians* on board us; one of them pointing to another, said, he was the Grandy Captain of *Edistow*: whereupon we took especial notice of him, and entertained him accordingly, giving him several Beads, & other trade that pleased him well: He invited us to bring up our Ship into a branch on the N. E. side, and told us of one Captain *Francisco*, and four more English that were in his custody on shoar; whereupon we shewed him store of all Trade, as Beads, Hoes, Hatchets and Bills, &c. and said, he should have all those things if he would bring the English on board us; w<sup>ch</sup> he promised should be done the next day. Hereupon we wrote a few lines to the said *English*, fearing it to be a *Spanish* delusion to entrap us. In the dark of the same Evening came a Canoa with nine or ten *Indians* in her with their Bowes and Arrowes, and were close on board before we did discern them: We haled them, but they made us no answer, which increased our jealousie: So we commanded them on board, and disarmed them, detaining two of them prisoners, and sending away the rest to fetch the *English*; which if they brought, they should have theirs again. At length they delivered us a Note written with a coal, which seemed the more to continue our jealousie, because in all this time we had no news of our long-boat from *St. Ellens*, which we feared was surprized by the *Indians* and *Spanyards*. But to satisfie us that there were *English* on shoar, they sent us one man on board about twelve of the clock in the Night who related to us the truth of the matter, and told

us they were cast away some four or five leagues to the Northward of the place we then rode, on the 24th of *July* past, being thirteen persons that came on shoar, whereof three of them were kill'd by the *Indians*. On *Thursday* the 17th of *September* the Long-boat returned from *St. Ellens*, which presently we sent on shoar to fetch the other *English*, the *Indians* delivering us three more; and coming aboard themselves, we delivered them their two men. Then we demanded of the chief Commander where the rest of our *English* were: he answered, Five were carried to *St. Ellens*, three were killed by the *Stonohs*, and the other man we should have within two dayes. We replyed to him again, That we would keep him and two more of his chief men, till we had our *English* that were yet living; and promised them their liberty, with satisfaction for bringing us the *English*. Now to return to the businesse of our Design; the entertainment we had at *S. Ellens* put us in great fear of the *Indians* treachery; for we observed their continual gathering together, and at last began with stern-look'd countenances to speak roughly to us, and came to search our mens Bandileers and Pockets; yet inviting us to stay that night with them: but we made a sudden retreat to our Boat, which caused the *Indian* King to be in a great rage, speaking loud and angry to his men; the drift of which discourse we understood not. That which we noted there, was a fair house builded in the shape of a Dove-house, round, two hundred foot at least, compleatly covered with *Palmeta*-leaves, the wal-plate being twelve foot high, or thereabouts, & within lodging Rooms and Forms; two pillars at the entrance of a high Seat above all the rest: Also another house like a Sentinel-house, floored ten foot high with planks, fastned with Spikes and Nayls, standing upon substantial Posts, with several other small houses round about. Also we saw many planks, to the quantity of three thousand foot or thereabouts, with other Timber squared, and a Cross before the great house. Likewise we saw the Ruines of an old Fort, compassing more than half an acre of land within the Trenches, which we supposed to be *Charls's* Fort, built, and so called by the *French* in 1562, &c. On *Monday, September* 21. one *English* youth was brought from *St. Ellens* aboard us by an *Indian*, who informed us that there were four more of their company at *St. Ellens*, but he could not tell whether the *Indians* would let them come to us: For saith he, Our Men told me, that they had lately seen a Frier and two *Spanyards* more at *St. Ellens*, who told them they would send Soldiers suddenly to fetch them away. This day we sayled up  
the

the River with our Ship to go through to *St. Ellens*. On *Tuesday* the 22 instant, three *Indians* came on board; one of them we sent with a Letter to the *English* Prisoners there. On *Wednesday* the 23d. we sent out Boat and Men to sound the Chanel, and finde out the most likely way to *St. Ellens* with our Ship by *Combehch*. In the mean time came many Canoa's aboard us with Corn, Pumpions, and Venison, Deer-skins, and a sort of sweet-wood. One of our men looking into an *Indian* basket, found a piece of *Spanish* Rusk: it being new, we demanded of the *Indian* where he had it; who said, of the *Spaniards*. In the interim, while we were talking, came a Canoa with four *Indians* from *St. Ellens*, on standing up, and holding a paper in a cleft stick; they told us they had brought it from the *Spanish* Captain at *St. Ellens*. We demanded how many *Spaniards* were come thither; who said, Seven, and one *English-man*: We received their Letter writ in *Spanish*, but none of us could read it: We detained two of the chiefest *Indians*, one of them being the Kings Son of *S. Ellens*, and that kept one of the *English* prisoners; the other two we sent away with a Letter to the *Spaniard*, wherein we gave him to understand, that we understood not his letter; and told the *Indians*, when they brought the *English*, they should have their men again, with satisfaction for their pains. On *Thursday*, 24 instant, we sayling further up the River to go through, at last came to a place of fresh water, and Anchored there, sending our Boat ashoar with a Guard to get water. Towards night came the first *Indian* that we sent to *St. Ellens* with a letter to the *English*, who brought us another letter from the *Spaniards*, and an Answer of ours from the *English*, writ in the *Spaniards* letter. The *Spaniard* sent us a quarter of Venison, and a quarter of Pork, with a Complement, That he was sorry he had no more for us at that time. We returned him thanks, and sent him a Jug of Brandy; and withal, that we were sorry we understood not his letter. This night about twelve of the Clock we had a most violent gust of winde, but of no long continuance. On *Friday* 25 *September*, we weighed, and returned down the River six leagues, or thereabouts, because we perceived the *Indians* had gathered themselves in a Body from all parts thereabouts, and moved as the Ship did: and being informed by an *Indian* that the *Spaniards* would be there the next day; we took in Fire-wood, and continued there that night, at which time one of our *Indian* Prisoners made his escape by leaping over-board in the dark. On *Saturday* the 26. we weighed, and stood down to the Harbours mouth, and stayed

stayed there till *Monday* the 28. In all which time came no one to us, though we stay'd in expectation of their coming continually; therefore put ~~out~~ to Sea, concluding their intentions not to be good. Being out of the River *Jordan*, we directed our course S. W. four leagues or thereabouts for *Port-Royal*, to sound the Chanel without from the poynts of the Harbour outwards; for we had sounded the Harbour within from the points inward when our Boat was at *St. Ellens*: And now being athwart the Harbours mouth, we sent our Boat with the Mate and others, who found the N. E. and E. N. E. side of the opening of *Port-Royal* to be Sholes and Breakers to the middle of the opening; and three leagues or thereabouts into the Sea, from the side aforesaid, is unsafe to meddle with: but the S. W. and W. side we found all bold steering in N. N. W. two or three miles from the S. W. shoar, sayling directly with the S. W. head-land of the entrance of *Port-Royal*: the said head-land is bluft, and seems steep, as though the trees hung over the water: But you must note, that if you keep so far from the S. W. side, that you stand in N. N. W. with the bluft head aforesaid, you shall go over the Outskirt of the E. N. E. sholing, and shall have but three or four fathom for the space of one league or thereabouts, and then you shall have six and seven fathoms all the way in: But if you borrow more on the S. W. side, till you have brought the S. W. head of the Entry to bear N. N. E. you shall have a fair large Chanel of six, seven, and eight fathoms all the way in, and then five, six, seven and eight fathoms within the Harbour, keeping the Chanel, and standing over to the Northward: we supposed that it flows here as at the River *Jordan*, because they are but four leagues asunder, and flows S. E. and N. W. seven foot and half, and sometimes eight foot perpendicular: the Mouth of *Port-Royal* lyes in 32 deg. 20 min. lat. Now as concerning the entrance of the River *Jordan*, lat. 32 deg. 30. min. or thereabouts, you shall see a range of Breakers right against the opening, two or three leagues off the S. W. Point; which you must leave to the Northward, and steer in with the said S. W. Point, giving a range of Breakers that runs from the said Point a small birth, and you shall have two, three, and four fathoms at low water; and when you come one mile from the Point aforesaid, steer over directly to the N. E. Point, and you shall have six or seven fathom all the way. VVithin the N. W. Point is good Anchoring: you shall have five fathoms fair aboard the shoar: and you shall have five, six, seven, and eight fathoms, sayling all along upon the River, ten leagues, and a large turning Chanel: It flows here S. E. and N. W.



seven foot and a half, and eight foot at common Tydes. The River *Grandy*, or as the *Indians* call it *Edistow*, lyes six leagues or thereabouts from the River *Jordan*, and seems to be a very fair opening: but because the chief *Indian* of that Place was on board us, and the Countrey all in Arms, we not knowing how the winde might crosse us, it was not thought fit to stay there: But some of those *English* that had lived there, being Prisoners, say, that it is a very fair and goodly River, branching into several branches, and deep, and is fresh water at low Tide within two leagues of the Mouth; it seeming to us as we passed by, a good entrance large and wide, lat. 32 deg. 40 min. in or thereabouts. Now our understanding of the Land of *Port-Royal*, River *Jordan*, River *Grandie*, or *Edistow*, is as followeth: The Lands are laden with large tall Oaks, VValnut and Bayes, except facing on the Sea, it is most Pines tall and good: The Land generally, except where the Pines grow, is a good Soyl, covered with black Mold, in some places a foot, in some places half a foot, and in other places lesse, with Clay underneath mixed with Sand; and we think may produce any thing as well as most part of the Indies that we have seen. The *Indians* plant in the worst Land, because they cannot cut down the Timber in the best, and yet have plenty of Corn, Pumpions, Water-Mellons, Musk-mellons: although the Land be over-grown with weeds through their lazinesse, yet they have two or three crops of Corn a year, as the *Indians* themselves inform us. The Country abounds with Grapes, large Figs, and Peaches; the Woods with Deer, Conies, Turkeys, Quails, Curlues, Plovers, Teile, Herons; and as the *Indians* say, in Winter, with Swans, Geese, Cranes, Duck and Mallard, and innumerable of other water-Fowls, whose names we know not, which lie in the Rivers, Marshes, and on the Sands: Oysters in abundance, with great store of Muscles; A sort of fair Crabs, and a round Shel-fish called *Horse-feet*; The Rivers stored plentifully with Fish that we saw play and leap. There are great Marshes, but most as far as we saw little worth, except for a Root that grows in them the *Indians* make good Bread of. The Land we suppose is healthful; for the *English* that were cast away on that Coast in *July* last, were there most part of that time of year that is sickly in *Virginia*; and notwithstanding hard usage, and lying on the ground naked, yet had their perfect healths all the time. The Natives are very healthful; we saw many very Aged amongst them. The Ayre is clear and sweet, the Countrey very pleasant and delightful: And we could wish, that all they that want a happy settlement, of our *English* Nation, were well transported thither, &c.

FROM



**F**rom *Tuesday* the 29th of *September*, to *Friday* the second of *October*, we ranged along the shoar from the lat. 32 deg. 20 min. to the lat. 33 deg. 11 min. but could discern no Entrance for our Ship, after we had passed to the Northwards of 32 deg. 40 min. On *Saturday* the third instant, a violent storm came up, the winde between the North and the East; which Easterly windes and fowl weather continued till *Monday* the 12th. By reason of which storms and fowl weather, we were forced to get off to Sea to secure our selves and ship, and were horsed by reason of a strong Current, almost to Cape *Hatterasse* in lat. 35 deg. 30 min. On *Monday* the 12th aforesaid we came to an Anchor in seven fathom at *Cape Fair-Road*, and took the Meridian-Altitude of the Sun, and were in the lat. 33 deg. 43 min. the winde continuing still Easterly, and fowl weather till *Thursday* the 15th instant; and on *Friday* the 16th, the winde being at *N. W.* we weighed, and sailed up *Cape Fair-River*, some four or five leagues, and came to an Anchor in six or seven fathom; at which time several *Indians* came on Board, and brought us great store of Fresh-fish, large Mulletts, young Bass, Shads, and several other sorts of very good well-tasted Fish. On *Saturday* the 17th, we went down to the Cape to see the English Cattel, but could not finde them, though we rounded the Cape: And having an *Indian* Guide with us, here we rode till the 24th instant; the winde being against us, we could not go up the River with our Ship; in which time we went on shoar, and viewed the land of those quarters. On *Saturday* we weighed, and sayled up the River some four leagues or thereabouts. *Sunday* the 25th, we weighed again, and towed up the River, it being calm, and got up some fourteen leagues from the Harbours mouth, where we moored our Ship. On *Monday* the 26 *October*, we went down with the Yoal to *Necoos*, an *Indian* Plantation, and viewed the Land there. On *Tuesday* the 27th, we rowed up the main River with our long-Boat and twelve men, some ten leagues or thereabouts. On *Wednesday* the 28th, we rowed up about eight or nine leagues more. *Thursday* the 29th was foul weather, of much rain and winde, which forced us to make Huts, and lye still. *Friday* the 30th, we proceeded up the main River, seven or eight leagues. *Saturday* the 31, we got up three or four leagues more, and came to a Tree that lay  
athwart

athwart the River: but because our Provisions were neer spent, we proceeded no further, but returned downward the remainder of that day; and on *Monday* the second of *November*, we came aboard our Ship. *Tuesday* the third, we lay still to refresh ourselves. On *Wednesday* the 4th, we went five or six leagues up the River to search a branch that ran out of the main River towards the *N. W.* In which branch we went up five or six leagues: not liking the Land, we returned on board that night about midnight, and called that place *Swampy-branch*. *Thursday* the fifth instant, we staid aboard; on *Friday* the 6th we went up *Greens River*, the mouth of it being against the place we rode with our Ship. On *Saturday* the 7th, we proceeded up the said River some fourteen or fifteen leagues in all, and found that it ended in several small branches; the Land for the most part being marshy and swamps, we returned towards our ship, and got aboard in the night: *Sunday* the 8th instant we lay still, and on *Monday* the 9th we went again up the main River, being well provided with Provisions and all things necessary, and proceeded upwards till *Thursday* noon 12th instant, at which time we came to a place where two Islands were in the middle of the River, and by reason of the crookednesse of the *River* at that place, several Trees lay athwart both branches, which stopped up the passage of each branch, that we could proceed no further with our Boat; but we went up the River side by land some three or four miles, and found the River to enlarge it self: So we returned, leaving it as far as we could see up a long reach running *N. E.* we judging our selves from the Rivers mouth North near fifty leagues; we returned, viewing the Land on both sides the River, and found as good tracts of land, dry, well wooded, pleasant and delightful as we have seen any where in the world, with great burthen of Grasse on it, the land being very level, with steep banks on both sides the River, and in some places very high, the woods stor'd with abundance of Deer and Turkies every where; we never going on shoar, but saw of each also Partridges great store, Cranes abundance, Conies, which we saw in several places; we heard several Wolves howling in the woods, and saw where they had torn a Deer in pieces. Also in the River we saw great store of Ducks, Teile, VVidgeon, and in the woods great flocks of Parrakeeto's; the Timber that the woods afford for the most part consisting of Oaks of four or five sorts, all differing in leaves, but all bearing Akorns very good: we measured many of the Oaks in several places, which we found to be in bignesse some two, some three, and others almost four fathoms; in height, before  
you

you come to boughs or limbs, forty, fifty, sixty foot, and some more, and those Oaks very common in the upper parts of both Rivers; Also a very tall large Tree of great bignesse, which some do call *Cyprus*, the right name we know not, growing in Swamps. Likewise Walnut, Birch, Beech, Maple, Ash, Bay, Willough, Alder and Holly; and in the lowermost parts innumerable of Pines, tall and good for boards or masts, growing for the most part in barren sandy ground, but in some places up the River in good ground, being mixed amongst Oaks and other Timber. We saw several Mulberry-trees, multitudes of Grape-Vines, and some Grapes which we did eat of. VVe found a very large and good tract of Land on the N. W. side of the River, thin of Timber, except here and there a very great Oak, and full of Grasse, commonly as high as a mans middle, and in many places to his shoulders, where we saw many Deer and Turkies; also one Deer with very large horns, and great in body, therefore called it *Stag-Park*: it being a very pleasant and delightful place, we travelled in it several miles, but saw no end thereof. So we returned to our Boat, and proceeded down the River, and came to another place some twenty five leagues from the Rivers mouth on the same side, where found a place no lesse delightful than the former; and as far as we could judge, both Tracts came into one. This lower place we called *Rocky-point*, because we found many Rocks and Stones of several bignesse upon the Land, which is not common. We sent our Boat down the River before us; our selves travelling by Land many miles, were so much taken with the pleasantness of the Land, that travelling into the woods so far, we could not recover our Boat and company that night. On *Sunday* the morrow following we got to our Boat, and on *Monday* the 16th of *November*, we proceeded down to a place on the East-side of the River some twenty three leagues from the Harbours mouth, which we call'd *Turkie-Quarters*, because we killed several Turkies thereabouts. VVe viewed the Land there, and found some tracts of good Land, and high, facing upon the River about one mile inward, but backwards some two miles all Pine-land, but good pasture-ground: we returned to our Boat, and proceeded down some two or three leagues, where we had formerly viewed, and found it a tract of as good Land as any we have seen, with as good Timber on it. The banks of the River being high, therefore we called it *High-Land Point*. Having viewed that, we proceeded down the River, going on shoar in several places on both sides, it being generally large Marshes, and many of them dry, that they may  
more

more fitly be called Meadows: the wood-land against them is for the most part Pine, and in some places as barren as ever we saw Land, but in other places good Pasture-ground: And on *Tuesday* the 17th instant, we got aboard our Ship, riding against the mouth of *Green's River*, where our men are providing wood, and fitting the Ship for the Sea: In the interim, we took some view of the Land on both sides of the River there, finding some good Land, but more bad, and the best not comparable to that above. *Friday* the 20th instant was foul weather, yet in the Afternoon we weighed, and went down the River some two leagues, and came to Anchor against the mouth of *Hilton's River*, and took some view of the Land there on both sides, which appeared to us much like unto that at *Green's River*. *Monday* 23. we went with our Long-boat well victualled and manned up *Hilton's River*; and when we came three leagues or thereabouts up the said River, we found this and *Green's River* to come into one, and so continued for four or five leagues, which causeth a great Island betwixt them. We proceeded still up the River, till they parted again, keeping up *Hilton's River* on the Lar-board side, and followed the said River five or six leagues further, where we found another large branch of *Green's River* to come into *Hilton's*, which maketh another great Island. On the Star-board side going up, we proceeded stil up the River some four leagues, and returned, taking a view of the Land on both sides, and now judge our selves to be from our ship some eighteen leagues *W.* and by *W.* One league below this place came four *Indians* in a Canoa to us, and sold us several baskets of Akorns, which we satisfied for, and so left them; but one of them followed us on the shoar some two or three miles, till he came on the top of a high bank, facing on the *River*, we rowing underneath it, the said *Indian* shot an Arrow at us, which missed one of our men very narrowly, and stuck in the upper edge of the Boat, which broke in pieces, leaving the head behind. Hereupon we presently made to the shoar, and went all up the bank except four to guide the Boat; we searched for the *Indian*, but could not finde him: At last we heard some sing further in the Woods, which we thought had been as a Challenge to us to come and fight them. We went towards them with all speed, but before we came in sight of them, we heard two Guns go off from our Boat, whereupon we retreated with all speed to secure our Boat and Men: when we came to them, we found all well, & demanded the reason of their firing the Guns: they told us that an *Indian* came creeping on the Bank as they thought to shoot

at them, therefore shot at him a great distance with Swan-shot, but thought they did him no hurt, for they saw him run way. Presently after our return to the Boat, while we were thus talking, came two *Indians* to us with their Bows and Arrows, crying *Bonny, Bonny*: we took their Bows and Arrows from them, and gave them Beads, to their content. Then we led them by the hand to the Boat, and shewed them the Arrow-head sticking in her side, and related to them the businesse; which when they understood, both of them manifested much sorrow, and made us understand by signes, that they knew nothing of it: so we let them go, and marked a Tree on the top of the bank, calling the place *Mount-Skerry*. We looked up the River as far as we could discern, and saw that it widened it self, and came running directly down the Countrey: So we returned, and viewed the Land on both sides the River, finding the banks steep in some places, but very high in others. The banks sides are generally Clay, and as some of our company doth affirm, some Marle. The Land and Timber up this River is no way inferiour to the best in the other, which we call the main-River: So far as we discovered, this seems as fair, if not fairer than the former, and we think runs further into the Countrey, because there is a strong Current comes down, and a great deal more drift-wood. But to return to the business of the Land and Timber: We saw several plats of Ground cleared by the *Indians* after their weak manner, compassed round with great Timber-Trees; which they are no ways able to fall, and so keep the Sun from their Corn-fields very much; yet nevertheless we saw as large Corn-stalks or bigger, than we have seen any where else: So we proceeded down the River, till we found the Canoa the *Indian* was in who shot at us. In the morning we went on shoar, and cut the same in pieces: the *Indians* perceiving us coming towards them, run away. We went to his Hut, and pulled it down, brake his pots, platters, and spoons, tore his Deer-skins and Mats in pieces, and took away a basket of Akorns: So we proceeded down the River two leagues, or thereabouts, and came to another place of *Indians*, bought Akorns and some Corn of them, and went downwards two leagues more: at last we espied an *Indian* peeping over a high bank: we held up a Gun at him; and calling to him, said, *Skerry*: presently several *Indians* appeared to us, making great signes of friendship, saying, *Bonny, Bonny*, and running before us, endeavouring to perswade us to come on shoar; but we answered them with stern countenances, and said, *Skerry*, taking up our guns, and threatening to shoot at them;

them; but they cried still *Bonny, Bonny*: And when they saw they could not prevail, nor perswade us to come on shoar, two of them came off to us in a Canoa, one padding with a great Cane, the other with his hand; they came to us, and laid hold of our Boat, sweating and blowing, and told us it was *Bonny* on shoar, and at last perswaded us to go ashoar with them. As soon as we landed, several *Indians*, to the number of near forty lusty men, came to us, all in a great sweat, and told us *Bonny*: we shewed them the Arrow-head in the Boats-side, and a piece of the Canoa which we had cut in pieces: the chief man of them made a large Speech, and threw Beads into our Boat, which is a signe of great love and friendship; and made us to understand, when he heard of the Affront which we had received, it caused him to cry: and now he and his men were come to make peace with us, making signes to us that they would tye his Arms, and cut off his head that had done us that abuse; and for a further testimony of their love and good will towards us, they presented to us two very handsom proper young *Indian* women, the tallest that we have seen in this Countrey; which we supposed to be the Kings Daughters, or persons of some great account amongst them. These young women were ready to come into our Boat; one of them crouding in, was hardly perswaded to go out again. We presented to the King a Hatchet and several Beads, also Beads to the young women and to the chief men, and to the rest of the *Indians*, as far as our Beads would go: they promised us in four days to come on board our Ship, and so departed from us. When we left the place, which was presently, we called it *Mount-Bonny*, because we had there concluded a firm Peace. Proceeding down the River two or three leagues further, we came to a place where were nine or ten Canoa's all together; we went ashoar there, and found several *Indians*, but most of them were the same which had made Peace with us before: We made little stay there, but went directly down the River, and came to our Ship before day. *Thursday* the 26th of *November*, the winde being at South, we could not go down to the Rivers mouth: but on *Friday* the 27th, we weighed at the mouth of *Hilton's River*, and got down one league towards the Harbours mouth. On *Sunday* the 29th, we got down to *Crane-Island*, which is four leagues or thereabouts above the Entrance of the Harbours mouth. Now on *Tuesday* the first of *December*, we made a purchase of the River and land of *Cape-Fair*, of *Wattcoosa*, and such other *Indians* as appeared to us to be the chief of those parts: they brought us store of Fresh-fish aboard, as Mulletts, Shads,

Shads, and other very good Fish: this River is all Fresh-water fit to drink. Some eight leagues within the mouth, the Tide runs up about thirty five leagues, but stops and riseth a great deal farther up; it flowes at the Harbours mouth S. E. and N. W. six foot at Neap-Tides, and eight foot at Spring-Tides: the Chanel on the Easter-side by the *Cape-shoar* is the best, and lyes close aboard the *Cape-land*, being three fathoms at High-water, in the shallowest place in the Chanel just at the Entrance; but as soon as you are past that place half a Cables length inward, you shall have six or seven fathoms, a fair turning Chanel into the River, and so continuing four or five leagues upwards; afterwards the Chanel is more difficult in some places six or seven fathoms, four or five, and in other places but nine or ten foot, especially where the River is broad. When the River comes to part, and grows narrow, there is all Chanel from side to side in most places; in some places you shall have five, six, or seven fathoms, but generally two or three, Sand and Oaze. We viewed the *Cape-land*, and judged it to be little worth, the Woods of it shrubby and low, the Land sandy and barren; in some places Grass and Rushes, and in other places nothing but clear sand: a place fitter to starve Cattel in our judgement, then to keep them alive; yet the *Indians*, as we understand, keep the *English Cattle* down there, and suffer them not to go off the said *Cape*, as we suppose, because the *Countrey-Indians* shall have no part with them, and as we think, are fallen out about them, who shall have the greatest share. They brought aboard our Ship very good and fat Beef several times, which they could afford very reasonable; also fat and very large Swine, good cheap penny-worths: but they may thank their friends of *New-England*, who brought their Hogs to so fair a Market. Some of the *Indians* brought very good Salt aboard us, and made signes, pointing to both sides of the Rivers mouth, that there was great store thereabouts. We saw up the River several good places for the setting up of Corn or Saw-mills. In that time as our businesse called us up and down the River and Branches, we kill'd of wild-fowl, four Swans, ten Geese, twenty nine Cranes, ten Turkeys, forty Duck and Mallard, three dozen of Parrakeeto's, and six or seven dozen of other small Fowls, as Curlues and Plovers, &c.

Whereas



**W**Hereas there was a Writing left in a Post at the Point of *Cape Fair* River, by those *New-England-men* that left Cattel with the *Indians* there, the Contents whereof tended not only to the disparagement of the Land about the said River, but also to the great discouragement of all those that should hereafter come into those Parts to settle: In Answer to that scandalous writing, We whose names are under-written do affirm, That we have seen facing on both sides of the River, and branches of *Cape-Fair* aforesaid, as good Land, and as well Timbred, as any we have seen in any other part of the world, sufficient to accommodate thousands of our *English* Nation, lying commodiously by the said River.

On *Friday* the 4th of *December*, the winde being fair, we put out to Sea, bound for *Barbadoes*; and on the 6th day of *January*, 1663, we came to Anchor in *Carlisle-Bay*; and after several known apparent dangers both by Sea and Land, have now brought us all in safety to our long-wish'd-for and much desired Port, to render an Accompt of our Discovery, the verity of which we aver.

*Anthony Long.*  
*William Hilton.*  
*Peter Fabian.*



## A Copy of the *Spanyard's* first Letter.

**I** Am come to this Town of Infidel-Indians, to seek some *English*, which my Gouvernour and Captain-General, *Don Alonso de Arangows, de Colis*, Cavalier, and Knight of the Order of *St. James*, for his Majesty, had notice that there was a Ship lost in that Port in which you are, that the men might not run any hazard of their lives, as those with me here have. *Don Adeleyers*, with the Governor of the Garison of *S. Augustine*, are gone to ransom and free the Subjects of the King your Master, *CHARLES* the Second: Wherefore I advise you, that if these *Indians* (although Infidels and *Barbarians*) have not killed any of the Christians, and do require as a gift or courtesie for those four men, four Spades, and four Axes, some Knives, and some Beads, and the four *Indians* which you have there, you deliver them, and that for their sakes that shall sayl on this Coast: you may send a Boat, who when she comes athwart the Port of *St. Ellens*, may hoist an Ancient twice or thrice, and I will do the same. The shortnesse of the dispatch I desire, for I want provision for my Soldiers, and the way is large. Your Servant desires you would give me a speedy Answer; and what may be done in your service, I shall do very willingly: And if you have none that can interpret the *Spanish* Tongue, you may write in your own, for here are your Countrey-men that can understand it: but if you can, let it be in *Spanish*.

*From the Capt. Alanso Argucles.*

*From St. Ellens the 22 of September. 1663.*



The Copies of our Letters sent to the  
 ENGLISH and SPANIARDS at St.  
*Ellens*, with the Answer of Mr. *William*  
*Davis*, and the *Spaniards* also, here inclo-  
 sed.

*Loving Friends and Country-men,*

WE are come up the River with our Ship, and are  
 resolved to come through by *Combibeh*, to St.  
*Ellens*, and to get you away by fair means, or  
 otherways. If that will not do, we have five of your company  
 already: and the Captain of *Edistow*, and one more are Pri-  
 soners with us, whom we intend to keep till we have rescued  
 all the *English* Prisoners out of the hands of the *Indians*.  
 Send us word by this Bearer what you know concerning the  
*Spaniards*; for the youth *Morgan* tells us, that the *Spaniards*  
 are come with Soldiers to fetch you away. Fail not to inform  
 us how things are. Nothing else at present, but remain

Your friend and Servant

WILL. HILTON.

*From on Board the Adventure,*  
*Septemb. 21. 1663.*



An Answer to the *Spanyards* Letter  
not understood.

*Honoured Sir,*

**W**Hereas wee received a Letter from you, the Contents whereof we understand not, because none of us could read *Spanish*: Our businesse is to demand and receive the *English* Prisoners from the hands of the *Indians*, and then they shall have their *Indians* which we have detained on Board, with satisfaction for their pains. We understand not at present that we have any businesse with you. Not else at present, but remain

*Your Friend and Servant in what I may,*

WILL. HILTON.

*From on Board the Adventure,  
Septemb. 23. 1663.*

To his honoured Friend the *Spanish*  
Captain at St. *Ellens*.

AN

---

**An Answer to Mr. *William Davis***  
his Lines written to us in the *Spanyard's Letter*, *Viz.*

Mr. *William Davis*,

**W**E received your Lines in the *Spanish Letter*, but hear nothing of your coming to us. Let your Keepers send you, and that without delay; for you may assure them, That we will be gone, and carry the *Indians* away with us, except they send the *English* suddenly on Board, and then they shall have their *Indians* upon our receipt of the *English*. Not else at present, but thank the *Spanish Captain* for the Pork and Venison he sent us. Remain

*Your loving Friend*

WILL. HILTON.

*From on Board the Adventure,*  
*September 24. 1663.*

To Mr. *William Davis* at St. *Ellens*.

SIR,

SIR,

WE have received your second Letter, and give you no Answer, for the Reason mentioned in our former Letter to you. Please to inform the *Indians*, That if they bring not the *English* Prisoners on Board us without further delay, we are resolved to carry their *Indians* we have on Board away: But if they will bring the *English*, they shall have theirs, with satisfaction. Also we thank you for your Venison and Pork. Not else at present, but remain

SIR,

*Your Friend and Servant in what I may*

WILL. HILTON.

*From on Board the Adventure*  
*Septemb. 24. 1663.*

To his Honoured Friend, the *Spanish*  
Captain at St. *Ellens*.

A Copy of the *Spanyard's* second Letter.

MY Governour and Capt. General, as soon as he had News that a Ship, by Nation *English*, was lost in that Port in which you now are, sent me with Soldiers of the Garison of St. *Augustine* in *Florida*, as they have at other times done, to free them from death; for which cause I came to this Port of St. *Ellens*, where I found all these *Indians* in a fright, fearing that you will do them some mischief: So having found four men of those that were lost, I thought good to advise you, that you might carry them in your company, giving some gifts to those *Indians* which they desire; which is, four Spades, four Axes, some Knives, and some Beads. This they desire, not as payment, but onely as an acknowledgment of a kindness for having saved their lives; which they have always done as Naturals who have given their obedience to the King our Master. And they do also desire you to let go those four *Indians* which are there: You may send a Boat when you discover the Points of St. *Ellens*; may hoist an Ancient two or three times, and I will do the same. I desire your Answer may be sodain; for I am scarce of Provisions, and the way is somewhat long: and if you have no body who understands *Spanish*, you may write in *English*, for here are your Countreymen who will interpret it.

*By the Captain Alanso Arguiles.*

*From St. Ellens, Septemb.  
23. 1663.*

Proposals



Proposals made to all such Persons as shall undertake to become the first Setlers on Rivers, Harbours, or Creeks, whose Mouth or Entrance is Southwards or Westwards of Cape St. Romana in the Province of Carolina, and execute the same at their own hazard and charge of Transportation, Ammunition, and Provision, as is hereafter expressed, &c.

## I.

**I**Mprimis, *It is agreed and consented to by us Thomas Mudyford, and Peter Colleton, Esquires, who are empowered by the Lords Proprietors to treat in their behalf; That in consideration of the good service which Captain Anthony Long, Captain William Hilton, and Mr. Peter Fabian have done in making so clear a Discovery on that Coast, They shall each of them enjoy to them and their Heirs for ever one thousand Acres of Land apiece upon the said River, Harbour, or Creeks, on such places as they shall desire, not taken up before.*

## II.

*Item, To Master Pyam Blowers, and Master John Hancock, five hundred Acres apiece, in manner as aforesaid.*

## III.

*Item, To all the Sea-men and Adventurers in the said Ship, one hundred Acres apiece in manner as aforesaid.*

## IV.

*Item, To every person that hath subscribed and paid, or hath subscribed and shall pay within two moneths next after the*  
*Date*



*Date hereof, unto the Treasurer appointed by the Committee for defraying the Charge of the late Discovery, and towards the publique Stock, five hundred Acres of Land, besides what they are otherways to receive and enjoy each for every thousand pounds of Sugar, and so for greater or lesser quantity proportionably, to possess and enjoy the same in manner as aforesaid; the said Adventurers having promised, That the severall and respective Persons above-intended, shall within five years next ensuing, have one Person white or black, young or old, transported at their Charge as aforesaid, on that or some other parcel of Land in the Province, for every hundred of Acres of Land that is or shall be due to them for their adventures as aforesaid: But when once taken up, to settle the same within one year after it is once taken up, or lose the Land.*

## V

*Item, To every Person that goes, or sends an Agent at his or their own cost with the first Ship or Fleet, or within six weeks next after the first Ship or Fleet that shall be set out from this Island (none to be accounted as first Settlers but such as do send in the first Fleet) Armed with a good Fire-lock, ten pounds of Powder, and twenty pounds of Bullet, or Lead, and Victualled for six moneths, shall have one hundred Acres of Land, and the like quantity of Acres for every Man-servant that he carrieth so armed and provided, to the person at whose charge they shall be transported as aforesaid.*

## VI.

*Item, To every person that shall second the first undertakers, that is to say, shall go within two months next after those that are accounted as first Settlers, armed and provided as aforesaid, seventy Acres of Land, and seventy Acres for every Man-servant that he or they shall carry or send Armed and provided as aforesaid.*

## VII.

*Item, To every person provided as aforesaid, that shall go within two years after the first undertakers, fifty Acres of Land, and as much to him or them for every Man-servant he or they shall carry or send, armed and provided as aforesaid.*

## VIII.

VIII.

Item, To every Free-woman above the age of twelve years, that shall go, or be carried thither within the first five years, forty Acres of Land.

IX.

Item, To all Male-Children above the age of fourteen years, the same quantity that is allowed to Free-men, and on the same Conditions.

X.

Item, The Lords Proprietors will grant unto every Parish one hundred Acres of Land for the Church and other publique uses.

XI.

Item, To every person that hath subscribed, and shall pay to the above-mentioned Discovery, who shall go or send an Agent within the first five years next after the first Settlers, forty Acres of Land; and as much to them for every Man-servant they shall carry or send within that time armed and provided as aforesaid, and the like quantity for all others so transporting themselves or servants within the first three years, who are not Subscribers.

XII.

Item, To every Man-servant that shall go with the first undertakers, fifty Acres of Land; and to such as go with the second Adventurers thirty Acres, and for all other servants that shall go within the first five years, twenty Acres, and for every Woman-servant ten Acres, to become due at the Expiration of the first Term of their servitude in that Country.

XIII.

Item, To the Owner of every Negro-Man or Slave, brought thither to settle within the first year, twenty acres; and for every Woman-Negro or Slave, ten acres of Land; and all Men-Negro's, or slaves after that time, and within the first five years,

years, ten acres, and for every Women-Negro or slave, five acres.

## XIV.

Item, That all the before-mentioned parcels of Land given, or to be given, allotted or granted to any person or persons whatsoever, shall be held and enjoyed to them, their Heirs and Assigns for ever, in free and common Soccage, according to the Tenure of East-Greenwich within the County of Kent, within the Kingdom of England (and not in Capite, or by Knights-service) paying as a fine once for all to the Lords Proprietors, or their Agents impowered to receive the same, one half-penny per acre for every Acre of Land that is or shall be taken up as aforesaid, or the value of the said half-penny per Acre, when the person who is to receive it shall receive his Deed or Copy of Record for his Land so taken up; and in lieu of all, and all manner of Rents, Services, Fines, Taxes and Impositions whatsoever, one ear of Indian Corn for every hundred acres of Land so taken up, at a certain time and place prescribed, if lawfully demanded.

## XV.

Item, It is further agreed, That every person shall or may take up their Land, or any part thereof, where they please, in any place not before taken up: Provided they do therein submit to such Method as the Governour and Council for the time being shall judge most safe and convenient.

## XVI.

Item, That the Lords Proprietors shall grant to the Free-Holders the Priviledge of choosing an annual Assembly, wherein by the consent of the said Lords, or their Delegates, they shall be impowered to make Lawes, and them confirm, publish, and abrogate, as in the great Charter is expressed; and that the Assembly may lawfully, without the consent of the Governour, complain to the said Lords of such Grievances as lye upon the People.

## XVII.

Item, That forasmuch as the Lords Proprietors or their Delegates may not be at all times there present, to consent to such

*such Lawes as are or shall be thought necessary; In such Case all Lawes and Orders made by the Governour, Council and Assembly, shall be in force untill the Denyall thereof by the Lords Proprietors shall be to them signified under their Hands in Writing.*

XVIII.

*Item, That the said Free-Holders shall have the freedome of Trade, Immunity of Customes, and Liberty of Conscience, and all other Priviledges made good unto them as amply and as fully as is at large expressed in the great Charter granted to the said Lords Proprietors from His Majesty.*

---

FINIS.

t  
t  
n  
s  
M  
s  
t  
t  
g  
te  
le  
er  
y  
la  
l  
v  
u  
te  
le

Don/w