

Section Three

The Shores of Virginia

Student Packet

Name: _____

Contents

THE SEALED BOX

Decoding 17th Century English (2 pages)
Examining *The Instructions* (4 pages)

THE ADVENTURERS

Original Settlers Activity & List (3 pages)

THE INSTRUCTIONS ~ Modern Copy

Primary Source Document



Decoding 17th Century English

Use the Authentic Language Dictionary List to help decode these passages from *Instructions to the Virginia Colonists*: Write a translation in the box below each passage. The first one is done for you.

...find out a safe port in the entrance of some navigable river, making choice of such a one as runneth farthest into the land...

Find a safe place at the start of a river big enough for your ships. Choose the river that goes the farthest inland.

When you have made choice of the river on which you mean to settle, be not hasty in landing your victuals and munitions; but first let Captain Newport discover how far that river may be found navigable...

...choose your place so far up as a bark of fifty tuns will float, then you may lay all your provisions ashore with ease...

...you must in no case suffer any of the native people of the country to inhabit between you and the sea coast...

...you shall do well to divide your six score men into three parts...

...your first work must be your storehouse for victuals; the other you may imploy in preparing your ground and sowing your corn and roots; the other ten of these forty you must leave as centinel at the haven's mouth.

Authentic Language Dictionary Activity

<i>Bark of Fifty tuns</i>	... A ship that will hold 100,000 pounds of supplies
<i>Centinel</i>	... Guards
<i>Hasty</i>	... Too fast
<i>Haven</i>	... A safe harbor
<i>Imploy</i>	... Use
<i>Inhabit</i>	... Live
<i>Mouth</i>	... Opening
<i>Navigable river</i>	... A river large enough for a ship to travel
<i>Provisions</i>	... Food and supplies
<i>Runneth farthest</i>	... Goes the longest distance
<i>Six score</i>	... 6 times 20 (a score)
<i>Sowing</i>	... Planting
<i>Suffer</i>	... Allow
<i>Natives - Savages</i>	... Indians
<i>Victuals and Munitions</i>	... Food and weapons

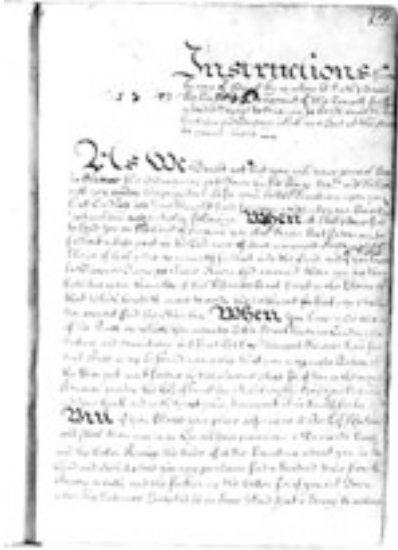
How would you say the following in 17th Century English?

The Indians live at the opening of a large river.
Our large ship is anchored 40 miles up the longest river in a safe harbor.
We have used 80 men to plant crops for our food and supplies.
We must use guards for protection of our food and weapons.

The Sealed Box

Decoding the Instructions

In this activity you will examine a copy of a Primary Source Document.



That means that the words are original. No one has translated or rewritten them. For a researcher these documents hold clues to the mysteries of the past. The original pages are stored in Washington D.C. in the Library of Congress in the Thomas Jefferson Collection. If you wish to see them, use the link at the bottom of each document copy.

See if you can find the following passages. Old style writing was often fancy-- full of curls and twists. Sometimes just a word or two is decipherable. Highlight the passage when you find it. You may wish to do this as a team project.



...find out a safe port in the entrance of some navigable river, making choice of such a one as runneth farthest into the land...

When you have made choice of the river on which you mean to settle, be not hasty in landing your victuals and munitions; but first let Captain Newport discover how far that river may be found navigable...

...choose your place so far up as a bark of fifty tuns will float, then you may lay all your provisions ashore with ease...

...you must in no case suffer any of the native people of the country to inhabit between you and the sea coast...

...you shall do well to divide your six score men into three parts...

...your first work must be your storehouse for victuals; the other you may employ in preparing your ground and sowing your corn and roots; the other ten of these forty you must leave as centinel at the haven's mouth.

Underline any words or phrases that are hard to understand. Words and ideas change over time. Examining old historic documents is something like a treasure hunt. You keep following the clues until you find what you're looking for.... or hit a dead end.

Instructions Given

by way of Advice by us whom it shall please
 the King to appoint of the Council for the
 intended Voyage to Virginia to be Observed by the
 Captain and Company which are sent at this present
 to plant there —

As We Doubt not but you will have especial Care
 to observe the Ordinances set Down by the Kings Ma^{ty} and to live
 unto you under the privy Seal So for your better Direction upon your
 first Landing we have thought good to recommend unto your Care these
 Instructions and articles following. **When** it shall please God
 to send you on the Coast of Virginia you shall Do your best Endeavour to
 find out a safe port in the Entrance of some navigable River, making
 choice of such a one as runneth furthest into the Land, and if you happen
 to Discover Divers portable Rivers and amongst them any one that
 hath two main Branches if the Difference be not Great make choice of
 that which becometh most towards the Northwest for that way I shall
 You soonest find the other Sea. **When** You have made choice
 of the River on which you mean to settle be not hasty in Landing your
 Victual and Munitions but first let Cap^t Newport Discover how far
 that River may be found navigable that you may make Election of
 the Strongest most fertile and wholesome place for if You make more
 Removes besides the Loss of time You shall greatly Spoil your Victuals
 and your Ex^{ts} and with Great pain transport it in small Boats.
But if You choose your place so far up as a Bark of fifty Tuns
 will float then you may Lay all your provisions a Shore with ease
 and the better Receive the trade of all the Countries about you in the
 Land and such a place you may perchance find a hundred Miles from the
 Rivers mouth and the farther up the better for if you sit Down
 near the Entrance Except it be in some Island that is Strong by nature

153

An Enemy Boat may approach you on your Ground may easily pull you out and if he be driven so farh you a hundred miles within the Land in Boats. you shall find both Sides of your River where it is narrowest so Boat them with your muskets as they shall pass so able to prevail against you.

Tend to the end that you be not surpris'd as the French were in Florida by Melindue and the Spaniard in the same place by the French you shall do well to make this Double provision first Erect a little Towne at the Mouth of the River that may Edge some ten miles with whom you shall have a Light Boat that when any fleet shall be in sight they may come with speed to give you warning. Secondly you must in no case suffer any of the natural people of the Country to inhabit betwixt you and the Sea Coast for you cannot carry your Solers towards them but they will grow Distantsuted with your habitations and be ready to guide and assist any Nation that shall come to invade you and if you neglect this you neglect your safety.

When you have Distressed as far up the River as you can to plant your Solers and Lande your victuals and munition to the end that every man may know his Charge you shall do well to divide your six Drags men into three parts whereof one fourth of them you may appoint to fortifie and build of which your first work must be your Storehouse for Victuals so Others you may employ in preparing your Ground, and sowing your Corn and Roots the other ten of these forty you must leave in Continual at the Nations mouth the other forty you may employ for two Months in Discovery of the River above you and on the contrary about you which Charge Captain Newport and Captain Gosnold may undertake of these forty Discoverers when they do give any high Land or little Capt. Holmead in you take 20 of the Company to cross over the Land and carrying half a Dozen pickaxes to try if they can find any mineral the other twenty may go on by River and pitch up Camps upon the Banks Sides by which the other Boats shall follow them by the same turnings you may also take with them a Wherry such as is used here in the Thames by which you may send out to the President for supply of munition or any other want that you shall not desire to return for every small defect.

QUESTIONS

After examining the Primary Source Document, *Instruction to the Virginia Colonists*, answer these questions. Be careful. There may be more than one correct answer.



1. What is the purpose of this document?

- to record the experiences of the settlers
- to assist them in finding a good place to settle
- to help them organize their colony
- to choose their leaders

2. What does this tell us about the plans for settling at Jamestown?

- the Virginia Company wanted it to succeed
- the job of the colonists was to find ways to make money for the Company
- the colony would not interact with the Native People
- the colony could depend upon the Company for regular supplies

3. What kind of area was recommended to the settlers?

- a place right on the Atlantic Ocean
- somewhere next to Native settlements
- someplace a distance upriver, that was easily protected
- a place next to a river deep enough for their ships to anchor close to land.

Look at John Smith's map of Jamestown Island and Virginia. You can find it at on the Maps section of Journey to Jamestown. Look at the location of Jamestown. Then answer this:

4. How well did the settlers follow the instructions from the Company in locating Jamestown? Explain.

5. Who do you think is being referred to by the passage in the Instructions, "when any fleet shall be in sight"?

- the natives
- pirates, the Spanish, or other Europeans in ships
- the men left as guards

105 Original Jamestown Settlers

Use the list of Original Jamestown Settlers to complete the table. With your teacher or class, decide how to classify the listed occupations of the Jamestown settlers. Then complete the pictograph and Key on the following page.

	Leaders	Skilled Laborers	Unskilled Laborers	Protection & Security
Occupation Or Title Listed	~	~	~	~
	~	~	~	~
	~	~	~	~
	~	~	~	~
Number of Passengers				

DEFINITIONS (Do with your class or use a dictionary or other reference.)



LEADERS:

SKILLED LABOR:

UNSKILLED LABOR:

SECURITY & PROTECTION:

Questions ~ Analysis (Complete these questions AFTER completing the Pictograph):

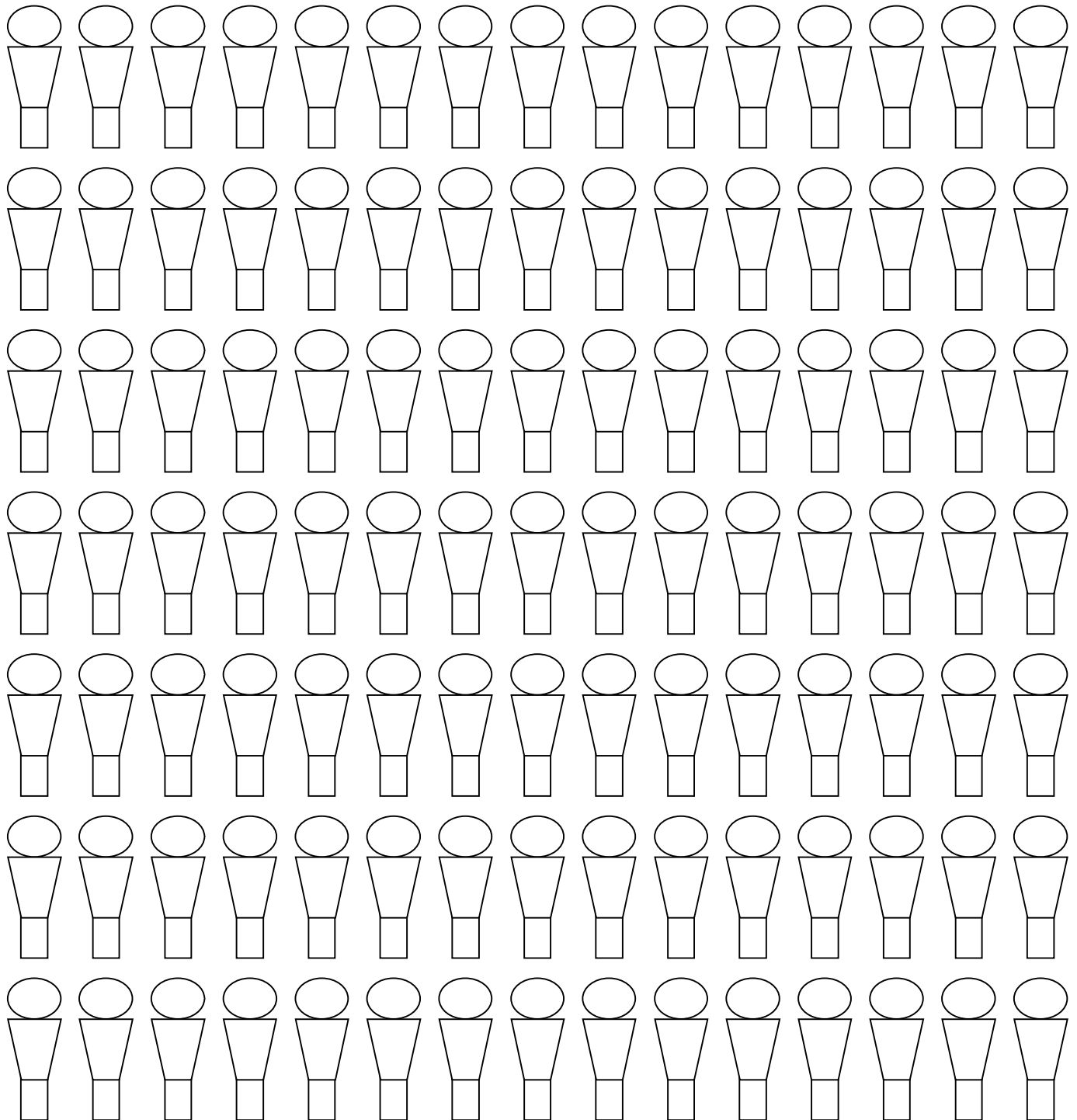
- Did the Virginia Company do a GOOD ~ FAIR or POOR job assembling this group of settlers? Why?
- What changes would you have made to this list?
- Many individuals were listed as “divers others.” How did you decide to classify them?
- What other information would you want to know about any of the individuals listed?

105 Original Jamestown Settlers

KEY

Leaders	
Skilled	
Unskilled	
Security	

Examine the list of Original Jamestown Settlers. <http://www.apva.org/history/orig.html>. Then use colored pencils or markers to finish this pictograph. Be sure to complete the Key Chart.



The First Residents of Jamestown...

Those who remained behind when the ships returned to England after the settlement had been established.

Adling, Henry	<i>Gentleman</i>	Jacob, Thomas.....	<i>Sergeant</i>
Alicock, Jeremy	<i>Gentleman</i>	Johnson, William...	<i>Laborer</i>
Archer, Gabriel.....	<i>Gentleman, Captain</i>	*Kendall, George.....	<i>Captain</i>
Asbie, John		Kingston, Ellis.....	<i>Gentleman</i>
Beast, Benjamin	<i>Gentleman</i>	Laxton, William.....	<i>Carpenter</i>
Behethland, Robert	<i>Gentleman</i>	Laydon, John.....	<i>Laborer, Carpenter</i>
Brinton, Edward	<i>Mason, Soldier</i>	Loue, William.....	<i>Tailor, Soldier</i>
Brookes, Edward	<i>Gentleman</i>	Martin, John.....	<i>Gentleman</i>
Brookes, John.....	<i>Gentleman</i>	Martin, George.....	<i>Gentleman</i>
Browne, Edward.....	<i>Gentleman</i>	*Martin, John.....	<i>Captain</i>
Brumfield, James.....	<i>Boy</i>	Midwinter, Francis.....	<i>Gentleman</i>
Bruster, William.....	<i>Gentleman</i>	Morish, Edward.....	<i>Gentleman,</i>
Buckler, Andrew.....		Morton, Matthew.....	<i>Sailor</i>
Capper, John.....		Mounslic, Thomas.....	
Cassen, George.....	<i>Laborer</i>	Mouton, Thomas.....	
Cassen, Thomas.....	<i>Laborer</i>	Mullon, Richard.....	<i>Boy</i>
Cassen, William.....	<i>Laborer</i>	Pecock, Nathaniel.....	<i>Boy, Sailor, Soldier</i>
Clovill, Ustis.....	<i>Gentleman</i>	Penington, John.....	<i>Gentleman</i>
Collier, Samuel.....	<i>Boy</i>	Percy, George.....	<i>Master, Gentleman</i>
Cooke, Roger.....	<i>Gentleman</i>	Pickhouse, Dru.....	<i>Gentleman</i>
Couper, Thomas.....	<i>Barber</i>	Pising, Edward.....	<i>Carpenter</i>
Crofts, Richare.....	<i>Gentleman</i>	Powell, Nathaniell	<i>Gentleman</i>
Waller, Johnv.....	<i>Gentleman</i>	Webbe, Thomas.....	<i>Gentleman</i>
Dier, William.....		Profit, Jonas.....	<i>Sailor, Fisher,</i>
Dixon, Richard.....	<i>Gentleman</i>	*Ratcliffe, John.....	<i>Captain</i>
Dods, John.....	<i>Laborer, Soldier</i>	Read, James.....	<i>Blacksmith, Soldier</i>
Edward, Ould.....	<i>Laborer</i>	Robinson, John.....	<i>Gentleman</i>
Emry, Thomas.....	<i>Carpenter</i>	Rods, William.....	<i>Laborer</i>
Fenton, Robert.....	<i>Gentleman</i>	Sands, Thomas.....	<i>Gentleman</i>
Flower, George.....	<i>Gentleman</i>	Short, Thomas.....	<i>Gentleman</i>
Ford, Robert.....	<i>Gentleman</i>	Simons, Richard.....	<i>Gentleman</i>
Frith, Richard.....	<i>Gentleman</i>	Scot, Nicholas.....	<i>Drummer</i>
Galthorpe, Stephen...	<i>Gentleman</i>	Small, Rober t	<i>Carpenter</i>
Garret, William.....	<i>Bricklayer</i>	Smethes, William	<i>Gentleman</i>
Golding, George.....	<i>Laborer</i>	*Smith, John	<i>Captain</i>
Gore, Thomas.....	<i>Gentleman</i>	Snarsbrough, Francis...	<i>Gentleman</i>
*Gosnold, Bartholomew ...	<i>Captain</i>	Stevenson, John	<i>Gentleman</i>
Gower, Thomas.....	<i>Gentleman</i>	Studley, Thomas	<i>Gentleman</i>
Halthrop, Stephen	<i>Gentleman</i>	Tankard, William	<i>Gentleman</i>
Herd, John.....	<i>Bricklayer</i>	Tavin, Henry.....	<i>Laborer</i>
Houlgrave, Nicholas...	<i>Gentleman</i>	White, William.....	<i>Laborer</i>
Hunt, Robert.....	<i>Master, Preacher,</i>	Wilkinson, William	<i>Surgeon</i>
Walker, George.....	<i>Gentleman</i>	*Wingfield, Edward Maria..	<i>Master, President</i>
Wotton, Thomas.....	<i>Gentleman, Surgeon</i>	A Dutchman.....	

“with diverse others, to the number of 105”

Instructions for the Virginia Colony, 1606

As we doubt not but you will have especial care to observe the ordinances set down by the King's Majesty and delivered unto you under the Privy Seal; so for your better directions upon your first landing we have thought good to recommend unto your care these instructions and articles following.

When it shall please God to send you on the coast of Virginia, you shall do your best endeavour to find out a safe port in the entrance of some navigable river, making choice of such a one as runneth farthest into the land, and if you happen to discover divers portable rivers, and amongst them any one that hath two main branches, if the difference be not great, make choice of that which bendeth most toward the North-West for that way you shall soonest find the other sea.

When you have made choice of the river on which you mean to settle, be not hasty in landing your victuals and munitions; but first let Captain Newport discover how far that river may be found navigable, that you make election of the strongest, most wholesome and fertile place; for if you make many removes, besides the loss of time, you shall greatly spoil your victuals and your caske, and with great pain transport it in small boats.

But if you choose your place so far up as a bark of fifty tuns will float, then you may lay all your provisions ashore with ease, and the better receive the trade of all the countries about you in the land; and such a place you may perchance find a hundred miles from the river's mouth, and the further up the better. For if you sit down near the entrance, except it be in some island that is strong by nature, an enemy that may approach you on even ground, may easily pull you out; and if he be driven to seek you a hundred miles [in] the land in boats, you shall from both sides of the river where it is narrowest, so beat them with your muskets as they shall never be able to prevail against you.

And to the end that you be not surprised as the French were in Florida by Melindus, and the Spaniard in the same place by the French, you shall do well to make this double provision. First, erect a little stoure at the mouth of the river that may lodge some ten men; with whom you shall leave a light boat, that when any fleet shall be in sight, they may come with speed to give you warning. Secondly, you must in no case suffer any of the native people of the country to inhabit between you and the sea coast; for you cannot carry yourselves so towards them, but they will grow discontented with your habitation, and be ready to guide and assist any nation that shall come to invade you; and if you neglect this, you neglect your safety.

When you have discovered as far up the river as you mean to plant yourselves, and landed your victuals and munitions; to the end that every man may know his charge, you shall do well to divide your six score men into three parts; whereof one party of them you may appoint to fortifie and build, of which your first work must be your storehouse for victuals; the other you may employ in preparing your ground and sowing your corn and roots; the other ten of these forty you must leave as centinel at the haven's mouth. The other forty you may employ for two months in discovery of the river above you, and on the country about you; which charge Captain Newport and Captain Gosnold may undertake of these forty discoverers. When they do espie any high lands or hills, Captain Gosnold may take twenty of the company to cross over the lands, and carrying a half dozen pickaxes to try if they can find any minerals. The other twenty may go on by river, and pitch up boughs upon the bank's side, by which the other boats shall follow them by the same turnings. You may also take with them a wherry, such as is used here in the Thames;

by which you may send back to the President for supply of munition or any other want, that you may not be driven to return for every small defect.

You must observe if you can, whether the river on which you plant doth spring out of mountains or out of lakes. If it be out of any lake, the passage to the other sea will be more easy, and [it] is like enough, that out of the same lake you shall find some spring which run[s] the contrary way towards the East India Sea; for the great and famous rivers of Volga, Tan[a]is and Dwina have three heads near joynd; and yet the one falleth into the Caspian Sea, the other into the Euxine Sea, and the third into the Paelonian Sea.

In all your passages you must have great care not to offend the naturals [natives], if you can eschew it; and imploy some few of your company to trade with them for corn and all other . . . victuals if you have any; and this you must do before that they perceive you mean to plant among them; for not being sure how your own seed corn will prosper the first year, to avoid the danger of famine, use and endeavour to store yourselves of the country corn.

Your discoverers that pass over land with hired guides, must look well to them that they slip not from them: and for more assurance, let them take a compass with them, and write down how far they go upon every point of the compass; for that country having no way nor path, if that your guides run from you in the great woods or desert, you shall hardly ever find a passage back.

And how weary soever your soldiers be, let them never trust the country people with the carriage of their weapons; for if they run from you with your shott, which they only fear, they will easily kill them all with their arrows. And whensoever any of yours shoots before them, be sure they may be chosen out of your best marksmen; for if they see your learners miss what they aim at, they will think the weapon not so terrible, and thereby will be bould to assault you.

Above all things, do not advertize the killing of any of your men, that the country people may know it; if they perceive that they are but common men, and that with the loss of many of theirs they diminish any part of yours, they will make many adventures upon you. If the country be populous, you shall do well also, not to let them see or know of your sick men, if you have any; which may also encourage them to many enterprizes.

You must take especial care that you choose a seat for habitation that shall not be over burthened with woods near your town; for all the men you have, shall not be able to cleanse twenty acres a year; besides that it may serve for a covert for your enemies round about.

Neither must you plant in a low or moist place, because it will prove unhealthfull. You shall judge of the good air by the people; for some part of that coast where the lands are low, have their people blear eyed, and with swollen bellies and legs; but if the naturals be strong and clean made, it is a true sign of a wholesome soil.

You must take order to draw up the pinnace that is left with you, under the fort: and take her sails and anchors ashore, all but a small kedge to ride by; least some ill-dispositioned persons slip away with her.

You must take care that your marriners that go for wages, do not mar your trade; for those that mind not to inhabite, for a little gain will debase the estimation of exchange, and hinder the trade for ever after; and therefore you shall not admit or suffer any person whatsoever, other than such

as shall be appointed by the President and Counsel there, to buy any merchandizes or other things whatsoever.

It were necessary that all your carpenters and other such like workmen about building do first build your storehouse and those other rooms of publick and necessary use before any house be set up for any private person: and though the workman may belong to any private persons yet let them all work together first for the company and then for private men.

And seeing order is at the same price with confusion, it shall be adviseably done to set your houses even and by a line, that your street may have a good breadth, and be carried square about your market place and every street's end opening into it; that from thence, with a few field pieces, you may command every street throughout; which market place you may also fortify if you think it needfull.

You shall do well to send a perfect relation by Captaine Newport of all that is done, what height you are seated, how far into the land, what commodities you find, what soil, woods and their several kinds, and so of all other things else to advertise particularly; and to suffer no man to return but by pasport from the President and Counsel, nor to write any letter of anything that may discourage others.

Lastly and chiefly the way to prosper and achieve good success is to make yourselves all of one mind for the good of your country and your own, and to serve and fear God the Giver of all Goodness, for every plantation which our Heavenly Father hath not planted shall be rooted out.