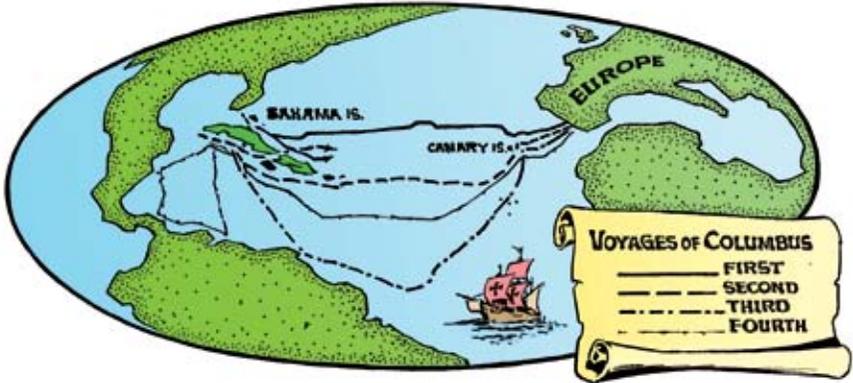




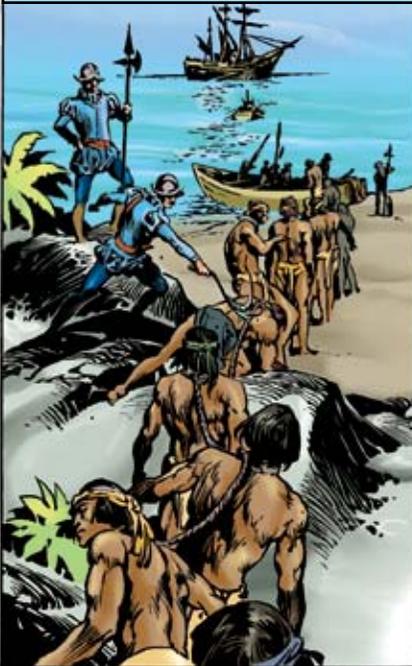
# THE NEW WORLD





On later voyages, Columbus explored the Bahamas, Cuba, the Virgin Islands, and Puerto Rico. He established the first permanent European settlement in the New World on the island of Santo Domingo, which he called *Hispaniola*. Not finding the riches he had hoped for, he divided the land and the Indians who lived on it among the Spanish settlers.

The natives who refused to work on the great sugar and cotton plantations were either killed or shipped to Spain to be sold as slaves.



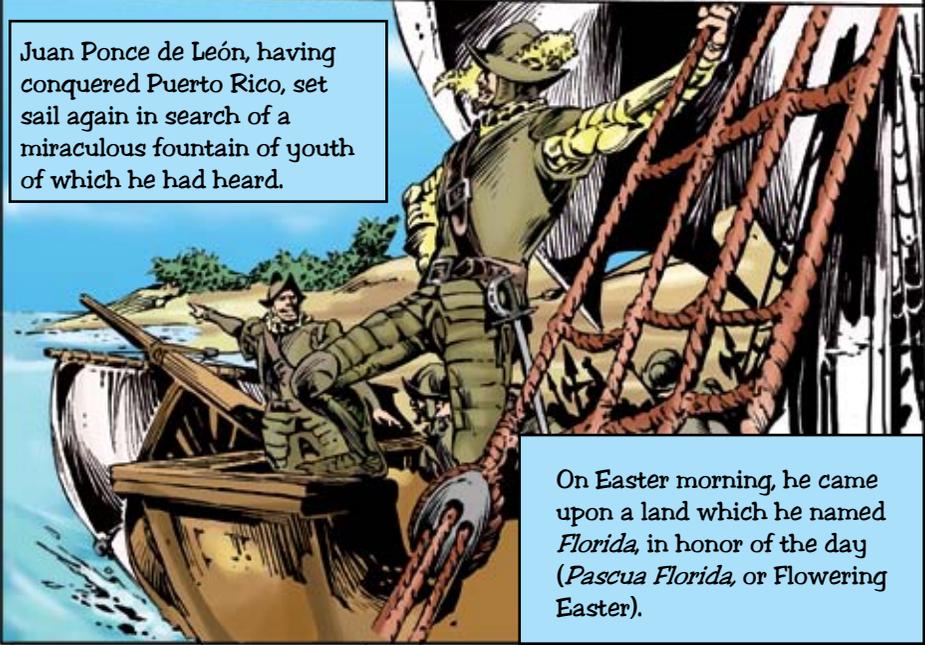
Great numbers of slaves were then imported from Africa to work the plantations.



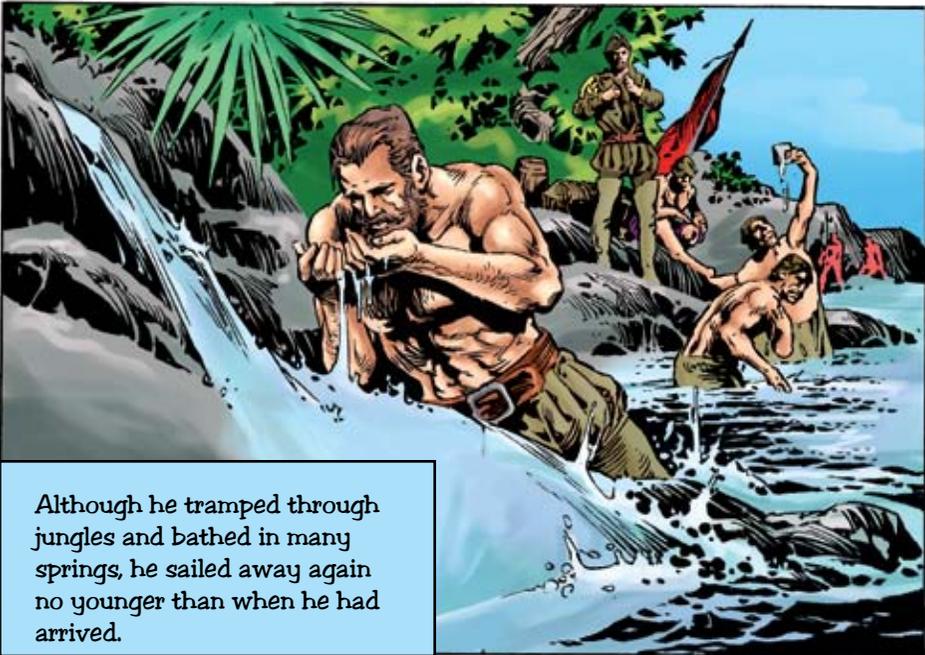
Within 50 years the 300,000 original natives of Hispaniola had been wiped out.

For 50 years after Columbus, Spain had no rivals in the New World. Spanish *conquistadores*\* first conquered the islands and then advanced to the mainland.

Juan Ponce de León, having conquered Puerto Rico, set sail again in search of a miraculous fountain of youth of which he had heard.



On Easter morning, he came upon a land which he named *Florida*, in honor of the day (*Pascua Florida*, or Flowering Easter).



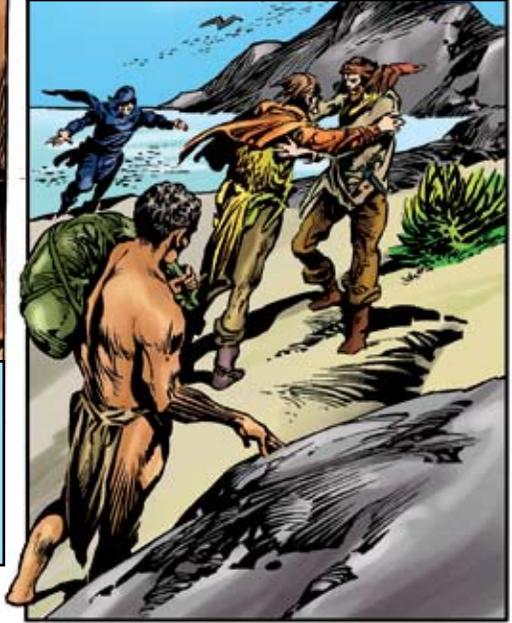
Although he tramped through jungles and bathed in many springs, he sailed away again no younger than when he had arrived.

\*Conquerors, soldiers, and explorers



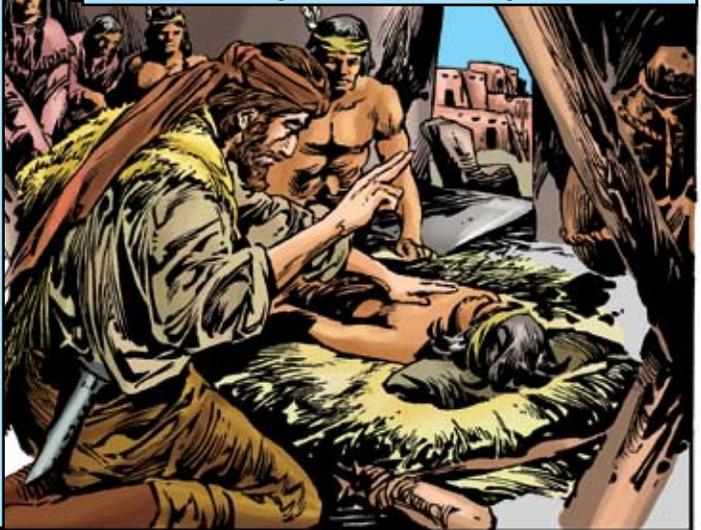
One of these was *Cabeza de Vaca*. He waded onto Galveston Island, where the Native Americans captured him and made him a slave.

Later he escaped. On the Texas coast he came across three other survivors—two Spaniards and an African slave, Estavanico.

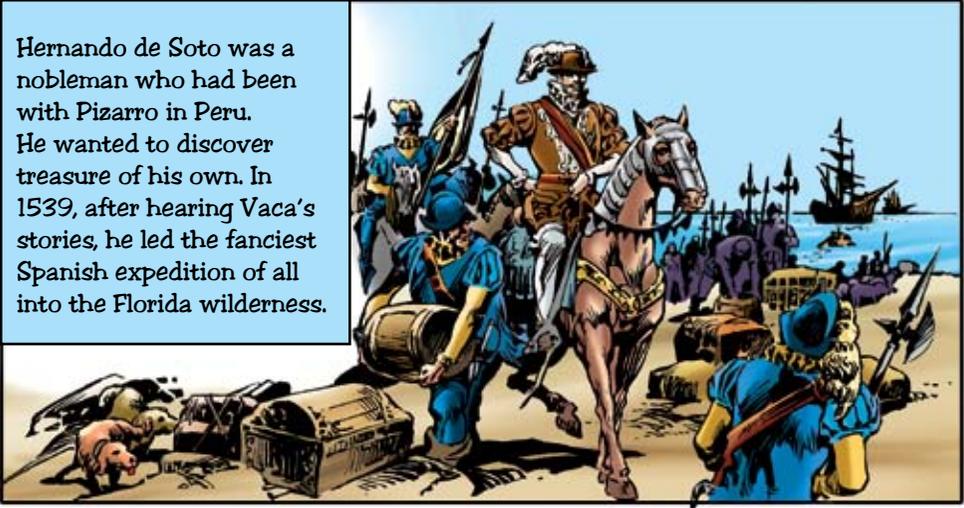


These men traveled on foot from tribe to tribe of Native Americans for over 2,000 miles... through west Texas, up the Colorado River, across the Pecos and the Rio Grande. They were the first Europeans to visit New Mexico and Arizona.

Vaca became famous as a medicine man who cured the sick by using prayers and the sign of the cross.



Hernando de Soto was a nobleman who had been with Pizarro in Peru. He wanted to discover treasure of his own. In 1539, after hearing Vaca's stories, he led the fanciest Spanish expedition of all into the Florida wilderness.



For months they marched through Georgia, Alabama, and Mississippi, finding only poor Native American villages. Their food and supplies gave out. They were ill, and at least 200 men died.

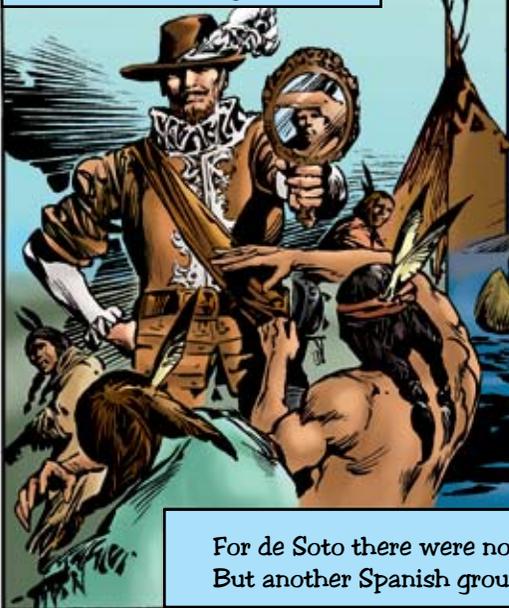


At last they stumbled upon the mile-wide Mississippi River.

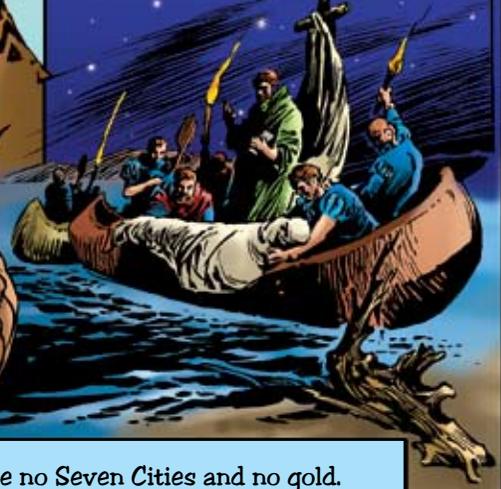


They hollowed out logs to make canoes and crossed into Arkansas.

To the Native Americans, de Soto posed as a god, using his mirror to make magic.

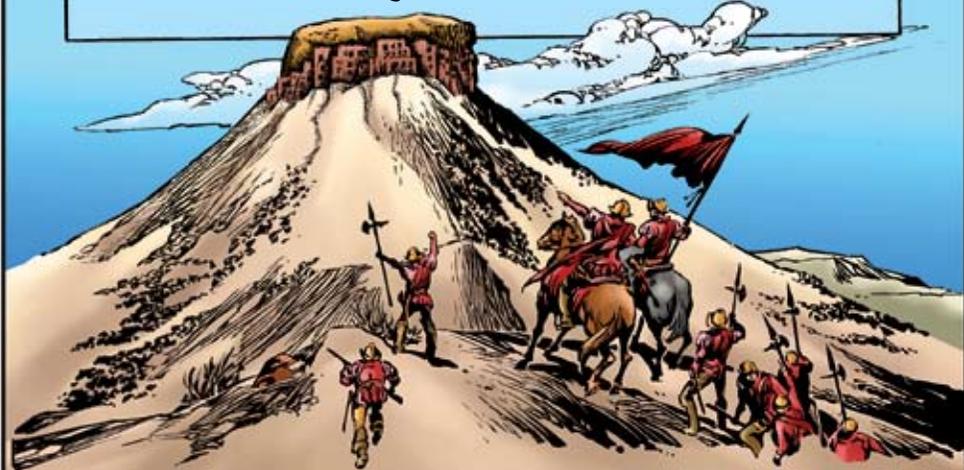


De Soto died of fever. His men were afraid to let the Native Americans know that he was a mortal man. They disposed of his body in the Mississippi River, secretly, at night.



For de Soto there were no Seven Cities and no gold.  
But another Spanish group did find the Seven Cities.

In 1540, Francisco de Coronado led an expedition northward from Mexico into New Mexico and Arizona. He had heard Vaca's tales of the Zuni warriors, fierce fighters with an ancient civilization.



The Zunis built houses of baked earth and rock, four and five stories high, with as many as a thousand rooms together, and located on high cliffs. When the desert sun shone on these cliff cities, they sparkled as if made of gold.

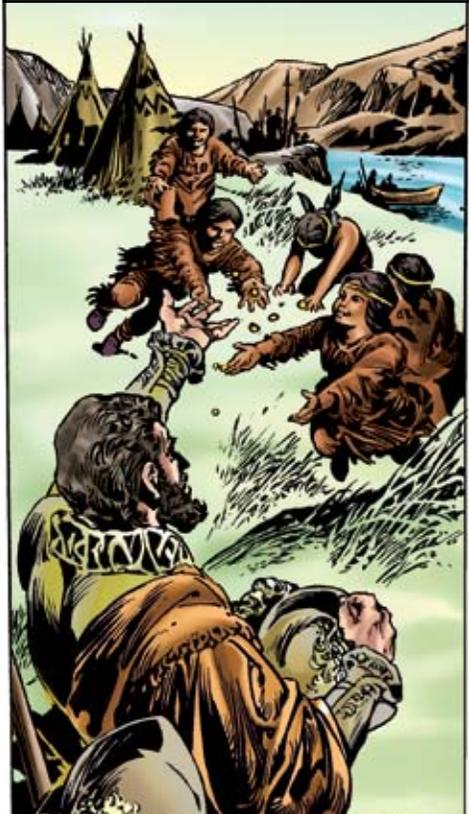
For 50 years Spain had no rivals in America. But in the 1530s Jacques Cartier, a French seaman, made several voyages to Canada, claiming that country for the French.

Cartier sailed his ships far up the broad St. Lawrence River to the present site of Quebec. They received a warm welcome from friendly natives, who brought food and led them to an Indian town.

Here the sick and crippled approached, begging Cartier to cure them. He read from the Gospel and made the sign of the cross over them.



He also gave gifts, including small rings that the children scrambled for.



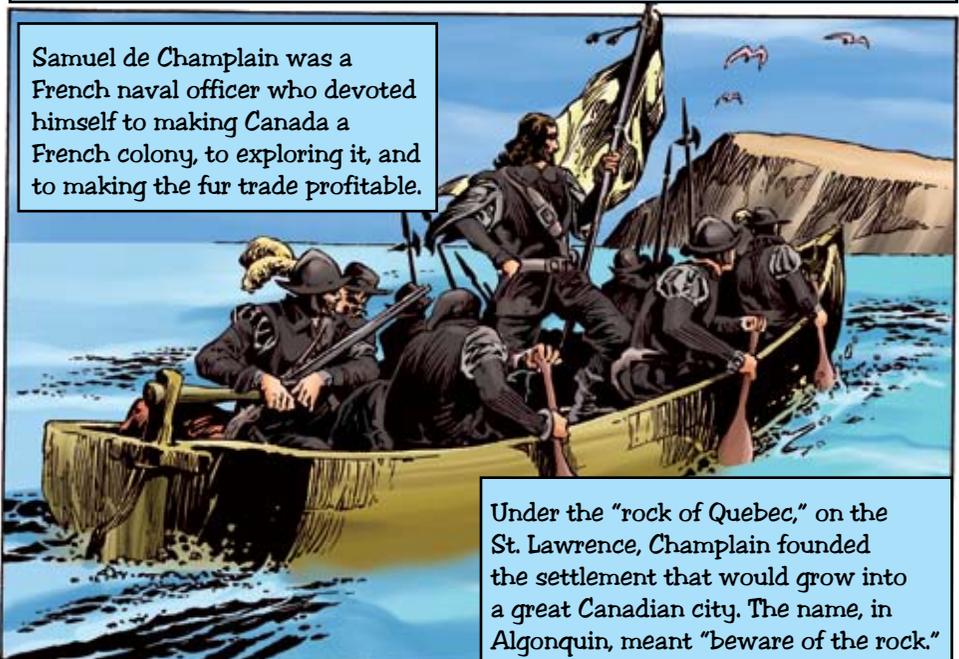
During a long, cold winter, the Frenchmen listened to native tales of a northern kingdom with mines of gold, silver, and rubies. But this kingdom could not be found, and they returned to France with no treasure.

In the summers following, French fishermen landed on the Canadian coast of Newfoundland. They found the natives there had furs to trade for axes, iron kettles, and cloth. Furs were highly valued in Europe.



The fishermen learned to bring a supply of trading goods. Fishing stations became trading posts. This began the French fur trade, which spread inland and led to the building of a chain of trading posts such as Port Royal, Quebec, and Montreal, which later became towns or cities.

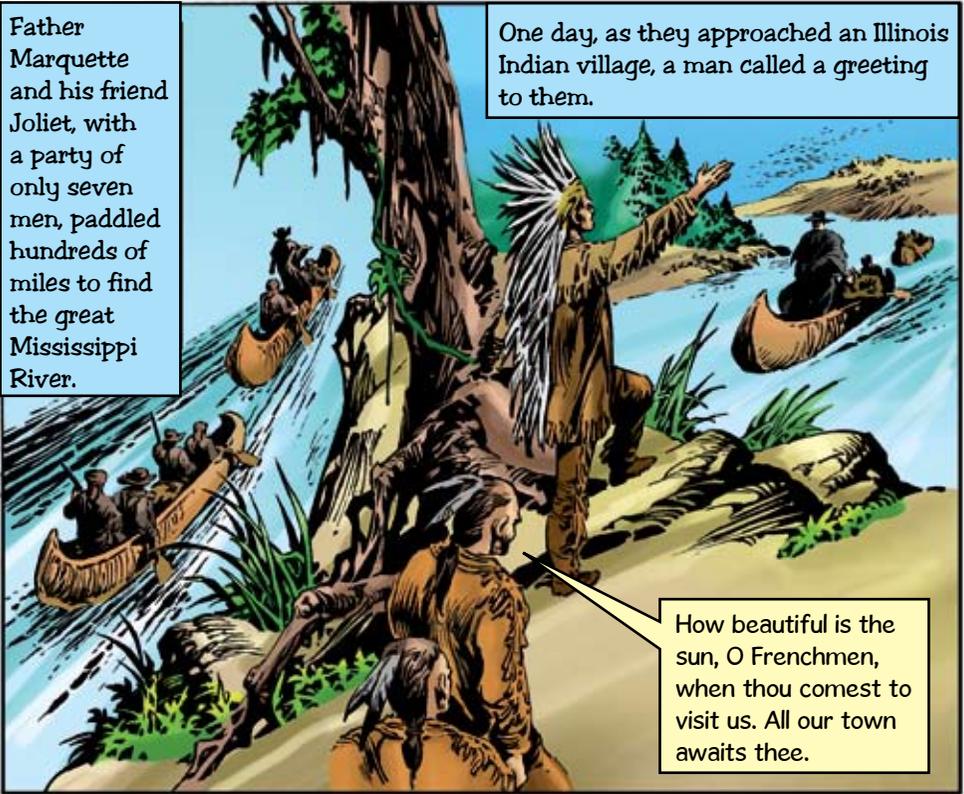
Samuel de Champlain was a French naval officer who devoted himself to making Canada a French colony, to exploring it, and to making the fur trade profitable.



Under the "rock of Quebec," on the St. Lawrence, Champlain founded the settlement that would grow into a great Canadian city. The name, in Algonquin, meant "beware of the rock."

Father Marquette and his friend Joliet, with a party of only seven men, paddled hundreds of miles to find the great Mississippi River.

One day, as they approached an Illinois Indian village, a man called a greeting to them.



How beautiful is the sun, O Frenchmen, when thou comest to visit us. All our town awaits thee.

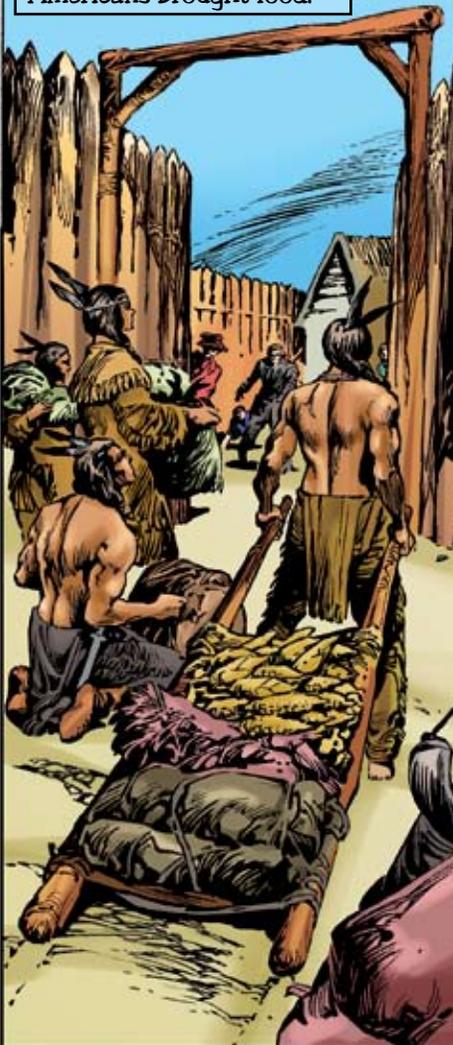
Father Marquette gave the natives gifts and spoke of God as their Creator. Afterward the Frenchmen were entertained at a feast. They were served fish and wild ox as well as a boiled cornmeal dish, which was fed to them by the spoonful as to children.



The settlers had come believing they would find diamonds and rubies on the beaches of Virginia and gold everywhere. They had not expected to work.

After their ships sailed for England, everything went wrong. Men were starving. Swamp mosquitoes spread disease, and many died. At the end of five months, not five men were capable of standing guard at the fort.

Then, like a miracle, Native Americans brought food.



Cooler weather dried up the swamps. And, like another miracle, Captain John Smith took charge of the colony.



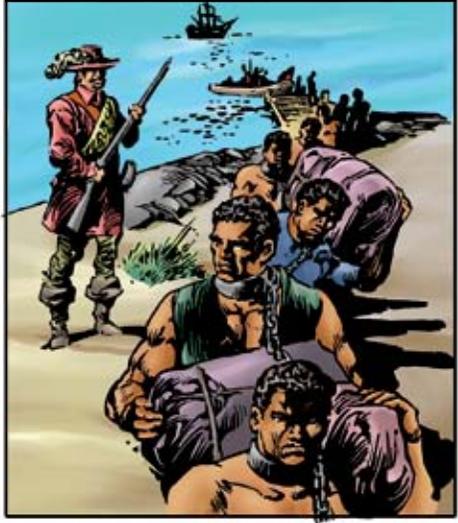
Captain Smith wrote that "in Virginia, a plain soldier that can use a pickax and spade is better than five knights." The rule was made that men who would not work could not eat.

At last the colonists had a money crop. They were soon given ways to spend it.

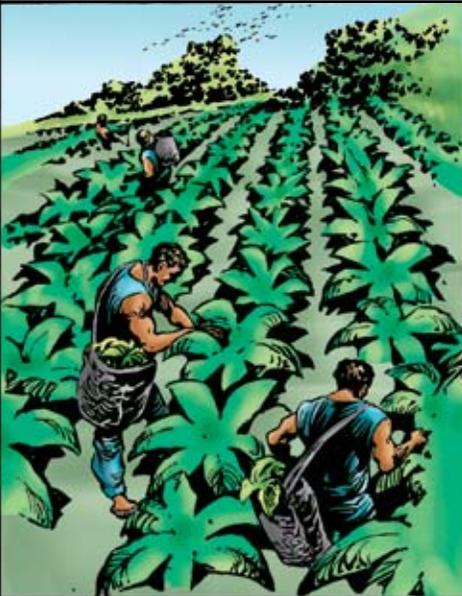
In 1619, ships arrived carrying “young maidens,” to be given as wives to those settlers who would pay 120 pounds of tobacco for their transportation.



A Dutch ship arrived with a different cargo—20 African slaves for sale.



Raising tobacco required labor. The slaves proved invaluable in the tobacco fields.



Also that year, the governor called together a legislative assembly.



With two representatives from each of the little settlements around Jamestown, this body met to pass the laws by which they would be governed—the first such body in America.