

TOBACCO CORN & CAVIAR

which having now done, though not so severely as we might, we rested content therewith and are ready to embrace peace with them if they pleased. Many excuses they seemed to pretend, that they shot not at us, but (if any such abuse were offered) it was some straggled Indian, ignorant of our pretence in coming to them, affirming that they themselves would be right glad of our love, and would endeavor to help us to what we came for, which being in the possession of *Powhatan* their King, they would without delay dispatch messengers to him, to know his purpose and pleasure, desiring fair quarter some 24 hours, for so long they pretended it would be before their messengers might return: this we granted, and what we promised, we ever exactly performed, the time now come, we inquired what *Powhatan* would do, and had for answer, that our Englishmen lately with him, fearful to be put to death by us, were run away, and some of *Powhatan's* men sent abroad in quest of them, but our swords and pieces so many as he had should be brought the next day, which merely to delay time, they barevs in hand the next day they came not, higher up the river we went, and anchored near unto the chiefest residence *Powhatan* had, at a town called *Matchcot* where were assembled (which we saw) about 400 men, well appointed with their bows and arrows to welcome us, here they dared us to come ashore, a thing which we purposed before, so ashore we went, our best landing being up a high steep hill which might have given the enemy much advantage against us, but it seemed they as we were unwilling to begin, and yet would gladly have been at blows, being landed as if they had no show of fear, they stirred not from us, but walked up and down, and by and amongst us, the best of them inquiring for our Weroance or king with whom they would gladly consult to know the occasion of our coming thither, whereof when they were informed, they made answer that they were there ready to defend themselves, if we pleased to assault them, desiring nevertheless some small time to dispatch two or three men once more to their king, to know his resolution, which if not answerable to our requests, in the morning if nothing else but blood would then satisfy us, they would fight with us, and thereby determine our quarrel, which was but a further delay to procure time to carry away their provisions, nevertheless we agreed to this their request, assuring them till the next day by noon we would not molest, hurt, nor detain any of them, and then before we fought, our Drum and Trumpets should give them warning: upon which promise of ours, two of *Powhatans* sons being very desirous to see their sister who was there present ashore with us, came unto us, at the sight of whom, and her welfare, whom they suspected to be worst entreated, though they