

1525. He was apparently some time in their arms without being aware of it. When he came to himself, he was seized with terror, and began to cry out at the top of his voice. The Indians, to reassure him, cried out louder still, which produced just the contrary effect from what they intended. They at last made him sit down at the foot of a hill, and turned his face to the sun ; then, having kindled a large fire near him, they stripped him naked. He now had no further doubt but that they intended to burn him, and, as he imagined, in sacrifice to the sun. His supposition was shared by those in the ship, whence all the transaction could be seen, but where they could only deplore his lot.

He began, however, to conceive better hopes when he saw them drying his clothes, and not putting him nearer the fire than was necessary to warm him. He trembled indeed all over, but undoubtedly more from fear than cold. The Indians, on their side, caressed him, which only half reassured him, and were incessantly admiring the whiteness of his skin. His beard, and the hair which they saw in several parts of his body, where they have none, astonished them still more. At last they gave him back his clothes, and gave him food ; and as he showed great impatience to go back to his companions, they took him down to the shore, and held him for some time in their embrace, thus showing in no equivocal manner their regret to part with him. They then drew off a short distance to leave him at liberty ; and when they saw him swim off, they went up on a hill, and did not lose sight of him till he got up into the ship.

The other details of this voyage are not interesting or even very intelligible. We know the countries which Verazani visited much better than he did when he made the king, his master, a report of this second expedition ; and the spots where he landed no longer bear the names which he gave them. He ends the memoir which he presented to Francis I. by saying, that he went very near an island