

1565. dren of those who were massacred in Florida," merely says that after a soldier struck the general from behind, he fell senseless ; that he was deprived of life on the spot, and his beard cut off and sent to Seville by Don Pedro Menendez, as a trophy of his victory ; that his head, cut into four pieces, was exposed on as many pikes ;¹ that the bodies of those who had been killed at the capture of Caroline were brought to the spot where the others had just been massacred ; that the frightful remains of these wretched beings were treated with unparalleled indignity, and then all consumed together.

Singular ad-
venture of a
sailor.

The account just given from Mr. de Laudonniere, who added it to his Relation, is based mainly on the account of one of Mr. de Ribaut's sailors, whose adventures are somewhat surprising. This man had been bound like the rest, and received several dagger-thrusts, which made him fall lifeless under the four others to whom he was attached. No one doubted but what he was dead ; but coming to himself the next night, and recollecting that he had a knife in his pocket, he used it to sever his bonds, rose, and reached the wood. He then bound up his wounds as well as he could ; and not deeming it safe so near the Spaniards, he started away and marched for three days, guided by the sun.

He at last reached a village, the chief of which received him readily. He was well treated and his wounds dressed, so that he recovered completely ; but at the end of eight months, the paraousti informed him that he could shelter him no longer, and that he must surrender himself to the

¹ Supplex Libellus (p. 469), confirmed by De Gallorum Expeditione (pp. 468, 469) and Histoire Memorable (p. 300) ; but the statement as to the burning is not in the Supplex Libellus nor in the Histoire Memorable. Chauveton adds it to his translation (p. 469), having heard it from "a noble Briton, who saw Florida."

Yet even he does not say that bodies were brought from the St. John's, and it is too improbable to credit. This account of Ribaut's end is given on the authority of Christopher le Breton of Havre de Grace, who was sent to Spain, but escaped. Another account will be noticed hereafter.