

the bay, and at the end of half an hour came back, as they had promised, with the ensigns, seventy arquebuses, twenty pistols, a quantity of swords and bucklers, some helmets and euirasses. The officer said to the Spanish general, on surrendering the whole to him, that he threw himself on his mercy. Then Menendez commanded his admiral, Diego Florez de Valdez, to take all these spoils, and at the same time he put twenty soldiers in the boat, with orders to bring all the French across, but in small parties, and without offering them any insult. He himself took the officer and his company about two short gun-shots from the river, where he had their hands tied behind their backs, saying that he was obliged to take this precaution, because they far outnumbered his men. All the others, to the number of two hundred,¹ were likewise bound, but after food had been given to them.

This done, the adelantado asked them whether there were any Catholics among them. Eight were found, who were at once put on the boat to be taken to St. Augustine. All the rest declared that they were good Christians, and followed the new reform. They were immediately divided into bands of ten. The adelantado had them marched off separately, and commanded those who were appointed to conduct them, that when they arrived at a place which he designated, and where he had drawn a line on the sand with his cane, all should be put to death ; which was done.²

The next day Menendez returned to St. Augustine, where the same Indians who had given him the first information of the arrival of the French, came to tell him that another troop, more numerous than the first, had appeared at the same place. Not doubting but that this was Mr.

Ribaut's
main party.

¹ Two hundred and eight (Barcia, p. 87). One hundred and forty (Menendez to the king).

² Mendoza says he saved ten or twelve, and that one hundred and eleven were put to death, not count-

ing fourteen or fifteen prisoners (p. 232). He gives the date, September 22, 1565. Mendoza here closes his account. Menendez himself, in his letter to the king, says he spared sixteen.