

**ANNALS OF GUIANA. VOL. I.
CHRONOLOGICAL HISTORY OF
THE DISCOVERY AND
SETTLEMENT OF GUIANA. 1493-
1668**

Published @ 2017 Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd

ISBN 9780649549153

Annals of Guiana. Vol. I. Chronological History of the Discovery and Settlement of Guiana.
1493-1668 by James Rodway & Thomas Watt

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Edited by Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd.
Cover @ 2017

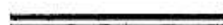
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JAMES RODWAY & THOMAS WATT

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ANNALS OF GUIANA.



VOL. 1.



CHRONOLOGICAL HISTORY

OF THE

DISCOVERY AND SETTLEMENT

OF

GUIANA.

1498—1668.

BY

JAMES RODWAY, F.L.S., & THOMAS WATT.

GEORGETOWN, DEMERARA, "ROYAL GAZETTE" OFFICE.

1888.



Raleigh, Explorer of Guiana.

*"Guisana, whose rich fecte are mines of golde,
Whose forehead knockes against the roofe of starres,
Stands on her tip-toes at faire England looking,
Kissing her hand, bowing her mightie breast,
And every signe of all submission making
Do be her sister.*

* * * * *

*And now a wind as forward as their spirits,
Sets their glad feet on smooth Guisana's breast,
Where (as if each man were an Orpheus)
A world of Savages fall tame before them,
Storing their theft-free treasures with golde
And there doth plentie crowne their wealthie fields,*

* * * * *

*And there do Pallaces and temples rise
Out of the earth and kisse the enamoured skies
Where new Britannia humble kneeles to heaven."*

CHAPMAN (about 1,600.)

PREFACE.

opinions, and expressions of the time. The story of Guiana is very interesting and romantic, in this period will be found accounts of the cannibal Caribs, who kept the country against all comers; the search for Manoa and El Dorado; the depots of Dutch smugglers; the little England, Holland, and France established on its coast, with all the national prejudices; and even a little revolution to match that of King CHARLES I and his parliament.

Since Dr. DALTON published his "History of British Guiana" the English Record office has placed before the world a wealth of information bearing on the early history of the English Colonies, in the "Calendars of State Papers, while during the present year Mr. NETSCHER has made a most valuable contribution to Guiana history by publishing the results of his searches among the Dutch records. Mr. N. D. DAVIS has been kind enough to place at our disposal, copies of several interesting MSS. in the British Museum. We have to thank MESSRS. E. G. FONSECA, G. BOSCH-REITZ, and several other friends, for translations from Dutch and other languages.

To enumerate all the sources of our information would necessitate a Bibliography of Guiana. It was at first intended to give authorities to each item, but as the materials became very copious this was found to interrupt the course of the narrative. Among the principal works consulted are the following:—

- HAKLUYT's Collection of Voyages and Travels
- HARRIS' do. do. do.
- ACUGNA's Description of the Amazon
- RALEIGH's Discoverie of Guiana, &c.
- HARCOURT's Relation of a voyage to Guiana.
- HARTSINCK's Beschrijving van Guiana.
- SOUTHEY's Chronological History of the West Indies
- NETSCHER's Geschiedenis Essequibo, Demerary on
Berbice
- GARDINER's History of England
- RALEIGH's Works, Life, &c., &c.

PREFACE.

The work is intended to be primarily a History of British Guiana, but as it is well to understand all the circumstances which have combined to produce the present state of things, it was found necessary to comprise the whole country in this account of its discovery and settlement. The history of this Colony naturally divides itself into three sections, comprehending as many periods; first from its discovery to 1668, when the whole of Guiana was claimed by Spain, England, Holland, and France; second, 1668 to 1796, when the three colonies were under Dutch rule together with Surinam; and third, 1796 to the present time when Essequibo, Demerara, and Berbice have been (except a short Dutch rule of 10 months) under the dominion of Great Britain. The present volume comprehends the first period.

