

**NARRATIVES OF THE CAREER OF
HERNANDO DE SOTO IN THE CONQUEST
OF FLORIDA, AS TOLD BY A
KNIGHT OF ELVAS, AND IN A RELATION
BY LUYS HERNANDEZ DE BIEDMA,
FACTOR OF THE EXPEDITION, VOL. II**

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Narratives of the career of Hernando de Soto in the conquest of Florida, as told by a knight of Elvas, and in a relation by Luys Hernandez de Biedma, factor of the Expedition, Vol. II by Edward Gaylord Bourne

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EDWARD GAYLORD BOURNE

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TRANSLATED BY BUCKINGHAM SMITH
together with an account of
DE SOTO'S EXPEDITION

Based on the Diary of
RODRIGO RANJEL, his Private Secretary
translated from Oviedo's *Historia General
y Natural de las Indias*

EDITED WITH AN INTRODUCTION BY
Edward Gaylord Bourne
Professor of History in Yale University

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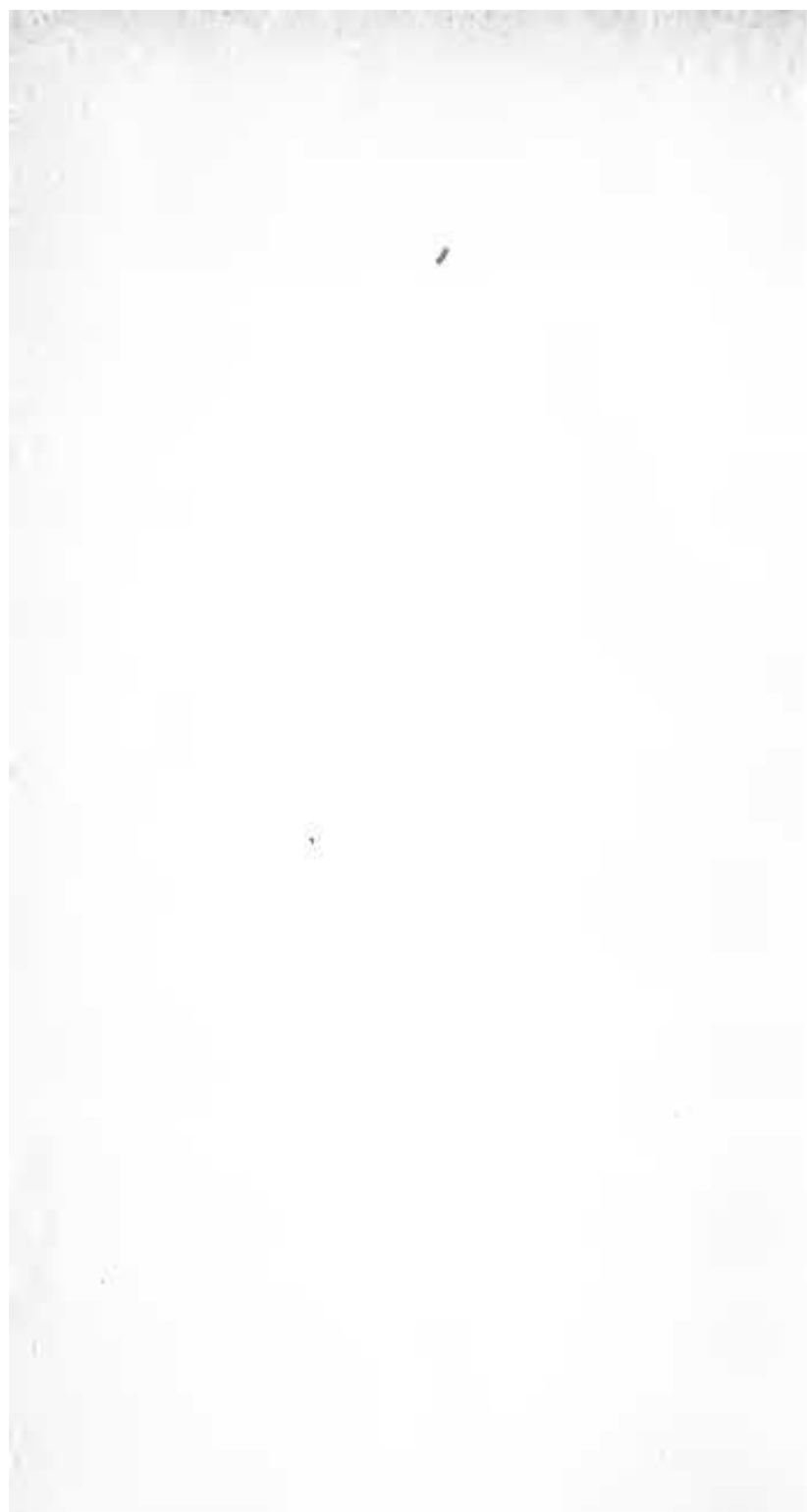
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* Originally published by the Bradford Club, 1866.



RELATION
OF THE
CONQUEST OF FLORIDA
PRESENTED BY
LUYS HERNANDEZ DE BIEDMA
IN THE YEAR 1544
TO THE
KING OF SPAIN IN COUNCIL

TRANSLATED FROM THE ORIGINAL
DOCUMENT
BY BUCKINGHAM SMITH



ACCOUNT
OF
THE ISLAND OF FLORIDA¹

WE arrived at the port of Baya Honda, where we landed six hundred and twenty men and two hundred and twenty-three horses. As soon as we went on shore we found out, from some Indians taken, that there was a Christian in the country, one of the people who had come into it with Pánfilo de Narvaez, and we started in search of him. He was in the possession of a chief, some eight leagues distant from the harbour. We met him on the way, for the Cacique, hearing that we had left the ships, asked the Christian if it was his desire to go where we were; who answered that it was, and he sent him off with nine Indians. He came naked like them, with a

¹The original text was first published by Buckingham Smith in his *Coleccion de Varios Documentos para la Historia de la Florida y Tierras Adyacentes*. Tomo I. London [1857]. 47-65. (B.)