

## PEOPLE MENTIONED IN CAPE COD:

### CAPTAIN BARTHOLOMEW GOSNOLD



**“NARRATIVE HISTORY” AMOUNTS TO FABULATION,  
THE REAL STUFF BEING MERE CHRONOLOGY**



## THE PEOPLE OF CAPE COD:

## CAPTAIN BARTHOLOMEW GOSNOLD

1572

[John Donne](#) was born in [London](#) to a prominent Roman Catholic family at a time when anti-Catholic feeling in England was near its height and Catholics were subject to constant harassment by the Elizabethan secret police (he would be a convert to Anglicanism during the 1590s).

THE BISHOP'S BIBLE was printed by Richard Jugge in [London](#) (there had been a previous edition of this Black Letter Bible in 1568). It was an attempt of English ecclesiastics to replace the Geneva (or "Breeches") version of Miles Coverdale, of the popularity of which they were jealous. The ornate Woodcut Initials, some showing scenes from the Classics, had been originally intended for an edition of Ovid and caused such a storm of criticism that they would not again be used in a Bible. This would sometimes be referred to as the "Leda Bible" because it used a Leda-and-the-Swan woodcut at the opening of the Book of Hebrews (and sometimes as the "Treacle Bible" because in Jeremiah 8:22 the word "treacle" was used instead of "balm").

*TROSTSPIEGEL* was printed in Frankfort by Christian Egenolff, a German translation of Petrarch's prose treatise "De Remediis" (the woodcuts in this volume were by Hans Weiditz of the Ausburg school, had been in existence since 1520, and had already been used in 1532).

HISTORY OF  
THE PRESS

[Bartholomew Gosnold](#) was born in Grundisburgh in Suffolk, England to Anthony Gosnold and Dorothy Bacon Gosnold, a family whose seat was at Otley, Suffolk. He would graduate from the [University of Cambridge](#) and then study law at the Middle Temple of [London](#).

[John Ferne](#) matriculated at [St John's College of Cambridge University](#) (he is said to have afterward studied at Oxford University).

THE PEOPLE OF CAPE COD:

CAPTAIN BARTHOLOMEW GOSNOLD



← ST JOHN'S COLLEGE

NOBODY COULD GUESS WHAT WOULD HAPPEN NEXT



THE PEOPLE OF CAPE COD:

CAPTAIN BARTHOLOMEW GOSNOLD

1587

July 22, Wednesday (Old Style): John White (1540-1606), sent by [Sir Walter Raleigh](#) with 150 men, women, and children to create the Cittie of Raleigh, landed on one of the islands of the barrier chain off present-day [North Carolina](#), named Hatorask Island. Sir Walter and [Captain Bartholomew Gosnold](#) had wanted him to settle these colonists at the mouth of the James River in present-day Virginia, but he chose to settle them on nearby Roanoke Island just inside this barrier chain.



Probably during this year in England, [Thomas Hariot](#) was writing up his account of his 1585/1586 visit to Roanoke Island on the Virginia coast.

DO I HAVE YOUR ATTENTION? GOOD.



## THE PEOPLE OF CAPE COD:

## CAPTAIN BARTHOLOMEW GOSNOLD

**1598**

[John Smith](#) set off for the Mediterranean Sea, working aboard a merchant ship.

The [Reverend John Brereton](#) was appointed curate of Lawshall, Suffolk. [Bartholomew Gosnold](#) lived nearby.

**LIFE IS LIVED FORWARD BUT UNDERSTOOD BACKWARD?  
— NO, THAT’S GIVING TOO MUCH TO THE HISTORIAN’S STORIES.  
LIFE ISN’T TO BE UNDERSTOOD EITHER FORWARD OR BACKWARD.**



## THE PEOPLE OF CAPE COD:

## CAPTAIN BARTHOLOMEW GOSNOLD

1602

[Sir Walter Raleigh](#) sent Samuel Mace of Weymouth to the Virginia coast ([North Carolina](#)) to seek survivors of the Lost Colony of Roanoke.

[John Josselyn](#) would in 1674 summarize the founding of New-England in the manner depicted on a following screen:



# THE PEOPLE OF CAPE COD:

# CAPTAIN BARTHOLOMEW GOSNOLD

## AN ACCOUNT OF TWO VOYAGES TO NEW-ENGLAND.

1514

1584

1602

1606

1527

1582

*New-England* was first discovered by *John Cabota* and his son *Sebastian* in *Anno Dom. 1514*. A further discovery afterwards was made by the honourable *Sir Walter Rawleigh* Knight in *Anno 1584*. when as *Virginia* was discovered, which together with *Maryland*, *New-England*, *Nova Scotia* was known by one common name to the *Indians*, *Wingandicoa*, and by *Sir Walter Rawleigh* in honour of our *Virgin Queen*, in whose name he took possession of it, *Virginia*. In *King James* his Reign it was divided into Provinces as is before named. In 1602 these north parts were further discovered by *Capt. Bartholomew Gosnold*. The first *English* that planted there, set down not far from the *Narragansets-Bay*, and called their Colony *Plimouth*, since old *Plimouth*, *An. Dom. 1602*. *Sir John Popham* Lord chief Justice authorized by his Majesty, *King James*, sent a colony of *English* to *Sagadehock*, *An. 1606*. *Newfound-land* was discovered by one *Andrew Thorn* an *English* man in *Anno 1527*. *Sir Humphrey Gilbert* a west Countrey Knight took possession of it in the *Queens* name, *Anno 1582*. The first two Colonies in *New-England* failing, there was a fresh supply of *English* who set down in other parts of the Countrey, and have continued in a flourishing condition to this day.

From the year of the World

to the year of Christ 1673.

BY *John Josselyn* Gent.



## THE PEOPLE OF CAPE COD:

## CAPTAIN BARTHOLOMEW GOSNOLD

March 26, Friday (Old Style): [Captain Bartholomew Gosnold](#), Bartholomew Gilbert, [Gabriel Archer](#), the [Reverend John Brereton](#), and others set sail from Falmouth harbor in a small Dartmouth bark, the *Concord*, to make the first English attempt to settle on the “North part of Virginia” coastline of the New World, a region that would eventually come to be known as “New England.” There were 8 sailors and 24 gentlemen just commissioned by the Earl of Southampton to establish a colony, half of these gentlemen intending to settle and the other half intending to return directly to England in the possession (if all went well) of many items of curiosity or value. Captain Gosnold was the 1st to aim his vessel directly toward the Azore Islands, rather than making an initial stopover in the Canary Islands to the south. They would name Cape Cod. Gosnold’s journals and logs would be available to [Henry Hudson](#).



**Q.** When and by whom was New-England discovered ?

**A.** In 1602, by Bartholomew Gosnold, the first English commander who reached America by sailing on a due west course.

**Q.** What was the circuit of former navigators ?

**A.** By the West-India Isles and the Gulf of Florida.

**Q.** What part of New-England did he first discover ?

**A.** A promontory in Massachusetts Bay, to which, from the great quantity of codfish taken by him there, he gave the name of Cape Cod.

**Q.** What further discoveries did he make ?

**A.** Sailing along the coast to the southwest, he discovered and gave names to several places, and touched at two islands, one of which he named Martha’s Vineyard,\* and the other Elizabeth Island.†

From this place he returned to England in less than four months from the time of his departure: having made the quickest voyage to the new world then known.‡

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\* Now called Noman’s Land.

† The westernmost of the islands that bear the name of Elizabeth.

‡ He resided three weeks on the most western of the Elizabeth islands, on which he built a fort and storehouse. Want of provisions induced him to give up the design of a settlement. The cellar of his storehouse was discovered by Dr. Belknap in 1797.

**VIEW THE PAGE IMAGES**



## THE PEOPLE OF CAPE COD:

## CAPTAIN BARTHOLOMEW GOSNOLD

CAPE COD: Cape Cod is commonly said to have been discovered in 1602. We will consider at length under what circumstances, and with what observation and expectations, the first Englishmen whom history clearly discerns approached the coast of New England. According to the accounts of Archer and Brereton (both of whom accompanied Gosnold), on the 26th of March, 1602, old style, Captain Bartholomew Gosnold set sail from Falmouth, England, for the North Part of Virginia, in a small bark called the Concord, they being in all, says one account, "thirty-two persons, whereof eight mariners and sailors, twelve purposing upon the discovery to return with the ship for England, the rest remain there for population." This is regarded as "the first attempt of the English to make a settlement within the limits of New England." Pursuing a new and a shorter course than the usual one by the Canaries, "the 14th of April following" they "had sight of Saint Mary's, an island of the Azores." As their sailors were few and "none of the best," (I use their own phrases,) and they were "going upon an unknown coast," they were not "over-bold to stand in with the shore but in open weather"; so they made their first discovery of land with the lead. The 23d of April the ocean appeared yellow, but on taking up some of the water in a bucket, "it altered not either in color or taste from the sea azure." The 7th of May they saw divers birds whose names they knew, and many others in their "English tongue of no name." The 8th of May "the water changed to a yellowish green, where at seventy fathoms" they "had ground." The 9th, they had upon their lead "many glittering stones," - "which might promise some mineral matter in the bottom." The 10th, they were over a bank which they thought to be near the western end of St. John's Island, and saw schools of fish. The 12th, they say, "continually passed fleeting by us sea-oare, which seemed to have their movable course towards the northeast." On the 13th, they observed "great beds of weeds, much wood, and divers things else floating by," and "had smelling of the shore much as from the southern Cape and Andalusia in Spain." On Friday, the 14th, early in the morning they descried land on the north, in the latitude of forty-three degrees, apparently some part of the coast of Maine. Williamson (HISTORY OF MAINE) says it certainly could not have been south of the central Isle of Shoals. Belknap inclines to think it the south side of Cape Ann. Standing fair along by the shore, about twelve o'clock the same day, they came to anchor and were visited by eight savages, who came off to them "in a Biscay shallop, with sail and oars," - "an iron grapple, and a kettle of copper." These they at first mistook for "Christians distressed." One of them was "apparelled with a waistcoat and breeches of black serge, made after our sea-fashion, hoes and shoes on his feet; all the rest (saving one that had a pair of breeches of blue cloth) were naked." They appeared to have had dealings with "some Basques of St. John de Luz, and to understand much more than we," say the English, "for want of language, could comprehend." But they soon "set sail westward, leaving them and their coast." (This was a remarkable discovery for discoverers.)

PEOPLE OF  
CAPE COD

GABRIEL ARCHER  
JOHN BRERETON

WILLIAMSON

BELKNAP



## THE PEOPLE OF CAPE COD:

## CAPTAIN BARTHOLOMEW GOSNOLD

**CAPE COD:** "The 15th day," writes Gabriel Archer, "we had again sight of the land, which made ahead, being as we thought an island, by reason of a large sound that appeared westward between it and the main, for coming to the west end thereof, we did perceive a large opening, we called it Shoal Hope. Near this cape we came to anchor in fifteen fathoms, where we took great store of cod-fish, for which we altered the name and called it Cape Cod. Here we saw skulls of herring, mackerel, and other small fish, in great abundance. This is a low sandy shoal, but without danger; also we came to anchor again in sixteen fathoms, fair by the land in the latitude of forty-two degrees. This Cape is well near a mile broad, and lieth northeast by east. The Captain went here ashore, and found the ground to be full of peas, strawberries, whortleberries, etc., as then unripe, the sand also by the shore somewhat deep; the firewood there by us taken in was of cypress, birch, witch-hazel, and beach. A young Indian came here to the captain, armed with his bow and arrows, and had certain plates of copper hanging at his ears; he showed a willingness to help us in our occasions."

"The 16th we trended the coast southerly, which was all champaign and full of grass, but the islands somewhat woody."

Or, according to the account of John Brereton, "riding here," that is where they first communicated with the natives, "in no very good harbor, and withal doubting the weather, about three of the clock the same day in the afternoon we weighed, and standing southerly off into sea the rest of that day and the night following, with a fresh gale of wind, in the morning we found ourselves embayed with a mighty headland; but coming to an anchor about nine of the clock the same day, within a league of the shore, we hoisted out the one half of our shallop, and Captain Bartholomew Gosnold, myself and three others, went ashore, being a white sandy and very bold shore; and marching all that afternoon with our muskets on our necks, on the highest hills which we saw (the weather very hot), at length we perceived this headland to be parcel of the main, and sundry islands lying almost round about it; so returning towards evening to our shallop (for by that time the other part was brought ashore and set together), we espied an Indian, a young man of proper stature, and of a pleasing countenance, and after some familiarity with him, we left him at the sea side, and returned to our ship, where in five or six hours' absence we had pestered our ship so with codfish, that we threw numbers of them overboard again: and surely I am persuaded that in the months of March, April, and May, there is upon this coast better fishing, and in as great plenty, as in Newfoundland; for the skulls of mackerel, herrings, cod, and other fish, that we daily saw as we went and came from the shore, were wonderful," &c.

PEOPLE OF  
CAPE COD

GABRIEL ARCHER

JOHN BRERETON



## THE PEOPLE OF CAPE COD:

## CAPTAIN BARTHOLOMEW GOSNOLD

**CAPE COD:** "From this place we sailed round about this headland, almost all the points of the compass, the shore very bold; but as no coast is free from dangers, so I am persuaded this is as free as any. The land somewhat low, full of goodly woods, but in some places plain."

It is not quite clear on which side of the Cape they landed. If it was inside, as would appear from Brereton's words, "From this place we sailed round about this headland almost all the points of the compass," it must have been on the western shore either of Truro or Wellfleet. To one sailing south into Barnstable Bay along the Cape, the only "white, sandy, and very bold shore" that appears is in these towns, though the bank is not so high there as on the eastern side. At a distance of four or five miles the sandy cliffs there look like a long fort of yellow sandstone, they are so level and regular, especially in Wellfleet, - the fort of the land defending itself against the encroachments of the Ocean. They are streaked here and there with a reddish sand as if painted. Farther south the shore is more flat, and less obviously and abruptly sandy, and a little tinge of green here and there in the marshes appears to the sailor like a rare and precious emerald. But in the JOURNAL OF PRING'S VOYAGE the next year (and Salterne, who was with Pring, had accompanied Gosnold) it is said, "Departing hence [i. e. from Savage Rocks] we bore unto that great gulf which Captain Gosnold overshot the year before." ["Savage Rock," which some have supposed to be, from the name, the Salvages, a ledge about two miles off Rockland, Cape Ann, was probably the Nubble, a large, high rock near the shore, on the east side of York Harbor, Maine. The first land made by Gosnold is presumed by experienced navigators to be Cape Elizabeth, on the same coast. (See Babson's HISTORY OF GLOUCESTER, MASSACHUSETTS.)] So they sailed round the Cape, calling the southeasterly extremity "Point Cave," till they came to an island which they named Martha's Vineyard (now called No Man's Land), and another on which they dwelt awhile, which they named Elizabeth's Island, in honor of the queen, one of the group since so called, now known by its Indian name Cuttyhunk. There they built a small storehouse, the first house built by the English in New England, whose cellar could recently still be seen, made partly of stones taken from the beach. Bancroft says (edition of 1837), the ruins of the fort can no longer be discerned. They who were to have remained becoming discontented, all together set sail for England with a load of sassafras and other commodities, on the 18th of June following.

PEOPLE OF  
CAPE COD

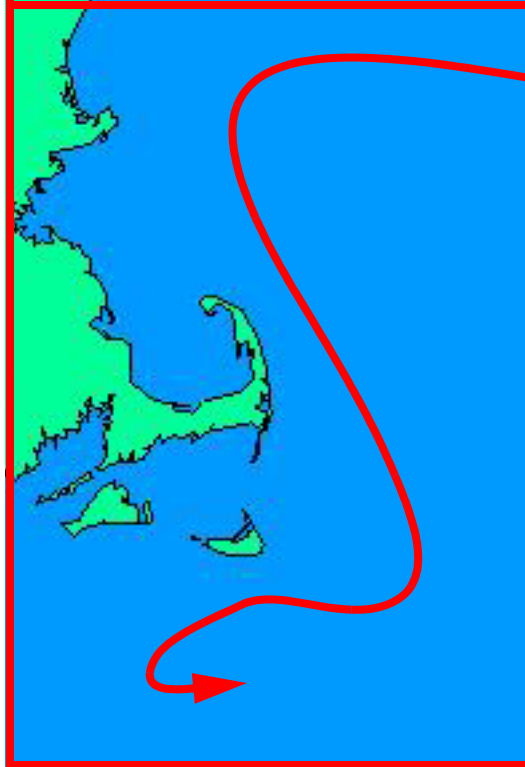
JOHN BRERETON

BABSON'S HISTORY

## THE PEOPLE OF CAPE COD:

## CAPTAIN BARTHOLOMEW GOSNOLD

May 14, Friday (Old Style): [Captain Bartholomew Gosnold](#), in the vessel *Concord* commissioned by the Earl of Southampton in March to establish a New World colony, had sighted Cape Neddick (Latitude 43 degrees) on the Maine coast:



They skirted the coastline for several days and then on this day came to anchor in York Harbor, where they were greeted by “a Biscay shallop [a small fishing vessel used by the Basque of Spain on the Bay of Biscay] with sails and oars, having eight persons in it, whom we supposed to be Christians distressed. But approaching us nearer, we perceived them to be savages.” It is to be noted that even at this early point, one of the natives was attired in a waistcoat, breeches, stockings, shoes, and a hat, and knew some English words, and was able to draw a map of the coastline, on which he marked out the Newfoundland fisheries. Clearly, the New England coast had previously been being visited by trading or fishing vessels.



## THE PEOPLE OF CAPE COD:

## CAPTAIN BARTHOLOMEW GOSNOLD

One of these intrusives, the [Reverend John Brereton](#), reporting on the voyage, would author a BRIEF AND TRUE RELATION OF THE DISCOVERIE OF THE NORTH PART OF VIRGINIA. The sponsor of this voyage, the Earl of Southampton, was also a patron of [William Shakespeare](#), and about three years later this playwright would be writing a little something called *The Tempest* — quite probably accessing, for inspiration, Brereton's accounts of Cuttyhunk.

RHODE ISLAND

### BRERETON'S RELATION

[Brereton](#) described the [Wampanoag](#):

exceeding courteous, gentle of disposition and well-conditioned, excelling all others that we have seen; so for shape of body and lovely favour ... of a stature much higher than we ... complexion ... dark olive; their eyebrows and hair black ... of a perfect constitution of body, active, strong, healthful and very wittie [intelligent].

May 15, Saturday (Old Style): [Captain Bartholomew Gosnold](#)'s bark *Concord* came within sight of the New World headland which they would designate "[Cape Cod](#)", and sailed into Provincetown harbor."

**CAPE COD:** The time must come when this coast will be a place of resort for those New-Englanders who really wish to visit the sea-side. At present it is wholly unknown to the fashionable world, and probably it will never be agreeable to them. If it is merely a ten-pin alley, or a circular railway, or an ocean of mint-julep, that the visitor is in search of, -if he thinks more of the wine than the brine, as I suspect some do at Newport,- I trust that for a long time he will be disappointed here. But this shore will never be more attractive than it is now. Such beaches as are fashionable are here made and unmade in a day, I may almost say, by the sea shifting its sands. Lynn and Nantasket! this bare and bended arm it is that makes the bay in which they lie so snugly. What are springs and waterfalls? Here is the spring of springs, the waterfall of waterfalls. A storm in the fall or winter is the tide to visit it; a light-house or a fisherman's hut the true hotel. A man may stand there and put all America behind him.

NEWPORT



## THE PEOPLE OF CAPE COD:

## CAPTAIN BARTHOLOMEW GOSNOLD

They would go ashore in a region of white sands before passing on around Nantucket Island. Following the coastline for several days, he discovered the large island “Marthaes Vineyard” (actually it seems that this name was originally applied not to the large island, but to an almost insignificant one near it that is now known as “Noman’s Land”). Then, passing around Dover Cliff, they would enter what they termed “Gosnold’s Hope,” which we now know as Buzzards Bay, and go ashore again at what they termed “Elizabeth’s Island,” which we now know as [Cuttyhunk Island](#), which is the last of the chain of Elizabeth Islands that divide the waters off



[Martha’s Vineyard](#) from Buzzards Bay. It would take them 19 days, late in May, to erect a fort and storehouse there, on a small island in the center of a lake that was some three miles in circumference, a place that it would be maximally difficult for the native inhabitants to approach by stealth. They would trade with the native inhabitants of this place for furs, skins, and sassafras. They would sow wheat, barley, and peas, and in two weeks the shoots would be nine inches tall and higher. Realizing at this point that the supplies which they had brought with them were not going to last until harvest, they got back aboard their bark to return to England.<sup>1</sup>

1. A notable account of the voyage, written by one of the gentlemen adventurers, the [Reverend John Brereton](#), would help in popularizing subsequent voyages of exploration and colonization of the northeast seaboard of America. Then there would be [Gabriel Archer](#)’s account some two decades later, after [Captain Bartholomew Gosnold](#)’s death.

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THE PEOPLE OF CAPE COD:

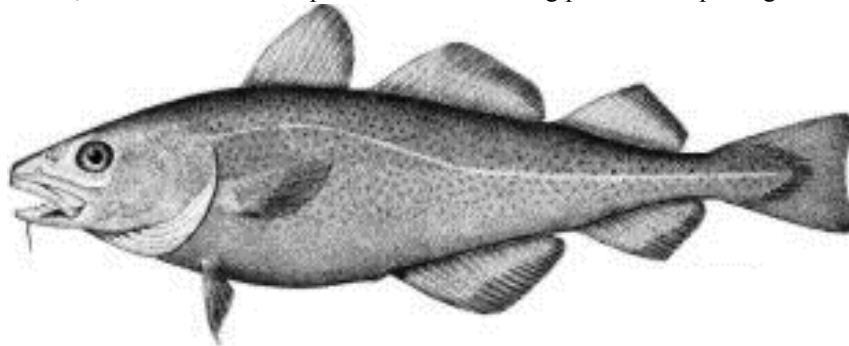
CAPTAIN BARTHOLOMEW GOSNOLD



## THE PEOPLE OF CAPE COD:

## CAPTAIN BARTHOLOMEW GOSNOLD

The crew knew that the local sassafras would do well on the market, since Europeans at the time considered this root a cure-all. Despite the accuracy of this estimate that their sassafras would fetch many a pretty penny upon their return, this 1st known attempt to establish a trading post in Wampanoag territory would fail.



Gosnold's expedition anchored in what would become Provincetown harbor and "tooke there a great store of Cod Fysshes":

**CAPE COD:** I suppose that the word Cape is from the French *cap*; which is from the Latin *caput*, a head; which is, perhaps, from the verb *capere*, to take, -that being the part by which we take hold of a thing:-Take Time by the forelock. It is also the safest part to take a serpent by. And as for Cod, that was derived directly from that "great store of codfish" which Captain Bartholomew Gosnold caught there in 1602; which fish appears to have been so called from the Saxon word *codde*, "a case in which seeds are lodged," either from the form of the fish, or the quantity of spawn it contains; whence also, perhaps, *codling* ("*pomum coctile*"?) and *coddle*, -to cook green like peas. (V. Dic.)

COD



## THE PEOPLE OF CAPE COD:

## CAPTAIN BARTHOLOMEW GOSNOLD

He may have landed somewhere in the cluster of eight offlying islands now known as the Isles of Shoals without making an entry in his log to that effect.<sup>2</sup>

Although he noted [Nantucket Island](#) in his log, he did not land.

[Captain Gosnold](#) noted a number of native American names on his chart and dedicated it to Prince Charles, 16 years of age (later King Charles I), asking that “you would please to change their Barbarous names for such English, as Posterity may say Prince Charles was their God-father.” Prince Charles substituted, for the placename Accomack on this map, the name Plymouth — which appears to be why, on some old maps, there would be a “New Plymouth” marking the location of the New Comers in the bay of Cape Cod and also an “Old Plymouth” marking no white settlement that we have ever known anything about. “Old Plymouth” would simply have referred to this native village Accomack which had been redesignated as Plymouth by the young Prince.

2. Other Europeans were along the coast of the northern continent in this year as well. Sir Walter Raleigh had sent Samuel Mace of Weymouth on a voyage to the Virginia coast of the New World to gather plant materials and to search for survivors of the Lost Colony. Captain Bartholomew Gilbert, [Gabriel Archer](#), and others were along the New England coast. Nova Scotia was being visited regularly by English traders.



## THE PEOPLE OF CAPE COD:

## CAPTAIN BARTHOLOMEW GOSNOLD

July 23, Friday (Old Style) After a direct sail of but five weeks, [Captain Bartholomew Gosnold](#)'s bark *Concord* arrived in the port of Exmouth, England. The expedition would show a large profit, due primarily to their being able to vend their sassafras at £336 the ton. One of the gentleman adventurers, the [Reverend John Brereton](#), would author A BRIEF RELATION OF THE DESCRIPTION OF ELIZABETH'S ILE, AND SOME OTHERS TOWARDS THE NORTH PART OF VIRGINIE, WRITTEN BY JOHN BRIERTON, ONE OF THE VOYAGE, printed in London, and immediately afterward a 2d impression bearing the title A BRIEF AND TRUE RELATION OF THE DISCOVERY OF THE NORTH PART OF VIRGINIA, WRITTEN BY JOHN BRERETON, ONE OF THE VOYAGE. To this new edition he would add A TREATISE OF M. EDWARD HAYES, dealing with the good prospects for planting in this region of the coast.

### BRERETON'S RELATION

[Captain Gosnold](#) would spend the following several years promoting a more ambitious attempt. He would obtain from King James I an exclusive charter for a Virginia Company. To form the core of what would become the Virginia Colony at Jamestown, he would recruit, in addition to members of his 1602 expedition, his in-law Edward Maria Wingfield and Wingfield's cousin Matthew Scrivener, as well as [John Smith](#), his brother and a cousin. Gosnold himself would serve as vice-admiral of the expedition and captain of one of the three ships of the expedition, the *Godspeed* (the other two being the *Susan Constant*, Captain Christopher Newport, and the *Discovery*, Captain John Ratcliffe).

THE FUTURE IS MOST READILY PREDICTED IN RETROSPECT





## THE PEOPLE OF CAPE COD:

## CAPTAIN BARTHOLOMEW GOSNOLD

1603

Spigelius published instructions in *ISAGOGES IN REM HERBARIUM* for the creation of dried herbarium specimens. This was a technique that had been being applied for only about fifty years at this point. The collecting, exchange, archiving, and study of such pressed, dried plants, which had been mounted upon sheets of paper according to Spigelius's instructions, would revolutionize taxonomy, floristics, and systematics.

PLANTS

Martin Pring was 23 years old when word of [Captain Bartholomew Gosnold](#) and the [Reverend John Brereton](#)'s voyage inspired a group of merchants in Bristol, England to send him on a 6-month trading voyage to "the northern part of Virginia." He would visit again in 1606, and would continue a distinguished career as a merchant trading captain until his death in 1626. An account of his 1603 voyage would be published in 1625.

The traders made their landfall off the Maine coast and established a trading post somewhere in the vicinity of [Cape Cod](#), perhaps at Plymouth harbor, trading with the [Narragansett](#) for sassafras bark and roots on which they could realize a great profit in the [London](#) herbals market. The local people were antagonized by the mastiffs brought along by the intrusives, who explored in the Truro/Provincetown area.<sup>3</sup>

3. "Narragansett" is an Englishing of *Nanhigganeuck* "people of the small point." The [Narragansett](#) confederation was made up of the Aquidneck, Chaubatick, Maushapogue, Mittaubscut, Narragansett, Pawchauquet, [Pawtuxet](#), Ponaganset, and the Shawomet (Shanomet). It was allied with the Coweset (Nipmuc), Eastern Niantic, Manissean (Block Island Indians), and after 1653, the Metoac of Long Island. This was an Eastern Woodland grouping, well organized and with central authority. The Narragansetts governed themselves by reliance upon eight subordinate hereditary sachems under the guidance of a grand sachem who usually resided in the largest village. Their large, fortified villages of medium-sized longhouses were usually located on islands in Narragansett Bay.



RHODE ISLAND

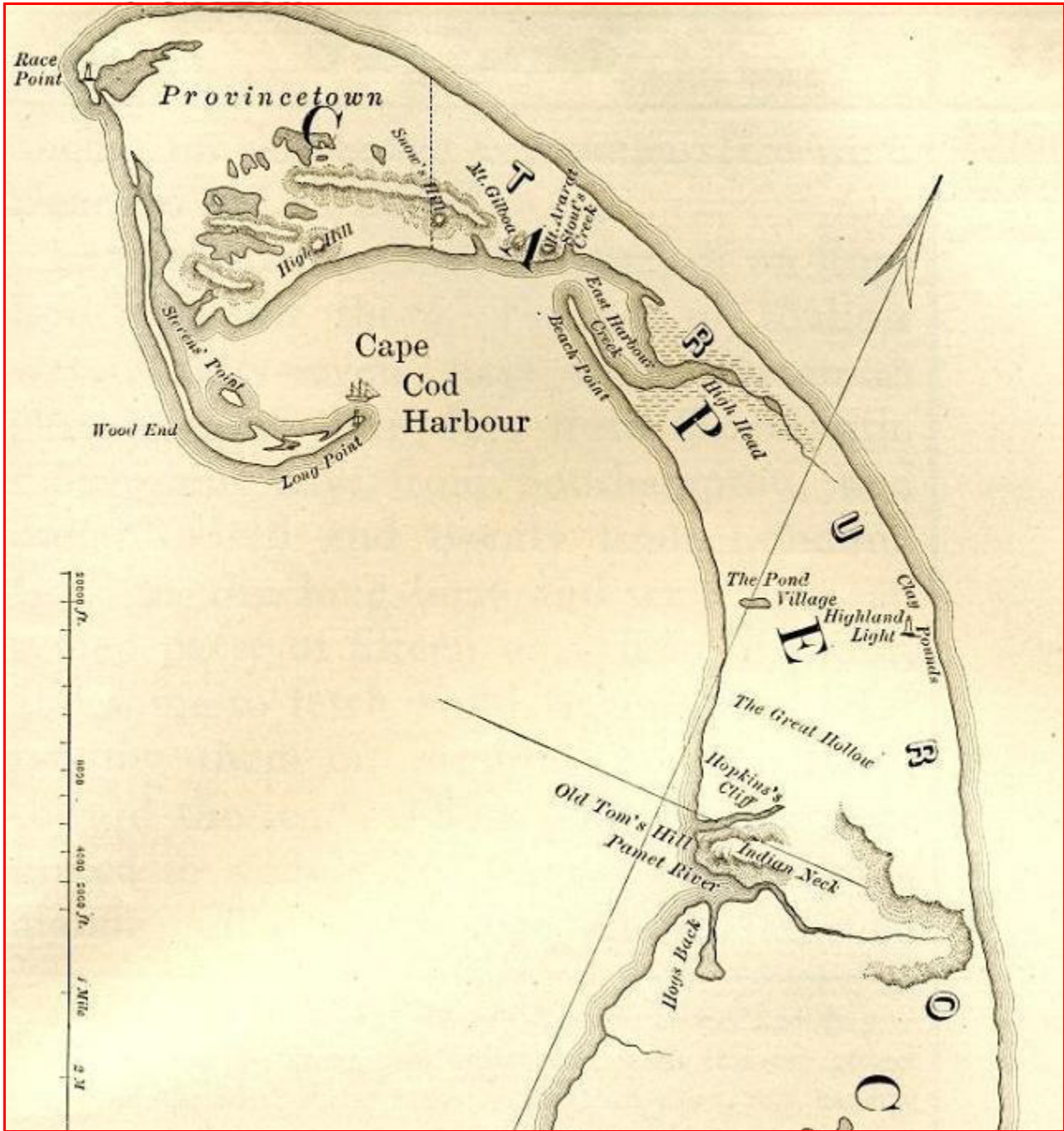
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CAPTAIN BARTHOLOMEW GOSNOLD

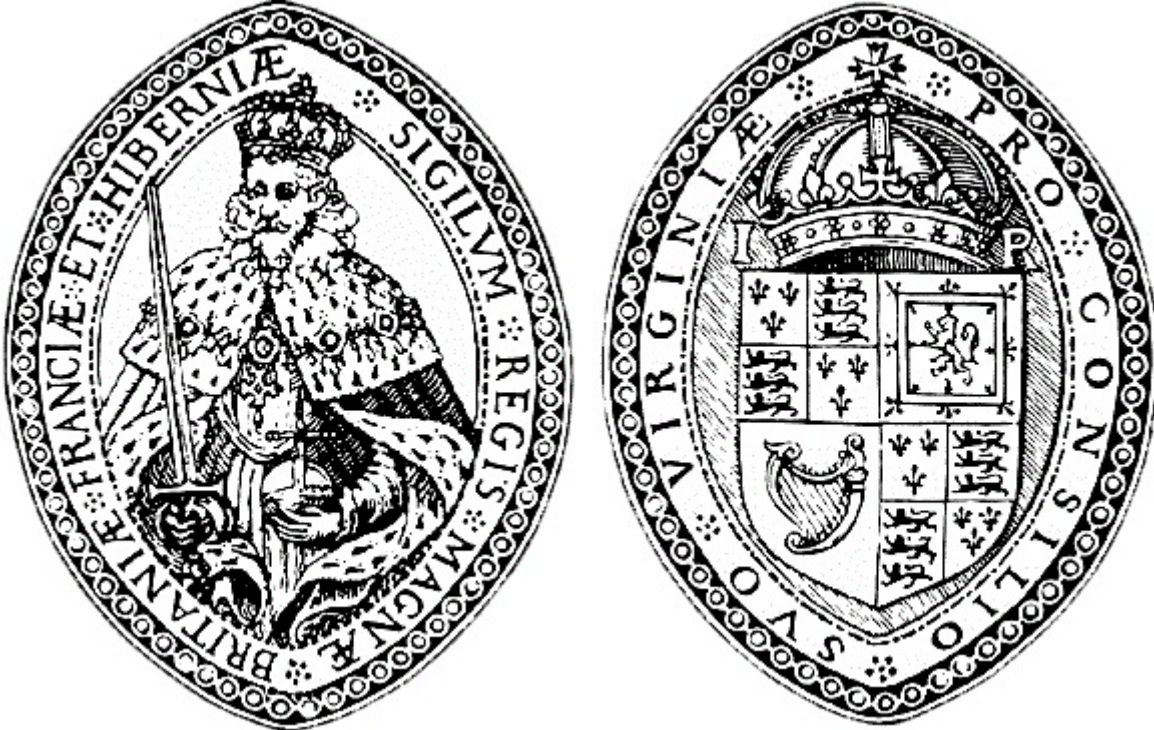


## THE PEOPLE OF CAPE COD:

## CAPTAIN BARTHOLOMEW GOSNOLD

1606

April 10, Thursday (Old Style): Charters for two joint stock companies, the “Virginia company of London” (“London Company”) and the “Virginia Company of Plymouth” (“Plymouth Company”) were issued by [King James I](#),



permitting [Sir Ferdinando Gorges](#) and John Popham to settle the American coast between Cape Fear and mid-Maine (this was the area that two years earlier Henry of Navarre, the French king, had claimed). The Reverend [Richard Hakluyt](#) and his young friend [Captain Bartholomew Gosnold](#) were involved in these negotiations.

## THE PEOPLE OF CAPE COD:

## CAPTAIN BARTHOLOMEW GOSNOLD

Between their respective spheres of operation there would be a coastal section of overlap from the 38th parallel to the 41st parallel in which either company was free to establish a settlement so long as it was at least a hundred miles distant from the other company's settlements.



[READ THE FULL TEXT](#)

[READ ABOUT VIRGINIA](#)

THE FUTURE CAN BE EASILY PREDICTED IN RETROSPECT





## THE PEOPLE OF CAPE COD:

## CAPTAIN BARTHOLOMEW GOSNOLD


1607

April 26, Sunday (Old Style): The *Susan Constant*, *Discovery*, and *Godspeed* sighted the coast of Virginia. They would go ashore at Cape Henry (the present-day Virginia Beach), but there would come under attack by the natives. A few days later they would move into the James River and stop at Kecoughtan (present day Hampton), where the locals would welcome them. Captain Christopher Newport opened the box containing the names of the 7-man council — Captain Christopher Newport, Edward Maria Wingfield, [Captain Bartholomew Gosnold](#), Captain John Ratcliffè, Captain John Martin, Captain George Kendall, and [John Smith](#). After exploring several sites along the mouth of the Chesapeake Bay, the colonists, fearing pirates and Spanish competition, determined that they would explore farther inland. [Captain Gabriel Archer](#) proposed they settle on land where the winery now stands, but, because of its deeper off-shore waters allowing close mooring for the ships, the site at Jamestown was chosen instead. It is not clear whether “Archer’s Hope” refers to the Captain’s wish for placement of the settlement or to an archaic meaning, according to which a “hope” is “a small protected cove or inlet.” Archer’s Hope is mentioned twelve years later in the first land grant to the “Ancient Planters,” as the 19th land grant of 100 acres acquired by John Johnson for an annual lease of two shillings. The property would be mapped in 1781 by French Army cartographers disembarking on the shores of the James River to join the armies of Rochambeau, Lafayette, and Washington.

### Archer’s Hope

“The twelfth day (May), we went back to our ships and discovered a point of land called ‘Archer’s Hope,’ which was sufficient with a little labor to defend ourselves against any enemy; the soil was good and fruitful with excellent good timber; there are also great store of vines in bigness of a man’s thigh, running up to the tops of the trees in great abundance; we also did see many squirrels, conies, blackbirds with crimson wings, and divers other fowls and birds of divers and sundry colors of crimson, watchet (sky blue), yellow, green, murrey (purple red), and of divers other hues naturally without any art using; we found store of turkey nests and many eggs. If it had not been disliked because the ship could not ride near the shore, we had settled there to all the colony’s contentment.” (Taken from the written discourse of Master George Percy, 1606/1607)

***First Person Impressions! Authentic Costumes!***



Bill Young's passion is bringing history to life for everyone. He performs for corporations, civic clubs, church groups, retirement communities, schools, historical clubs, museums, patriotic organizations, tour companies, and private parties. He has done extensive historical research to produce his stirring, patriotic talks and the elaborate costumes that he wears. His spellbinding historical portrayals will be the highlight of your program. He will entertain, educate, motivate, uplift, and inspire your group!

**CAPTAIN GABRIEL ARCHER**

**WHAT I'M WRITING IS TRUE BUT NEVER MIND  
YOU CAN ALWAYS LIE TO YOURSELF**

April 30, Thursday (Old Style): The expedition of three ships out of London, the *Susan Constant*, *Discovery*, and *Godspeed*, had reached the Virginia coast after enduring a voyage of more than four months. When Captain Christopher Newport had opened the sealed box that listed the names of the seven council members who were to govern the colony, [John Smith](#)'s name had been on the list, as well as Captain Christopher Newport, Edward Maria Wingfield, [Captain Bartholomew Gosnold](#), Captain John Ratcliffe, Captain John Martin, and Captain George Kendall. The council had elected Wingfield to be its president. At this point the ships were at Cape Comfort and sent a vanguard boat to stop at Kecoughtan, where the local Americans welcomed the English.

[Captain Gabriel Archer](#) was serving as co-captain with Captain Christopher Newport on the *Godspeed*, and would record the settlers' initial exploration of the James River.



## THE PEOPLE OF CAPE COD:

## CAPTAIN BARTHOLOMEW GOSNOLD

August 6, Monday: Disease was rampant at the Jamestown settlement on the Virginia coast. George Percy would report:

“The sixt of August there died John Asbie of the bloudie Fluxe.”

August 9, Thursday: Disease was rampant at the Jamestown settlement on the Virginia coast. George Percy would report:

“The ninth day died George Flowre of the swelling.”

August 10, Friday: Disease was rampant at the Jamestown settlement on the Virginia coast. George Percy would report:

“The tenth day died William Bruster Gentleman, of a would given by the Savages.”

August 22, Wednesday: At Jamestown on the coast of Virginia, [Bartholomew Gosnold](#) died of dysentery and scurvy. George Percy’s DISCOURSE, that would be printed in the 4th volume of PURCHAS HIS PILGRIMES in 1625, would recollect that “Oure men were destroyed with cruel dyseases as swellings, fluxes, burning fevers, and by wars and some exyted souddeulye, but for the moste part they dyeth of mere famine” and that “Captain Bartholomew Gosnold one of Councile, he was buryed thereupon having all the ordinance in the Fourt shote off with manye vollyes of small shot.”



1843

The Massachusetts Historical Society published, as part of their COLLECTIONS for this year, an extract from [Andrés Bernáldez](#)'s *HISTORIA DE LOS REYES CATÓLICOS DON FERNANDO Y DOÑA ISABEL*.



ANDRÉS BERNÁLDEZ

[Henry Thoreau](#) would copy from this into his Indian Notebook #2, remark on it in his journal during Spring 1845, and include an excerpt in [A WEEK](#).<sup>4</sup>

Also included in the COLLECTIONS OF THE MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL SOCIETY for 1843 were a number of accounts of the voyage of Captain Bartholomew Gosnold to America in 1602, and [Thoreau](#) would access these for use in [CAPE COD](#).

CAPT. GOSNOLD'S VOYAGE  
GABRIEL ARCHER, GENT.

4. The original notebooks are held by the Pierpont Morgan Library in New York, as manuscripts #596 through #606. There are photocopies, made by Robert F. Sayre in the 1930s, in four boxes at the University of Iowa Libraries, accession number MsC 795. More recently, Bradley P. Dean, PhD and Paul Maher, Jr. have attempted to work over these materials.



## THE PEOPLE OF CAPE COD:

## CAPTAIN BARTHOLOMEW GOSNOLD

A WEEK: The sun-setting presumed all men at leisure, and in a contemplative mood; but the farmer's boy only whistled the more thoughtfully as he drove his cows home from pasture, and the teamster refrained from cracking his whip, and guided his team with a subdued voice. The last vestiges of daylight at length disappeared, and as we rowed silently along with our backs toward home through the darkness, only a few stars being visible, we had little to say, but sat absorbed in thought, or in silence listened to the monotonous sound of our oars, a sort of rudimental music, suitable for the ear of Night and the acoustics of her dimly lighted halls;

*"Pulsae referunt ad sidera valles,"*

and the valleys echoed the sound to the stars.

As we looked up in silence to those distant lights, we were reminded that it was a rare imagination which first taught that the stars are worlds, and had conferred a great benefit on mankind. It is recorded in the Chronicle of Bernaldez, that in Columbus's first voyage the natives "pointed towards the heavens, making signs that they believed that there was all power and holiness." We have reason to be grateful for celestial phenomena, for they chiefly answer to the ideal in man. The stars are distant and unobtrusive, but bright and enduring as our fairest and most memorable experiences. "Let the immortal depth of your soul lead you, but earnestly extend your eyes upwards."

PEOPLE OF  
A WEEK

ASTRONOMY

CHRISTOPHER COLUMBUS

ANDRES BERNALDEZ



## THE PEOPLE OF CAPE COD:

## CAPTAIN BARTHOLOMEW GOSNOLD

CAPE COD: Cape Cod is commonly said to have been discovered in 1602. We will consider at length under what circumstances, and with what observation and expectations, the first Englishmen whom history clearly discerns approached the coast of New England. According to the accounts of Archer and Brereton (both of whom accompanied Gosnold), on the 26th of March, 1602, old style, Captain Bartholomew Gosnold set sail from Falmouth, England, for the North Part of Virginia, in a small bark called the Concord, they being in all, says one account, "thirty-two persons, whereof eight mariners and sailors, twelve purposing upon the discovery to return with the ship for England, the rest remain there for population." This is regarded as "the first attempt of the English to make a settlement within the limits of New England." Pursuing a new and a shorter course than the usual one by the Canaries, "the 14th of April following" they "had sight of Saint Mary's, an island of the Azores." As their sailors were few and "none of the best," (I use their own phrases,) and they were "going upon an unknown coast," they were not "over-bold to stand in with the shore but in open weather"; so they made their first discovery of land with the lead. The 23d of April the ocean appeared yellow, but on taking up some of the water in a bucket, "it altered not either in color or taste from the sea azure." The 7th of May they saw divers birds whose names they knew, and many others in their "English tongue of no name." The 8th of May "the water changed to a yellowish green, where at seventy fathoms" they "had ground." The 9th, they had upon their lead "many glittering stones," - "which might promise some mineral matter in the bottom." The 10th, they were over a bank which they thought to be near the western end of St. John's Island, and saw schools of fish. The 12th, they say, "continually passed fleeting by us sea-oare, which seemed to have their movable course towards the northeast." On the 13th, they observed "great beds of weeds, much wood, and divers things else floating by," and "had smelling of the shore much as from the southern Cape and Andalusia in Spain." On Friday, the 14th, early in the morning they descried land on the north, in the latitude of forty-three degrees, apparently some part of the coast of Maine. Williamson (HISTORY OF MAINE) says it certainly could not have been south of the central Isle of Shoals. Belknap inclines to think it the south side of Cape Ann. Standing fair along by the shore, about twelve o'clock the same day, they came to anchor and were visited by eight savages, who came off to them "in a Biscay shallop, with sail and oars," - "an iron grapple, and a kettle of copper." These they at first mistook for "Christians distressed." One of them was "apparelled with a waistcoat and breeches of black serge, made after our sea-fashion, hoes and shoes on his feet; all the rest (saving one that had a pair of breeches of blue cloth) were naked." They appeared to have had dealings with "some Basques of St. John de Luz, and to understand much more than we," say the English, "for want of language, could comprehend." But they soon "set sail westward, leaving them and their coast." (This was a remarkable discovery for discoverers.)

PEOPLE OF  
CAPE COD

GABRIEL ARCHER  
JOHN BRERETON

WILLIAMSON

BELKNAP



## THE PEOPLE OF CAPE COD:

## CAPTAIN BARTHOLOMEW GOSNOLD

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PEOPLE OF  
CAPE COD

GABRIEL ARCHER

JOHN BRERETON



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It is not quite clear on which side of the Cape they landed. If it was inside, as would appear from Brereton's words, "From this place we sailed round about this headland almost all the points of the compass," it must have been on the western shore either of Truro or Wellfleet. To one sailing south into Barnstable Bay along the Cape, the only "white, sandy, and very bold shore" that appears is in these towns, though the bank is not so high there as on the eastern side. At a distance of four or five miles the sandy cliffs there look like a long fort of yellow sandstone, they are so level and regular, especially in Wellfleet, - the fort of the land defending itself against the encroachments of the Ocean. They are streaked here and there with a reddish sand as if painted. Farther south the shore is more flat, and less obviously and abruptly sandy, and a little tinge of green here and there in the marshes appears to the sailor like a rare and precious emerald. But in the JOURNAL OF PRING'S VOYAGE the next year (and Salterne, who was with Pring, had accompanied Gosnold) it is said, "Departing hence [i. e. from Savage Rocks] we bore unto that great gulf which Captain Gosnold overshot the year before." ["Savage Rock," which some have supposed to be, from the name, the Salvages, a ledge about two miles off Rockland, Cape Ann, was probably the Nubble, a large, high rock near the shore, on the east side of York Harbor, Maine. The first land made by Gosnold is presumed by experienced navigators to be Cape Elizabeth, on the same coast. (See Babson's HISTORY OF GLOUCESTER, MASSACHUSETTS.)] So they sailed round the Cape, calling the southeasterly extremity "Point Cave," till they came to an island which they named Martha's Vineyard (now called No Man's Land), and another on which they dwelt awhile, which they named Elizabeth's Island, in honor of the queen, one of the group since so called, now known by its Indian name Cuttyhunk. There they built a small storehouse, the first house built by the English in New England, whose cellar could recently still be seen, made partly of stones taken from the beach. Bancroft says (edition of 1837), the ruins of the fort can no longer be discerned. They who were to have remained becoming discontented, all together set sail for England with a load of sassafras and other commodities, on the 18th of June following.

PEOPLE OF  
CAPE COD

JOHN BRERETON

BABSON'S HISTORY



## THE PEOPLE OF CAPE COD:

## CAPTAIN BARTHOLOMEW GOSNOLD

1850

At about this point [Henry Thoreau](#) copied, into his 2d Indian Book from an article in the 1843 volume of the COLLECTIONS OF THE MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL SOCIETY, “The Relation of [Captain Gosnold](#)’s Voyage to the North Part of Virginia, Begun the Six-and-Twentieth of March, Anno 42 Elizabethae Reginae, 1602, and Delivered by [Gabriel Archer](#), a Gentleman in the Said Voyage.” This material would be described in [CAPE COD](#).

**CAPT. GOSNOLD’S VOYAGE**

**GABRIEL ARCHER, GENT.**



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PEOPLE OF  
CAPE COD

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BABSON'S HISTORY

HDT

WHAT?

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THE PEOPLE OF CAPE COD:

CAPTAIN BARTHOLOMEW GOSNOLD

1852

Albert Bierstadt painted "[Gosnold](#) at Cuttyhunk, 1602."



CHANGE IS ETERNITY, STASIS A FIGMENT



## THE PEOPLE OF CAPE COD:

## CAPTAIN BARTHOLOMEW GOSNOLD

1855

January 4, Thursday: [Henry Thoreau](#) made the following entry in his INDIAN NOTEBOOK by mistake, rather than in his Journal: “Being in Worcester today Jan 4th ‘55 Mr Haven at the Antiquarian Library showed me a passage in Brereton? [illegible to Thoreau; the [Reverend John Brereton](#) was the author of THE DISCOVERY OF VIRGINIA] of [Gosnold](#)’s voyage in which the copper belt of tribes — the bracelets &c are described as in Lescarbot’s — He spoke of an inscription found over 900 miles west of Montreal & mentioned by Kalm in some arctic language. Did I extract it? Of an English inscription on mica found in the breast of an Indian’s remains (I think at grave yards) dated about the time of the early Virginia settlements. Also prob[ably] an Alabama hoax an individual Lat[in] inscription on stone dates 1200 something.”

PETER KALM  
HOAXES



[Thoreau](#) delivered “WHAT SHALL IT PROFIT” at the Worcester Lyceum. After the lecture Stephen C. Earle, sixteen years old, wrote in his journal

Went in the evening to a lyceum lecture by Thorough [sic] of Concord. It was a strange sort of a lecture. The subject was “What shall it profit a man if he gain the whole world and lose his own soul.” His lecture did not seem to have much to do with his subject. I slept part of the evening.<sup>1</sup>

1. THE JOURNALS OF STEPHEN C. EARLE, 1853-1858, ed. Albert B. Southwick, Worcester MA: Worcester Bicentennial Commission, 1976, page 30. (Joel Myerson found this piece of information.)

No doubt at least one other member of the audience –Thoreau’s friend H.G.O. Blake– was stimulated by what he heard. Blake, who had been corresponding with Thoreau for seven years, could hardly have overlooked that many of the ideas and images in the letters he had received from Thoreau were in “WHAT SHALL IT PROFIT”.

### THOREAU’S SERMON

[Various versions of “LIFE WITHOUT PRINCIPLE”, variously titled, would be delivered:

- “WHAT SHALL IT PROFIT” on December 6, 1854 at Railroad Hall in [Providence](#)
- “WHAT SHALL IT PROFIT” on December 26, 1854 in the [New Bedford](#) Lyceum
- “WHAT SHALL IT PROFIT” on December 28, 1854 at the Athenaeum on [Nantucket Island](#)
- On January 4, 1855 in the [Worcester](#) Lyceum, as “The Connection between Man’s Employment and His Higher Life”
- “WHAT SHALL IT PROFIT” on February 14, 1855 in the [Concord](#) Lyceum
- “WHAT SHALL IT PROFIT” on November 16, 1856 for the [Eagleswood](#) community
- “Getting a Living” on December 18, 1856 in the vestry of the Congregational Church of Amherst, [New Hampshire](#)
- “LIFE MISSPENT” on Sunday morning, October 9, 1859 to the Reverend [Theodore Parker](#)’s 28th Congregational Society in Boston Music Hall
- “LIFE MISSPENT” on Sunday, September 9, 1860 at Welles Hall in Lowell.]

[Thoreau](#) was written to by [Friend Daniel Ricketson](#) in [New Bedford](#).



## THE PEOPLE OF CAPE COD:

## CAPTAIN BARTHOLOMEW GOSNOLD

2003

The archaeological dig at Jamestown on the coast of Virginia determined the likely position of the grave of [Captain Bartholomew Gosnold](#) (the skeleton is now at the Smithsonian Natural History Museum in Washington DC).



**“MAGISTERIAL HISTORY” IS FANTASIZING: HISTORY IS CHRONOLOGY**



## THE PEOPLE OF CAPE COD:

## CAPTAIN BARTHOLOMEW GOSNOLD



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"It's all now you see. Yesterday won't be over until tomorrow and tomorrow began ten thousand years ago."

- Remark by character "Garin Stevens"  
in William Faulkner's INTRUDER IN THE DUST



Prepared: October 29, 2014



THE PEOPLE OF CAPE COD:

CAPTAIN BARTHOLOMEW GOSNOLD

*ARRGH AUTOMATED RESEARCH REPORT*

*GENERATION HOTLINE*



This stuff presumably looks to you as if it were generated by a human. Such is not the case. Instead, someone has requested that we pull it out of the hat of a pirate who has grown out of the shoulder of our pet parrot "Laura" (as above). What these chronological lists are: they are research reports compiled by ARRGH algorithms out of a database of modules which we term the Kourou Contexture (this is data mining). To respond to such a request for information we merely push a button.



## THE PEOPLE OF CAPE COD:

## CAPTAIN BARTHOLOMEW GOSNOLD

Commonly, the first output of the algorithm has obvious deficiencies and we need to go back into the modules stored in the contexture and do a minor amount of tweaking, and then we need to punch that button again and recompile the chronology – but there is nothing here that remotely resembles the ordinary “writerly” process you know and love. As the contents of this originating contexture improve, and as the programming improves, and as funding becomes available (to date no funding whatever has been needed in the creation of this facility, the entire operation being run out of pocket change) we expect a diminished need to do such tweaking and recompiling, and we fully expect to achieve a simulation of a generous and untiring robotic research librarian. Onward and upward in this brave new world.

First come first serve. There is no charge.  
Place requests with <Kouroo@kouroo.info>. Arrgh.