

Budai Parmenius Stephen

(1)

(The Cambridge Hist. of the  
Brit. Empire Vol 7, 105-107  
1929)

St. Humphrey Gilbert (1575? - 83)  
from Devon. Good educ. Eton  
& Oxford, one of the gentlemen  
adventurers whom Drake had  
severely to admonish; educ.  
did not soften relentless  
nature. Pondered problem of  
North-west passage - in his  
"Discourse of a Discoverie for a  
new Passage to Cathaia" 1576  
shows with learning & ingenuity;  
Amer. must be an island

June 1578 Queen Elizab. gives  
him charter to discover &  
hold "such heathen & barbarous  
lands... not actually possessed  
of any Christian prince or  
people" - also to rule  
over people who might be  
brought there from Engl or  
Ireland - provided always  
that he never robbed on sea or  
land subjects of Queen or  
friendly rulers -  
It is the 1st charter

for funding a Brit colony  
its terms peaceful, law-abiding  
expansion, far different  
from methods recom-  
mended in "Discourse"

After a long pecuniary  
struggle + ~~one unsuccessful~~  
~~try by sea~~ Gilbert starts  
11 Jun - 1583 in "Delight" +  
120 tons + 4 other ships,  
260 men

Deserted by largest ship "Bark  
Kalligh" - reach New Fi-  
great bay ~~July 1583~~  
(fölet latuat, Fölet, 49 men, includes  
utain)

found 2 fishing vessels  
Engl, French + Portug  
"popular colony, unexpected in that corner"  
under weekly ruler called  
"Admiral" - on Queen's  
Commission was allowed  
entrance, offered hospitality  
+ approved annexation



Land pleased him, abound. with  
fruits, flowers, plenty game, fish,  
Gilbert & in with *par amberral ball parra*  
(Hayes Aug 4 - et mond, *Desarap*)

*innepilisen* Monday 5 Aug 1583 Gilbert  
~~landed~~ landed with great staff, summoned  
merchants & fishermen, read  
Q's commission, annexed land  
& 200 leagues every way,  
accepting a rod of turf in  
sign of possession, laws will  
be similar to England's  
as possible.

Religion Church of England,  
attempts against authority: high  
treason, guilty of disrespect  
lose early confiscat. ships &  
goods

crowd promises obedience  
arms of England engraved in lead  
& set up on a wooden pillar

at once levies contributions  
from masters of ships of every  
nationality - Under his guns  
they could not refuse

(4)  
Pageant lasted 17 days  
difficulties at once.

Iron + silver found, he was urged  
to stop, load his ships + return  
home. He refused, wanted  
to push explor. southward,  
but he promised to return in  
due course.

To depart or stay was  
alike hazardous, many men  
mutinous, maltreating the  
fishermen, others fled to  
woods + acted like wild men  
all told, they spent 17 days in N. Greenland

Aug 10, 1583 starts out,  
Gibbert on "Squirrel"  
(10 tons) for the inshore  
survey work - Trials came  
quicker

Aug 29 - largest ship  
"Delight" runs on reef  
part. off Cape Breton Isle  
(Pamronics included)  
lost with nearly 100 men (other  
ships narrowly escaping)



dike disaster - Loss of reserve provisions + clothing left survivors to urge return home - Gilbert concedes, promises other attempt next spring

Ceasing to battle westwards, turned + sped before gale

(probably ab. <sup>silence</sup> miles)  
Brooding over loss of papers, G. became irritable, but refuses to go to larger ship + desert little company on "Squirrel".

Sep 9 - near Azores, Storm - Gilbert, when last seen from Golden Hind, waved joyfully with book in hand, crying: We are as near to heaven (by land + sea by sea as)

Midnight Squirrel's

(4)  
lights were quenched, ship  
goes down, Gilbert with it.

Book was most prototypal  
More's "Utopia" in which  
he read these words: "The way to  
heaven out of all places is of  
like length + distance"

In spite of hardships + occas.  
cruelty Elizabethans had  
strain of religious idealism  
which carried them thru  
incred. hardships - Feared God  
+ nothing else - Nerved by  
that belief, they braved arctic  
ice in tiny ships etc

