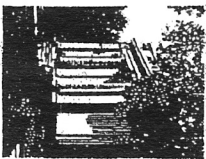


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*4. Arrival at Yamacraw Bluff;
Development of Savannah*

Next morning being the first of February,²¹ we sailed from Jones's Island, with a fair wind and arrived the same day at Yamacraw Bluff in Georgia, the place which Mr. Oglethorp had pitched upon for our intended settlement. As soon as we came near the Bluff, we were saluted by Captain Scott and his party, with their small arms, which we returned. And as soon as we landed, we set immediately about getting our tents fixed, and our goods brought ashore, and carried up the Bluff, which is forty foot perpendicular height above by water mark. This by reason of the loose sand, and great height, would have been extremely troublesome had not Captain Scott and his party built stairs for us before our arrival, which we found of very great use to us in bringing up our goods.

About an hour after our landing, the Indians came with their King, Queen, and Mr. Musgrave,²² the Indian trader and interpreter, along with him to pay their compliments to Mr. Oglethorp, and to welcome us to Yamacraw. The manner of their approach was thus, at a little distance they saluted us with a volley of their small arms, which was returned by our guard and thence [thence] the King, Queen, and Chiefs and other Indians advanced and before them, walked one of their generals, with his head adorned with white feathers, with rattles in his hands (something like our castanets) to which he danced, observing just time, singing and throwing his body into a thousand different and unlike postures. In this manner they advanced to pay their obedience to Mr. Oglethorp, who stood at a small distance from his tent, to receive them. And thence conducted them into his tent, seating Tomo Chachi²³ upon his right hand [and] Mr. Musgrave, the interpreter,

standing between them. They continued on conference about a quarter of an hour, and thence, returned to their town, which was about a quarter of a mile distant from the place where we pitched our camp, in the same order as they came. Not being able to complete the pitching of our tents this night, and I being but lately recover'd from my illness, went to ly at the Indian town, at Mr. Musgrove, the interpreters house, with Doctor Cox and his family and Lieutenant Farringtone belonging to Captain Massy's Company, who had order'd a handsome supper to be provided for us at Mr. Musgroves house.

As soon as the Indians were informed that we were come to Musgroves house, they begane to entertaine us with dancing round a large fire which they made upon the ground, opposite to the Kings house. Their manner of dancing is in a circle, round the fire, following each other close, with many antick gestures, singing and beating time, with their feet and hands to admiration. One of the oldest of our people, Doctor Lyons, having slept away from our camp and gott a little in drink, found his way up to the Indian town and joynd with the Indians in their dance endeavouring to mimick and ape them in their antick gestures, which I being informed of, sent for him, and desired that he would emediately repair home to our camp. Otherwise I assured him I would acquaint Mr. Oglethorp with his folly. He promised me that he would. But being so much in liquor he returned again to the Indians and danced with them as before, which being told to me I ordered severall white men who were there to carry him home by force, it being of a very bad consequence that the Indians should see any follies or indiscretions in our old men, by which they judge that our young men must be still guilty of greater, for they measure mens understanding and judgement according to their years.

Friday the 2d we finished our tents, and gott some of our stores on shore. The 3d we gott the pettiagores unloaded, and all the goods brought up to the Bluff. Sunday the fourth, we had Divine Service performed in Mr. Oglethorps tent, by Reverd: Doctor Herbert with thanksgiving for our safe arrivall. Mr. Musgrove, the Indian trader, and his wife were present, and Tomo Chachi, the Indian King, desired to be admitted, which Mr. Oglethorp readily consented to and he with his Queen were seated in the tent. During the time of Divine Service, severall of the Indian warriors and others sate at a small distance from the tent, upon trees, and behaved very decently.

Munday the 5th Coll. Bull,²⁴ being a gentleman of great experience in making of settlements, was appointed by the Governour and Council of Carolina to come to us to be assisting with his advise, arrived in his own periagore from Charles Town and brought severall letters for Mr. Oglethorp from the Governour and Council.

Wednesday the 7th we begane to digg trenches for fixing palisadoes round the place of our intended settlement as a fence in case we should be attacked by the Indians, while others of us were employed in clearing of the lines, and cutting trees to the proper lengths, which was the 14 foot for the palisadoes. About noon a fire broke out in the guard room, which instantly consumed the same, and burnt severall chests that were in it: belonging to our people and likewise a hut adjoining to it belonging to Mr. Warren, whose things were likewise burned. It was with much difficulty we gott the powder out of Mr. Oglethorps tent, which stood almost joyning to the fire, and which we preserved by taking it emediately down. After we had gott the fire pretty near extinguished, one of the large pine trees near 100 foot high took fire and to pre-

vent further damage we were obliged to cutt it down, and in the fall it broke too barrells of beef and one barrell of strong bear [beer] in pieces and damaged the end of one of our tents. The whole damage amounted to about twenty pounds sterling.

Thursday the 8th each family hade given out of the stores, an iron pot, frying pan, and three wooden bowls, a Bible, Common Prayer Book, and Whole Duty of Man. This day we were taken of [off] from the palisadoes and sett about sawing and splitting boards eight foot long in order to build clapp board houses, to gett us under better cover till our framed houses could be built. This evening Mr. St. Julien,²⁵ Mr. Whitaker, Major Barnwell, and Mr. Woodward arrived from Charlestown.

Friday our arms were delivered to us from the store viz. a musket and bayonett, cartridge box and belt to each persone able to cary arms. Sunday we were drawn up under our arms for the first time, being divided into four Tythings, each Tything consisting of ten men, of which I was appointed to command the first; Mr. Causton,²⁶ the second; Mr. Jones,²⁷ the third; and Mr. Goddard²⁸ the fourth. I mounted the first guard at eight o'clock at night, received orders from Mr. Oglethorp to fix two Centinells at the extrem parts of the town who were to be relieved every two hours and thane returning to the guard house, which we hade built of clapp boards, upon the most convenient part of the Bluff, for commanding the river both ways. The next night at eight o'clock I was relieved by Mr. Causton, who march'd to the guard house with his Tything under arms where I received him with my Tything drawn up before the guard with their arms rested.

5. *Conditions in Savannah*

Notwithstanding that our guard duty was every fourth night, yet we went directly from the guard to work in the

woods, after our names were called over, which was done every morning at six oclock before Mr. Oglethorps tent, and if any persone did not at that time answer to his name, except hundred by sickness, was cutt of [off] from his dayes allowance of a pint of Madeira wine, which was allowed to every working man. About this time wee hade excessive hard rains and almost continued thunder and lightning to a most astonishing degree. The rains were so violent, and came with such force, that it beat thro. our tents to that degree that we have been wett to the skinn in them severall times in a day. And to prevent our bedding from being wett, hade no other methode but by covering them with plates, dishes, bowls, and what other conveniency we hade to catch the rain in, which has often been so heavy that severall gallons has been catched in those vessells upon one bed, in the space of an hour.

As the country all round us was a continued forrest, and nothing to be seen but wood and water, the rains were very frequent and very severe. But as our people who were daily employed in cutting down trees, and clearing the place which was intended for the town, advanced in their work, and hade cleared a pretty large space of ground, we could perceive the rains not to be so frequent, nor so violent. Munday Mr. Oglethorp being informed, that two fellows who hade broke out of Charles Town jayle, were in our neighbourhood, and hade killed severall catle, at Musgrave, the Indian traders cow penn, ordered two men with a large swivell gunn to watch near the side of the river all night to stopp their canot in case they should attempt to pass, and if apprehended each man was to have a reward of ten pound cur. [currency] from Mr. Oglethorp. The same evening Mr. Oglethorp desired us to draw up a letter of thanks to Mr. Whitaker and the other gentlemen, who hade generously made us a present of 100 head of catle to be equally divided amongst us. We