

January, 1620

"About the latter end of August, a Dutch man of Warr of the burden of 160 tons arrived at Point Comfort, the Comandor's name was Capt. Jope, his Pilot for the West Indies one Mr. Marmaduke and Englishman. They mett with the Treasurer in the West Indies and determined to hold consort shipp hetherward, but in their passage lost one the other. he brought not anything but 20 and odd Negroes, which the Governor and Cape Merchant bought for victualle [whereof he was in greate need as he pretended] a the best and easyest rate they could. He hadd a lardge and ample Comysson from his Excellency to range and to take purchase in the West Indies."

John Rolbe

January. 1620

About the end of August [1619] a 160 ton Dutch ship arrived at Point Comfort [near Jamestown]. The ship's commander was Captain Jope, and his pilot an Englishman, Mr. Marmaduke. They met with the Treasurer [a ship] in the West Indies and were going to travel together, but got separated. Captain Jope and his crew were in need of food, and had brought with him "20 and odd Africans". The governor of Jamestown traded the Africans for the food the captain needed for himself and his crew. The captain had permission from the King of England to purchase the Africans in the West Indies....."

John Rolfe

This is a letter to Sir Edwin Sandys, treasurer of the Virginia Company of London, from John Rolfe, of Jamestown. It tells of the arrival of the Africans in Jamestown who were exchanged for food.