

and then they were about to start. But there was no way to make a change. They were cramped in the vessel. Great winds blew the ship off its course. Fresh water became scarce. Disease broke out. The captain and six of the crew died. No one was capable of managing the vessel, so it drifted ~~in~~ aimlessly to and fro, and finally reached Virginia with Francis Blackwell who had been the leader in the Amsterdam ~~church~~ church having died and 130 others out of the 180. Word of this got back to L and you can imagine the effect as they thought of the possibility that they ~~could~~ could cross the ocean and they could establish a place where they could continue their English ~~language~~ language, continue their English customs, could live right with their families instead of having to go off to work for many many hours and come back, could have thus more opportunity to train their families as they would like to, and could worship God as they felt the Bible taught they should, without interference. They thought, Let's ask King James if he ~~would~~ would permit us to go to Virginia. But then they ~~found~~ found that in Virginia at the time the government had very strict religious rules. Every one in the Virginia colony had to go to church every day. When the bells would ring, they had to go, and if they did not go once, they were fined. If they did not go a second time, the fine was much greater. A third time, they would be imprisoned for a month. On Sunday, if they did not go, if they missed three Sundays, they would be executed. The services there were not the services that they personally desired to participate in. They wanted to study the Bible as they had been taught and to carry on in line with what they had heard with Scr and what they had been hearing at Amsterdam and in L . So they did not want to go to Virginia, but they were able to find some adventurers in London who agreed to back them up to make the trip, and pay the expenses of the trip, and then