

The most successful result was obtained among the Timucua in the neighborhood of St. Augustine and the Apalachee around the bay of that name. In 1687 the Yamasi attacked and destroyed the mission of Santa Catalina on the Georgia coast, and to escape pursuit fled to the English colony of Carolina. The traveler Dickenson has left a pleasant picture of the prosperous condition of the mission towns and their Indian population as he found them in 1699, which contrasts strongly with the barbarous condition of the heathen tribes farther s., among whom he had been a prisoner.

The English colony of Carolina had been founded in 1663, with a charter which was soon after extended southward to lat 29, thus including almost the whole area of Spanish occupancy and mission labor. The steadily growing hostility between the two nations culminated in the winter 1703-4, when Gov. Moore, of Carolina, with a small force of white men and a thousand or more well armed warriors of Creek, Catawba, and other savage allies invaded the Apalachee country, destroyed one mission town after another, with their churches, fields, and orange grooves, killed hundreds of their people, and carried away 1,400 prisoners to be sold as slaves. Anticipating the danger, the Apalachee had applied to the governor of St. Augustine for guns with which to defend themselves, but had been refused, in accordance with the Spanish rule which forbade the issuing of firearms to Indians. The result was the destruction of the tribe and the reversion of the country to a wilderness condition, as Bartram found it 70 years later. In 1706 a second expedition visited a similar fate upon the Timucua, and the ruin of the Florida missions was complete. Some effort was made a few years later by an Apalachee chief to gather the remnant of his people, into a new mission settlement near Pensacola, but with only temporary result.

In the meantime the French had effected lodgement at Biloxi, Miss. (1699), Mobile, New Orleans, and along