

RELATION OF RANJEL

Returning to my narrative, from this place where, as was said, they waded across the river, the woman chief of Cofitachequi, whom they carried with them in return for the good treatment which they had received from her, escaped; and that day there remained behind, it was supposed intentionally, Mendoza de Montanjes and Alaminos of Cuba. And since Alonso Romo kept that day the rear-guard and left them, the Governor made him return for them, and they waited for them one day. When they arrived, the Governor wished to hang them. In that region of Xalague was left a comrade whose name was Rodriquez, a native of Peñafiel; and also an Indian slave boy from Cuba, who knew Spanish, and belonged to a gentleman named Vi-

structed in 1536, is no longer extant. It is described by Oviedo, whose data are summarized by Harrisse (*Discovery of North America*, 633-34). J. G. Shea (in Winsor, *Narrative and Critical History*, II., 247) assumed that De Soto had this map and studied it; but in the judgment of the present editor the remarks in the text about Chaves' map are by Oviedo, and not derived from Ranjel's diary, and consequently by no means warrant the notion that De Soto and his officers "pored over the cosmography of Alonso de Chaves." The river which Oviedo erroneously identified as the Mississippi is supposed to have been either the Chattohochee or the Coosa. Cf. Lowery (*Spanish Set-*

llegas; and there was also left a slave belonging to Don Carlos, a Berber, well versed in Spanish; and also Gomez, a negro belonging to Vasco Gonzalez who spoke good Spanish. That Rodriquez was the first, and the rest deserted further on from Xalaque. The next day they passed the night in an oak grove, and the day following along a large stream, which they crossed many times. The next day messengers of peace appeared and they arrived early at Guasili, and they gave them many tamemes, many little dogs and corn; and since this was a fine stopping place, the soldiers afterwards in throwing dice called out "the house of Guasuli," or, a good throw.

Monday, which was the last day of May, the Governor left Guasili and came with his army to an oak wood along the river; and the next day they crossed by Canasoga, and at night they slept in the open country. Wednesday they slept near a swamp, and that day they ate an enormous amount of mulberries. The next day, Thursday, they went along a large stream near the river which they had crossed in the plain where the woman chief went off. It was now very large. The next day, Friday, they came to a pine wood on the stream, where appeared peaceful Indians from Chiaha and brought