

On 14 November we set sail from that island with very bad weather. On the 18th we made a very beautiful and very large island inhabited by Indians, which they call, in their language, *Boriquen*, which the Admiral called *San Juan Bau-*



*tista*.<sup>8</sup> During our five days' sailing we saw both to starboard and to port many islands, all of which the Lord Admiral caused to be distinctly entered on the chart. And for your own information, in that island we took on provisions, and on the 21st made sail and on the 25th in the name of God made the island of Hispaniola, previously discovered by the Lord Admiral, where we anchored in an excellent harbor called *Monte Christi*.<sup>9</sup> In these few days we had again very bad weather and saw about ten islands. We estimated that course from the island of Dominica to Monte Cristi to be 300 leagues. In this navigation of ours several times we could not follow a direct course because depth [of water] was wanting.

On 27 November we sailed to go to *Monte Santo* where on his previous voyage the Admiral had left 38 men, and on that very night we came to the very place.<sup>10</sup> On the 28th we went ashore where we found all our above-mentioned men dead and still lying there on the ground without eyes, which we thought to have

been eaten; because, as soon as they [the Indians] have beheaded anyone, immediately they scoop out the eyes and eat them. It could have been from 15 to 20 days that they were dead. We met the lord of that place called Guacanagarí who, with tears running down his breast (and so all his men), told us that the lord of the mountains called Caonabó had come with 3,000 men, and he to spite him had killed them together with some of his own people and robbed them. We could find nothing of all that the Lord Admiral had left; and, hearing this, we believed what they told us. We stayed 10 days in the neighborhood, and on 8 December left that place because it was unhealthy on account of the marshes which are there,<sup>11</sup> and we went to another location still in the island, in an excellent harbor where we landed; and there we built 200 houses which are small like our hunting cabins and roofed with thatch.<sup>12</sup>

When we had built the above-mentioned settlement for our residence, the inhabitants of the island, as far from us as one or two leagues, came to see us as if we