

In order to derive due advantage from past experience, it is desirable that the details, and the results of all the considerable attempts of government of chartered companies, and private individuals to make settlements abroad, should be ascertained. They might furnish ample materials to guide future proceedings, and shew the errors which should be avoided. A committee of either house of Parliament, or a commission from the Crown, would be well occupied in collecting papers from the public records, and in examining private persons, in order to point out the expense, the plan, and the effect of what in this kind has been done at various periods of our own history. The exertions of Sir Humphrey Gilbert, Sir Walter Raleigh, Hackluyt, Sir Edwyn Sandys, Chief Justice Popham, Lord Bacon, and others, in the reigns of Elizabeth, James, and Charles the First; Lord Clarendon, in that of Charles the Second; Penn, in 1700, &c.; General Oglethorpe, in 1733, &c.; the Earl of Halifax, in 1749; and