

countrymen, at their English firesides, an improved idea of Nova Scotia; and the imaginary wilderness, with its bears and monsters, give place to Acadia, with her happy, exceedingly happy features.

However, as I despair of such assistance, and an account of the different harbours may benefit, if not preserve, many valuable persons, plain truth must substitute decoration. Those for whom it is chiefly intended, will receive it as a code of instructions, written in their own style, and will be guided clear of the dangers it points out, into places of safety, where they can rest at ease from their labours, watchless.

Acting under the orders of the Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty, and subject to the control of the Naval Commander in Chief, my time is consequently theirs: therefore, having only such periods to devote to this work as a relaxation from my professional duties will admit, much cannot be expected.

Let the eye of scrutiny charitably scan its imperfections; and should it be thrown open to the delicate vision of quick perception, a consideration of the Author's incessant servitude will soften its monotonous discordance. On ship-board, one set of ideas frequently serve a voyage. Deprived of refined female society, which tends to perfection more than any plan of education, and without which the manners are harsh and rude; sailors, who see most, and before whom nature derobes, are seldom gifted with descriptive powers; traversing this terraqueous globe, and pursuing research as a pleasing duty, what exquisite delight should I have derived, had Providence permitted me to give to