



A SHORT
ACCOUNT OF NAVIGATORS,
WHO HAVE REACHED
HIGH NORTHERN LATITUDES. (*)

I went to Amsterdam the 26th of March, being the most proper time to make the desired inquiries, and to obtain information from all the commanders that were to depart this year to Greenland; for then you meet, six, eight, and more together, in houses where they enlist their men. I am however sorry to mention, that but few of those commanders, keep journals, when they are near or in the ice; but notwithstanding this, the accounts they give, carry with them such an air of truth, from being confirmed by minute circumstances, and corroborated by so many witnesses, that these relations (I verily believe) may be depended upon as well as some journals. I particularly applied myself, however, to those to whom a great number of voyages had given experience, and (contrary to my expectations) met with men of candour and penetration. I thought it proper, however, to take the following extract of a journal, it shewing the common form in which some of them are kept.

Translation

(*) This account was drawn up by Captain WILLIAM MAY, in the service of the States, at the desire of Professor ALLANAND of Leyden. See p. 94.