

It was my intention to have enumerated and characterised the various works which have been written in relation to Newfoundland; but, as I have been indebted to only two of these — the volume by Chief Justice Reeves, published in 1793, and that by Anspach, published about 1820, and as a catalogue of the books on the country is given in Sir Richard Bonnycastle's work, such enumeration is, I think, unnecessary. There is, however, one book which it might have been expected I should have drawn largely upon for the early history of the country — that published by Captain Whitbourne in 1622. My reason for not doing so is that, on reading his interesting volume, I discovered the evidence of an over-credulousness in the writer, which, notwithstanding all his opportunities, detracts much from the value of his testimony.

In Appendix No. I. several quotations are given from Whitbourne's work, which will enable the reader to form some idea of the character of the oldest book on Newfoundland, written by one who paid frequent visits to the island.

In the compilation of the Appendices I have been indebted to several parties, more especially to my friend A. Scott, Esq., the able Principal of the