

to do it against the most powerful efforts of our enemies. By the adoption of Sir James Wallace's plans, any number of men may be perfectly secure without the possibility of capture, and though all the out-posts were in possession of the enemy, the capital, with all its treasures, and that of the troops, by being conveyed there on the first alarm, would remain in perfect safety, beyond the reach of their exertion, till relieved by a Squadron from England. In this small spot all the force of St. John's (and of the whole island, if such a system was thought necessary,) might be concentrated, and from thence, from its elevated situation, they could defend the town, and resist their attempts from the sea. And on the land side, Nature, by her inaccessible precipices, has placed sufficient barriers. Thus protected, Fort William would be enabled to hold out much longer than it possibly can in its present state; and in case of finding the force of the enemy too powerful, from its contiguity to the hills, its garrison might retreat without opposition to the summit of them.

Nor were the abilities of Sir James Wallace confined to the circle of official duty during the trying period of the investment of Newfoundland; a large field lay before him to give full scope to the feelings of his heart, and to exercise his generosity. By the savage ferocity of Allemande (the second in command in the French Squadron), the town of Bay of Bulls (twenty-eight miles from St. John's), was reduced to ashes. On this calamitous occasion his conduct corresponded with that noble system which he adopted with so much honour to himself and to his country, at the evacuation of Martinique, where every description of persons found on board the Monarch an hospitable asylum. Here he shewed equal humanity, and not only solaced the miserable sufferers

by his kindness, but relieved them by his bounty.

Such is the small epitome of the history or rather description of Newfoundland, which, would time permit, I could extend to a far greater length, in enumerating the advantages resulting from it, in describing the several branches of its trade, in displaying the industry of its inhabitants, and the indefatigable perseverance of its merchants, and finally in pointing out the causes that impede the growth of their prosperity.

I cannot, however, conclude this account without expressing my hope, that the commerce of Newfoundland, may become every year more flourishing, so as to reward the industry of its merchants, and be an ample nursery for the British Navy.

LETTER ON CANADA.

[The following has been handed to us, as an extract from a letter, written by a Gentleman of distinction in this Country, to a Friend in England.]

"CANADA is a fine Country; for soil, infinitely to be preferred to any District on the American Margin of the Atlantic: Every thing in it shews that the elevation of it into prosperous Colonies, was not adapted to the feudal Genius of the French Government. Strangers imagine it to be a Switzerland, till they visit it, and are then astonished to find it a Flanders; a flat extended on the South to the rear of New England, and on the South west and North west a flat without bounds. The Commercial spirit of the English has penetrated it many hundred leagues beyond Lake Haron, to a vast level, called for its unascertained expansion and openness, (with here and there clumps of Trees, appearing like Islands,) *La Mer d'Ouest* or the Western Sea; and from the grand Portage, which is on