

OF VIRGINIA.



VIRGINIA hath on the North, *Canada*; on the South, *Florida*; on the East, *Mare del Noort*; the Western boundaries not known, or not well discovered. So called in honour of *Queen Elizabeth*, that *Virgin* Monarch; when discovered (to any purpose) by *Sir Walter Raleigh*, An. 1584. By the natural Inhabitants called *Apalchen*, from a Town of that name; one of the chief in all the Countrey.

The Inland parts hereof are Mountainous and barren, full of thick woods, a Receptacle for wilde beasts, and the wilder *Salvages*. Towards the Sea more plain and fruitfull, as will appear by the Survey of its several Provinces; Premising first that *Virginia* in the full Latitude thereof extendeth from the 34th. Degree where it joyns with *Florida*, unto the 44th. where it quartereth on *Norumbega*.

The first Discovery hereof by the two *Cabots*, Father and Son, An. 1497. did first entitle the Crown of *England* to this Countrey. The Design after seconded by one *Mr. Hare*, bringing thence certain of the pret Kings, or Princess hereof: who did Homage to King *Henry* the 8th. then sitting in his Royal Throne in the Palace of *Westminster*: but nothing further done in pursuance of it. And though *John Verazzani*, a noble *Florentine*, at the incouragement and charge of King *Francis* the first, Anno 1524. discovered more of the Countrey than *Cabot* did; yet the *French* too much in love with the pleasures of *France*, or intangled in Civil wars amongst themselves, looked no further after it: Inomuch that the Countrey lying thus neglected, was re-discovered by the charges and direction of *Sir Walter Raleigh*, then Captain of the *Guard*, and in great power and favour with *Queen Elizabeth*, Anno 1584. who sending Master *Philip Amadas*, and Master *Arthur Barlow* upon this employment, did by them take possession of it in *Queen Elizabeth's* name; in honour of whom he caused it to be called *Virginia*. The next year he sent hither a Colony, under the conduct of the noble *Sir Richard Greenville*: who not supplied with necessaries for their subsistence, returned home again. In the year 1587. a second Colony is sent hither, but as succesleffe as the first: the businesse being undertaken onely on a private Purse, not owned as the interest of the State, or of publick moment, till the year 1606. In the mean time the North parts of this Countrey being more perfectly discovered by Captain *Bartholomew Gosnold*, An. 1602. and the middle parts being taken up by the *Hollanders* not long after, that is to say, in the year 1609. the whole became divided into these three parts. 1. *New-England*. 2. *Norumb Belgium*. 3. *Virginia* strictly and specially so called. To which the Isles of the *Bermudas* shall come in for a fourth.

NEW-ENGLAND hath on the North-East, *Norumbega*; and on the South West, *Norumb Belgium*. So called by the *Adventurers* by whom first planted: not so much because opposite to *Nova Albion*, as some men conceive: as in imitation of the like adjuncts of distinction, given by the *French* and *Spaniards*, to *Nova Francia*, *Nova Hispania*, *Nova Gallia*, *Nova Granada*, and the like.

The Countrey situate in the middle of the *Temperate Zone*, betwixt the degrees of 41. and 44. equally distant from the *Arctic Circle*, and the *Tropick of Cancer*; by consequence naturally of the same degree of heat, with *France*, or *Italy*: But by reason of the thick mists which arise from the Seas adjoining, those heats so moderated; that the *Aire* is found to be exceedingly agreeable to an *English* body. The soyl not onely fruitfull of such Commodities as grow there naturally; but also of all sorts of Grain which were brought from *England*. Great store of Woods, and Trees, both for fruit and building; plenty of Deer within the Woods, of Salt and Fish upon the shores; and as for *Turkies*, *Partridges*, *Swans*, *Geese*, *Cranes*, *Ducks*, *Pigeons*, such a full variety, as serves not onely for necessity, but for Pride and Luxury. The Commodities of most note for maintaining of Traffick, rich Furs, and many sorts of Fish, some Amber, Flax, Linnen, Iron, Pitch, Masts, Cables, Timber fit for shipping: in a word whatsoever comes to *England* by the way of the *Sound*, might be at better rates, and with far lesse trouble be supplied from hence; at least, if we believe the *Relations* of it, published in the year 1622.

The people for the most part well enough disposed, if not roughly handled, hospitable, and more civil than the rest of their Neighbours. So tractable and docile in matters of Religion, that liking well the Rites and Ceremonies of the *English*, at their first settling there, An. 1608. they would use to say that King *James* was a good King, and his God a good God, but their Tanto naught. Which Tanto was an evil spirit, which did haunt and trouble them every Moon, and therefore they worshipped him for fear. Which notwithstanding, I finde not any great increase of Christianity amongst the *Natives*: our *English* Undertakers thinking it sufficient if they and their houses served the Lord, without caring what became of the Souls of the wretched people; which hitherto have sat in darkness and the shadow of death, notwithstanding those *New lights* which have shined amongst them. And as for those New-comers which have planted there, all *English*, though some immediately out of *Holland*; I cannot better tell you of what strain they were, than in the words of *John de Laet*, *Novi Orbis* lib. 3. cap. 8. where he observeth, *Primos hucce Colonos, ut & illos qui postea accesserunt, potissimum aut omnino fuisse ex eorum hominum Secta, quos in Anglia Brownistas & Punitanos vocant, quales non pauci & in Belgium Superioribus annis se receperunt; & hinc ad socios sunt profecti.* They were (saith he) either for the most part,