

most celebrated, as lying in a most favourable climate, and presenting at its entrance that grand archipelago of North American islands called the West Indies. From this gulf a singular current sets towards the north-east, this current called the gulf stream passes to the banks of Newfoundland, and is supposed to proceed from the accumulation of waters by the trade wind. It is distinguished from other parts of the ocean by the gulf weed; is eight or ten degrees warmer; never sparkles in the night; and when it arrives in cool latitudes produces thick fogs. The trade wind, or diurnal sea breeze, is from the east, and its collateral points, with little intermission, for nine months in the year. To the south of the gulf of Mexico is the Bay of Honduras, well known in the annals of English commerce.—The Caribbean sea may perhaps more properly be considered as belonging to South America.

The opposite shore presents the gulf of California, which seems an estuary of two large rivers. The jealous silence of the Spaniards concerning their American possessions affords but few materials for a proper illustration of their geography. The gulf of St. Lawrence is the well known estuary of a river of the same name, generally frozen from December to April. This noble gulf is closed by the island of Newfoundland, and by numerous sand-banks, particularly what is called the Great Bank. This celebrated fishing station is more than 400 miles in length, by about 140 in breadth; the water being from 22 to 50 fathoms, with a great swell, and frequently a thick fog. The chief fishery begins on the 10th of May, and continues till the end of September, the greatest number of cod fish, taken by a single fisherman, being twelve thousand, but the average is seven thousand: the largest fish was four feet three inches in length, and weighed forty-six pounds. More than 500 English vessels commonly fish on the bank; and the number used sometimes to be equalled by the French, who had formerly a settlement in the neighbouring isle of Cape Breton.

There are also great fisheries on the banks which lie off the coasts of Nova Scotia, particularly on that called Saddle Island Bank, or rather from the French *Sable*, the Isle of Sand, which is in the shape of a bow, about eight leagues in length, with a narrow pond of sea water in the middle, filled every tide by a narrow inlet.

Hudson Sea may be considered as extending from the entrance of Hudson Strait, to its western extremity, that is from long. 65 deg. west, to long. 95 deg. or thirty degrees of longitude, which in lat. 60 deg. will be 900 geographical miles, or about 1050 British, exceeding the Baltic in length as well as breadth. The shores are generally rocky and precipitous, and the climate almost the perpetual abode of winter, the hot weather in June being brief though violent. This sea is far from abundant in fish, but the common whale is found; and the Beluga, or white whale, is taken in considerable numbers in June, when the rivers in the south have discharged their ice. Large sturgeons are also caught near Albany. Shell fish are extremely rare, common muscles alone being frequent.—The large track of territory on the south of this sea is the property of the Hudson's Bay Company, whose chief profits are derived from furs. This sea has been repeatedly explored for a north-west passage, perhaps as little to be expected as a passage from the Baltic into the arctic ocean, or the Euxine. Chesterfield inlet is a singular strait stretching far to the west, but terminates in a magnificent lake of fresh water, communicating with this sea by what may be called a broad river; the adjacent land being level, rich in pasture, and abounding with deer. But it is probable that in the north-east Hudson Sea opens into the arctic ocean, where the perpetual ice presents a complete barrier to commercial views.

The Gulf, or Sea of Davis may be considered as part of the Sea of Hudson, and probably joins the arctic ocean. What is called Baffin's Bay is laid down as extending from 46 deg. west long. to 94 deg. which, supposing the degree only 16 geographical miles, would yield a length of 768 geographical miles; and the breadth on the west side is represented as little inferior. As this sea is perhaps wholly imaginary, it is unnecessary to enlarge on the subject: and it shall only be observed that the west coast of Greenland has not been explored beyond lat. 72 deg. or Sanderson's Hope, and an old Danish settlement called Opernevig. In the midst of Baffin's Bay many maps present a large tract called James Island, which perhaps is a promontory passing from Greenland, or a large isle in the north of Hudson Sea, laid down from erroneous observations.

As in the general description of Asia not only

the C  
have  
above  
detach  
The  
this p  
which  
that o  
ready  
and n  
ordin  
sea, w  
than 1  
part o  
never  
The v  
bottom  
There  
Minor  
vages  
of the  
fall int  
ize, b  
fect.  
abound  
sturge  
all sea  
fifty p  
opens i  
Mary,  
places  
a rapi  
which  
and th  
storms  
dange  
breaki  
high.  
Lake  
and or  
Manat  
ther sl  
Mich  
then.  
shall  
lakes  
and of  
rope.  
the Bl  
the rig  
From  
these  
The