

witnesse. He sailed from thence towards Virginia, and, by reason of some unhappy direction in his course, the greatest ship he had struck upon some shelves, on that coast of Canadie, and was there lost, with most part of the company in her; and he, himself, being then in a small pinnace of twenty tun, in the company of his Vice-Admiral (one Captain Hayes), returning towards England, in a great storme was overwhelmed with the seas, and so perished." Sir Walter Raleigh, "statesman, soldier, sailor," just missed, by an accidental detention, being overwhelmed in the same cold seas with his brave half-brother.

Sir Francis Drake next visited Newfoundland, repeated the act of taking possession, and in a sort of piratical fashion returned to England with half-a-dozen Portuguese ships, to whose cargoes of furs, oil, and fish he had taken a fancy. But these, and visits from other distinguished worthies, such as Cartier and Frobisher, though sounding well at this distance of time, really did but little for the advancement of the country, which, for nearly a century and a-half, remained merely a fishing station for French, Spanish, Portuguese, and English, and a refuge for pirates and other amiable characters who found the restraints of law inconvenient, and could here indulge their engaging proclivities unhindered. Grants for colonization had been made as early as 1502, and through the sixteenth century several ill-considered, and therefore unsuccessful, attempts to form settlements in Newfoundland were made. In 1610 "a company of adventurers and planters of the cities of London and Bristol"—among the directors was the Lord Chancellor Bacon—attempted to plant a colony in Conception Bay, a huge fiord on the eastern coast; and in 1617 Captain Whitbourne headed a company of Welsh settlers in Harbour Britain, on the southern coast. Both their attempts failed. The first really successful settlement was that effected six years later by Sir George Calvert, afterward Lord Baltimore. He chose a location in Ferryland, a harbour south of St. John's, where he built a handsome residence for himself, provided comfortably for his colonists, and erected salt-works and a strong fort,—the latter in well-founded anticipation of attacks from the French. All went well for a short time. Health, plenty, and content blessed the little