

The following extracts, from books of undisputed authority, form a part of a considerable collection of original papers on this subject, which it is intended to print if the present appeal be favourably received.

The first is from "A shorte and briefe Narration of the two Navigations and Discoveries to the north-west Parts, called New France. First translated out of French into Italian, by that famous learned man Gio. Bapt. Ramutius; and now turned into English by Iohn Florio; worthy the reading of all Venturers, Travellers, and Discoverers." 1580*.

The dedication is dated at "Oxenford," in which university the translator Florio seems to have been a resident; he was afterwards one of the gentlemen of the chamber to the Queen.

"Here is the description," says he, "of a country no less fruitful and pleasant in all respects than is England, France, or Germany. The people, though simple and rude in manners, and destitute of the knowledge of God, or any good laws, yet of nature gentle and tractable, and most apt to receive the christian religion,

* The reference to this book was given to the writer by a gentleman who has an interesting work in forwardness on the eloquence of the Indians of North America.