



A SCENE IN NEWFOUNDLAND.

sent home with a number of diseased seamen, but the commander, who was on board the "Squirrel," went down in her with all the crew in a fearful gale. Prior to this sad loss, when in great danger, the noble hearted man gave utterance to the true Christian sentiment "We are as near Heaven by sea as by land."

In 1623 Sir George Calvert obtained a charter and secured the Province of Avalon as his property. From this period up to 1700 we find that several bodies of settlers, with the sanction of Parliament, were introduced from time to time, who were located chiefly on the eastern shore.

This brings us to a period when a step was taken which was fraught with mighty issues, not only for Newfoundland, but for the whole of the English speaking race. After the Reformation, until the beginning of the eighteenth century, our Mother Church had done absolutely nothing to fulfil the charge committed to her to assist in the evangelization of the world. This was not to be wondered at, for all her energies and power were called forth to do battle against the errors of the Church of Rome on the one hand, and the innovations of Puritans on the other.

It was not, too, until she had passed through all the trials and difficulties caused by the desolation and blood-shedding incidental to the horrors of the civil wars and the excitement of the Restoration, that churchmen awoke to the consciousness

that their Holy Mother was not performing her duty in the planting of Christ's Church and the preaching of His Holy Gospel.

To wipe out this apparent negligence several earnest churchmen, led by the Venerable Dr. Bray, founded in 1701 the Society for the Propagation of the Gospel, "to whose beneficence and support Newfoundland, under God, owes almost her all. The task was a gigantic one, but, nothing daunted, this missionary scheme was launched forth in the name of the Head of the Church.

The factories, plantations, and colonies beyond the seas, were to be their first care; then where means and money permitted, they were to turn their thoughts away from their own kith and kin to seek out the heathen, and offer to them the Bread of Life and the Water of salvation.

As a natural consequence of this grand idea, we are not surprised to find that "the Ancient Colony" almost immediately became a fitting arena for the infant society's work. This auspicious event was actuated by the fact that the venerable founder of the society had been in 1700 driven near the Newfoundland coast whilst on his way to Maryland, and, although he did not land there, gathered such information from a master of a ship who was on board with him, as to make him immediately turn his attention to Newfoundland.

In 1702 there were two clergymen working in Newfoundland, one of whom became in 1703 the