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by the resignation of Mr. Coughlen in 1773."\* In a letter, dated 1778, Mr. Balfour reported the population of Harbor Grace to consist of 4462 Protestants and 1306 Roman Catholics : the number of communicants varying 150 to 200.

He was succeeded in this mission by Rev. John Clinch. In 1787, a memorial from the inhabitants of Placentia Bay, was laid before the society, stating their willingness to contribute to the support of a clergyman in their settlement. His R. H. Prince William Henry, afterwards King William IV., then in command of a ship-of-war on the station, contributed handsomely towards the erection of the church, and presented them a set of communion plate.†

The condition of Newfoundland at the period treated of in the foregoing pages presented dangers and discouragements to missionary enterprise far surpassing any difficulties experienced by the Messengers of the Cross in that country or any other portion of British America at the present day. The population of the Island was of a much more fluctuating character than at present : it consisted of a few thousands, principally poor fishermen, thinly scattered among the innumerable bays and harbours of more than a thousand miles of northern seaboard, inaccessible, except by water, from the rough face of the land and the total absence of all roads, the missionaries were compelled to travel great distances by water, passing round headlands and promontories exposed to the swell of the wide Atlantic, in open boats and small fishing vessels, in order to reach the scattered stations under their spiritual care. In addition to the hardships and privations attendant on the performance of their duties, many of these men had to subsist on the scanty pittance of £30 or £40 assigned to them by the Society for Propagating the Gospel, then in its infancy, in addition to

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\* Hawkins' Missions.

† His widow, the present Queen Dowager Adelaide, is said to have lately contributed towards the rebuilding of this church.