

science had been earlier, if the old latitudes had been taken with exactness, we should have been able to trace the course, on sea and on shore, of the intrepid and immortal explorers, who first penetrated our northern waters, Davis, Frobisher, Barents, Hudson, Hore, Gilbert, Roberval, Cartier, and the rest, with the enthusiastic satisfaction which certainty always imparts to historical investigations.

It would have been far more gratifying, we confess, if this investigation had led us to the conclusion, that the old latitudes were always correct. The haziness and doubt, however, which have so long brooded over the subject, have, we think, been cleared away. And it will doubtless be admitted, that the certainty that the old latitudes were always wrong^s is next in importance to the certainty that they were always right.