

William Vaughan, but failed miserably. He was, however, still full of the idea, and in his fantastic book, *The Golden Fleece*, published 1626, urged the colonization of Newfoundland. He several times stated that "John Guy, Alderman of Bristol, was the first Christian that planted and wintered in that Island, establishing an English colony at Cuper's Cove in Conception Bay." Vaughan was certainly acquainted with every detail.

Guy himself bears evidence to his claim of first settler. In his first letter to the Company, May 16, 1611, he tells how he disproved by his own experience the doubt which had been entertained whether Newfoundland was habitable during the winter; and that many fishermen, "seeing their safety," had become in love with the country, and intended to settle in it.

The little settlement of Cupid's still survives, as a humble fishing hamlet. It has been outstripped in the race in Newfoundland, and all around it are more flourishing villages; but it has a claim to notice which is unique, for it is the oldest colonial settlement now within the bounds of Greater Britain. Virginia and the New England colonies antedated it, but they are no longer within the empire. Quebec was also settled two years earlier, but the credit of it belongs to France. Sir George Somers was wrecked on the Bermudas in 1609, and remained there until 1610, when he went on to Virginia with all his company save three men who elected to remain behind; but it was not until 1612 that a charter was granted authorizing the planting of a colony in Bermuda.

Newfoundland was discovered by the first English sailors to cross the Atlantic Ocean, was formally taken possession of by Sir Humphrey Gilbert in 1583, and contains the oldest colonial settlement in the empire. It has therefore a triple reason for its title of the Most Ancient Colony of Newfoundland.

Thus after many days was consummated the project