

we think an author is equally entitled to credit for judicious reflection in discarding a more minute investigation of the early history of the colony which he professes to treat of. For our part, we have always been accustomed to look upon this period of history in quite a different light, and to profess ourselves as favourably inclined as we can possibly be, without enthusiasm, to the elucidation of an era into which the wise of all ages have always endeavoured to penetrate. Nothing seems to be more natural to man than a desire to trace to their source the first dawns of society and civilization; and if it be true that, in such research, he has experienced a greater share of disappointment than of success, it is nevertheless so far from being a questionable exercise of his faculties, that the greatest praises have been bestowed on those whose superior genius or industry may have enabled them to shed an additional ray of light upon this portion of history. We cannot therefore approve of the reasons which may have induced our author to discard the early history of Nova Scotia, and in which, from what we ourselves know of it, we are certain he would have found an ample field of matter highly interesting to the colony itself as well as to the paternal State. Aware of this we have entered more minutely into the history of our sister province than our author has done; and if the result of our inquiries shall afford any gratification to our readers, without detracting from the merits of the work before us, we shall esteem ourselves as amply rewarded for our trouble.

NOVA SCOTIA, so called by Sir William Alexander, Secretary to James I., and to this day distinguished on the French maps by the name of Acadia, extended originally from the gulf of St. Lawrence to the river St. Croix, on the frontier of New Hampshire, or Maine, as we find it marked on the original maps. This extent of country, England has always claimed as a part of Norembegua, or Virginia, while the French, previous to its final cession, founded pretensions to it on the discovery of Verazzoni, a Florentine pilot. But it is quite unnecessary to enter into any discussion regarding these contending claims of discovery or pre-occupancy, after the question of right has been annihilated by subsequent conquest and treaties. This territory, previous to its partition into Nova Scotia, New Brunswick and the adjacent islands, extended from the 43d to the 51st degree of north latitude, but now, according to our author, it is limited to "within the 43d and 46th degrees, and between the 61st and 67th of longitude, west from the Greenwich meridian. It is connected with the body of North America by a narrow isthmus.* By a

* These seem not only indefinite expressions, but improper ones. At all events, "North America" should have given place to *The United States*.