

were again to attempt the colonization of Newfoundland.

Some time in the spring of 1610, they set out, and, reaching the coast of Newfoundland in safety, took up their abode in Cowper's or Cuper's Cove, in Conception Bay. In process of time this name has been converted into Cupid's, by pure inadvertence, we are assured, and not on account of any aniorous proclivities among the inhabitants.

It was a beautiful little bay sheltered from the north and east, well wooded, with two rivers falling into it, and with excellent fishing grounds in close proximity.

That this was the first settlement in Newfoundland we have the evidence of several contemporary witnesses. The first of these is Sir William Alexander, who issued his little tract, *An Encouragement to Colonies*, in 1624. Speaking of Newfoundland, he says: "The first houses for a habitation were built in Cupids Cove within the Bay of Conception, where people did dwell for sundrie yeares together, and some well satisfied both for pleasure and profit are dwelling there still." He also furnishes us with the first record of any one spending the winter in St. John's. The first ship that he sent to take possession of his grant in Nova Scotia was late in getting out. Returning, they put into St. John's, where part of the company decided to stay, sending the ship back to England. Some of these people took service with the fishermen arriving at St. John's in the spring of 1623, and refused to go on to Nova Scotia in the vessel shortly after arriving from Sir William Alexander. It is very probable that the people who separated themselves from Sir William Alexander's colony remained at St. John's, and thus made the first permanent settlement there. The Bristol Company made a second settlement at Bristol's Hope (Harbour Grace) soon after that at Cupid's. A third attempt was made at Trepassey, with Welshmen as colonists, under the command of the eccentric Sir