

dissented from them; the horrid transactions respecting the supposed witches; the contentions which perpetually disturbed the peace of the colonies, even when the common safety required the greatest unanimity; the continual state of warfare natural to the savage inhabitants of those countries, adopted there by European nations among themselves, and those very savages armed by Europeans against Europeans;—we turn with astonishment to that vast island, whose name is scarcely ever mentioned in the history of those times, Newfoundland,—discovered by Cabot even before Columbus had made his first voyage to the continent of America,—and settled by Europeans long before any other part of the new world. We ask with surprise how it happens that Newfoundland should hitherto have been so little known, as to make it, even in our most modern systems of geography, a matter of doubt whether Placentia or Saint John's were its capital,—whether the race of its ancient inhabitants were extinct or still in existence,—whether it were inhabited by Euro-