

HISTORICAL AND DESCRIPTIVE
ACCOUNT
OF
BRITISH AMERICA.

CHAPTER I.

Hudson's Bay Territory: Early Discovery and Settlement.

Outline and Boundaries—Mountain Ranges—Rivers and Lakes—
Discovery by Cabot and Hudson—Button—Bylot—Fox—James
—Hudson's Bay Company—Their Settlements—Contests with
France—Voyages by Knight—Middleton—Moor and Smith—
North-west Company—Harmon's Account of their Trade and
Settlements.

THERE still remains to be described a region of British America, far surpassing in extent the settled and occupied parts. It stretches in length from the eastern coast, in about 65° W. long., to the Russian boundary, in 141°, being seventy-six degrees of longitude, which, in the sixtieth degree of latitude, will make about 2600 miles. The breadth, from 49° north latitude, the boundary of the United States, reaches to the northern limit of America. The dimension, in this direction, will therefore be twenty-one degrees, or nearly 1460 English miles; but so much space is occupied by inland seas, that it is scarcely possible to estimate its superficial extent.