

ADDRESS.

THE following work was at first intended to have been published under the title of the "CABOTIAN NAVIGATOR,"* and to form the first volume of a series which comprehends a description of the Atlantic seaboard of the American continent, by the late Mr. JOHN PURDY, whose works will remain an honourable and lasting memorial of the zeal and talent which, for upwards of forty years, were so successfully and usefully exerted in advancing the science of Hydrography.

But, as the attempt would be futile to impose a name upon a territory which has no general designation, however desirable it would be to give the name of CABOT to the country that he made known to modern times, the title of the "British American Navigator" has been adopted.

Three editions of a previous work on the same subject, under the title of the "Newfoundland Directory," have been honoured with the public approbation; but, from the more complete knowledge we now possess of those regions, it was found necessary to remodel the whole of it, and to abandon a title which would be manifestly inapplicable to its entire contents.

The former work was composed from the labours of Captain James Cook, the circumnavigator, whose survey of the western coasts of Newfoundland is still the best we have; from Messrs. Holland, Bouchette, Captain Bayfield, &c. in the Gulf and River of St. Lawrence; from Messrs. Lockwood, Des Barres, and others, on the coasts of Nova Scotia, New Brunswick, &c.; and these, as far as they were available, are retained in the present work; but, from the great amount of information we have latterly acquired of these regions, it will be found that the present volume is far more complete than its predecessors.

For the eastern coasts of Newfoundland, we have availed ourselves of the works of Captain F. Bullock, W. Bullock, and G. Holbrook, the Admiralty surveyors, which form a complete guide to this singular and rugged coast. In the description and directions for the N.E. portion, we have included the

* See Vol. I. page 29, of "Newfoundland in 1842," by Sir Richard Henry Bonnycastle; an interesting work, containing a complete history and description of the island of Newfoundland.