

solemnly presented to him; and last of all he made his men set up a pillar of wood, bearing a leaden plate upon which the arms of England had been engraved. This was a token to all comers that England claimed Newfoundland for her own; but even the foreigners made no objections to all these proceedings. Possibly they were tired of living without any settled laws, when they came to Newfoundland to fish, as many did every year; and Sir Humphrey soon showed that he really meant to govern the country. He began by ordering that all the people must worship God according to the forms of the Church of England, and that they must all pay due respect to Queen Elizabeth; he then gave grants of land to those who asked for them.

7. By this time his stock of provisions was getting low; but when he asked for supplies, the people on the vessels, especially the Portuguese, brought them willingly. Yet, though his authority was so fully acknowledged, Sir Humphrey had many difficulties to struggle against. Some of his men fell sick; some deserted, and behaved badly in other ways, and at last his company became so small that he put the rascally crew of the *Swallow* on board the *Delight*, and left the pirate ship to carry home the sick.

8. The explorers had found on the island ore which the "mineral-man" told them would yield a large quantity of silver, and this Sir Humphrey, with high hopes of future fortune, placed on the *Delight*. He left St. John's towards the end of August, and, wishing to explore the coasts, he himself embarked in the little *Squirrel*, which could venture where a larger ship might not.