

a knowledge of
prayed propens-
and acquired a
barbarism.

ts of the island,
concentrated their
news, and itine-
which associated
y in their favour.

eneficent labours,
w were the vow-
uth." Whatever

The coasts swarm
od.
promises nothing.
is rapid but con-
where, the sudden
and the transient
plants grow very
uch trouble.

, and so covered
d large ponds, as
ore it. The Abp-
n in their original
country, and unfold
ut as the knowledge
orant observer of
e without notice, or
no beauty, no gran-
t discern harmony,

. It is the exclu-
e object of univer-
ultimately termi-
ery. At an esta-
world, and is preg-
als and the nation.

might have been the cause this was the fact; and while su-
perstition and immorality were advancing with gigantic
strides, religion was enervated in its motives, and feeble in its
influence. When the multitude was degenerating in principle
and practice, and religion gradually receding from the ener-
gy of its original and native character; the men whose office
it was to defend and guard it from abuse, tolerated those vi-
ces by their fatal example which it was their duty, and should
have been their business to suppress.

Infidelity also had risen to an enormous height, and those
whom the vague phantoms of superstition had not defiled,
were corrupted by the impious dogmas of scepticism. Few
were able to withstand these enemies to human morals, and
invaders of religion. Divine laws were every where con-
tempted and regard to human was only extorted by the au-
thority of the secular arm. Amid such a general defection,
a defection sanctioned by the example of those upon whom
wealth had conferred superiority, it must have been a great
thing for the indigent and illiterate to escape a contagion so
general and so fatal.

*It is governed by a British Admiral, who takes the title of
His Excellency, assumes the station usually for three years,
and comes and returns periodically. The Courts of Justice
are founded upon the same principle, and are regulated by
the same decisions as those of Great-Britain, with the excep-
tion of such variations as arise from local usages.*

*St. John's may very properly be called the metropolis of
Newfoundland. It is the residence of the Governor, and the
grand depot for all ordnance stores. It also contains a re-
gular military establishment, is well fortified, and forms the
point of rendezvous for the Ships of war. Here the princi-
pal business of the Island is concentrated. From this place
the greatest part of the people through the whole Island draw
their supplies. The population also is far greater than that
of any other town in the country; and is not only the com-
mon resort of strangers, but at certain seasons of the year is
visited by all for the settling and winding up of their annual
concerns.*