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SIR HUMPHREY GILBERT.

From Anspack's History of Newfoundland.

THE first attempt to settle a colony, which also paved the way to others of a similar nature successfully made afterwards in other parts of North America, and which procured to its author the title of "the parent of all the English plantations" in that part of the world, was made in Newfoundland.

Sir Humphrey Gilbert, descended from an ancient family in the county of Devon, equally conversant in theory and in practice with cosmography, navigation, and the art of war, and remarkable for an enterprising spirit, for intrepidity and eminent abilities, had formed the resolution of settling a colony in the island of Newfoundland. Queen Elizabeth entered at once into his views, and, by letters patent, dated the 11th of June, 1578, invested him with full powers, similar to those which Henry had before granted to Cabot, to dis-