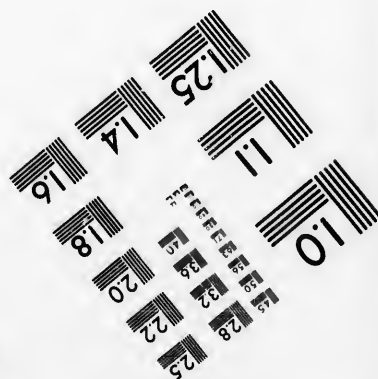
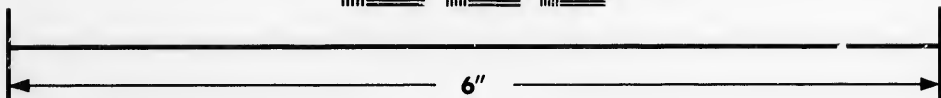
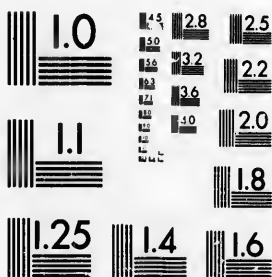


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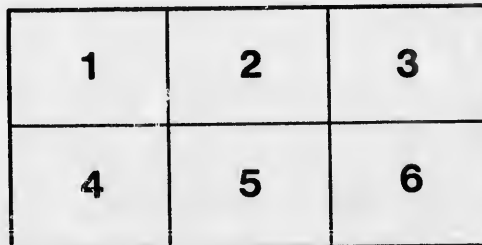
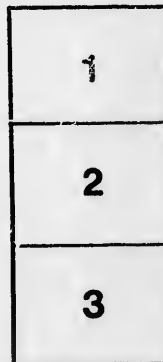
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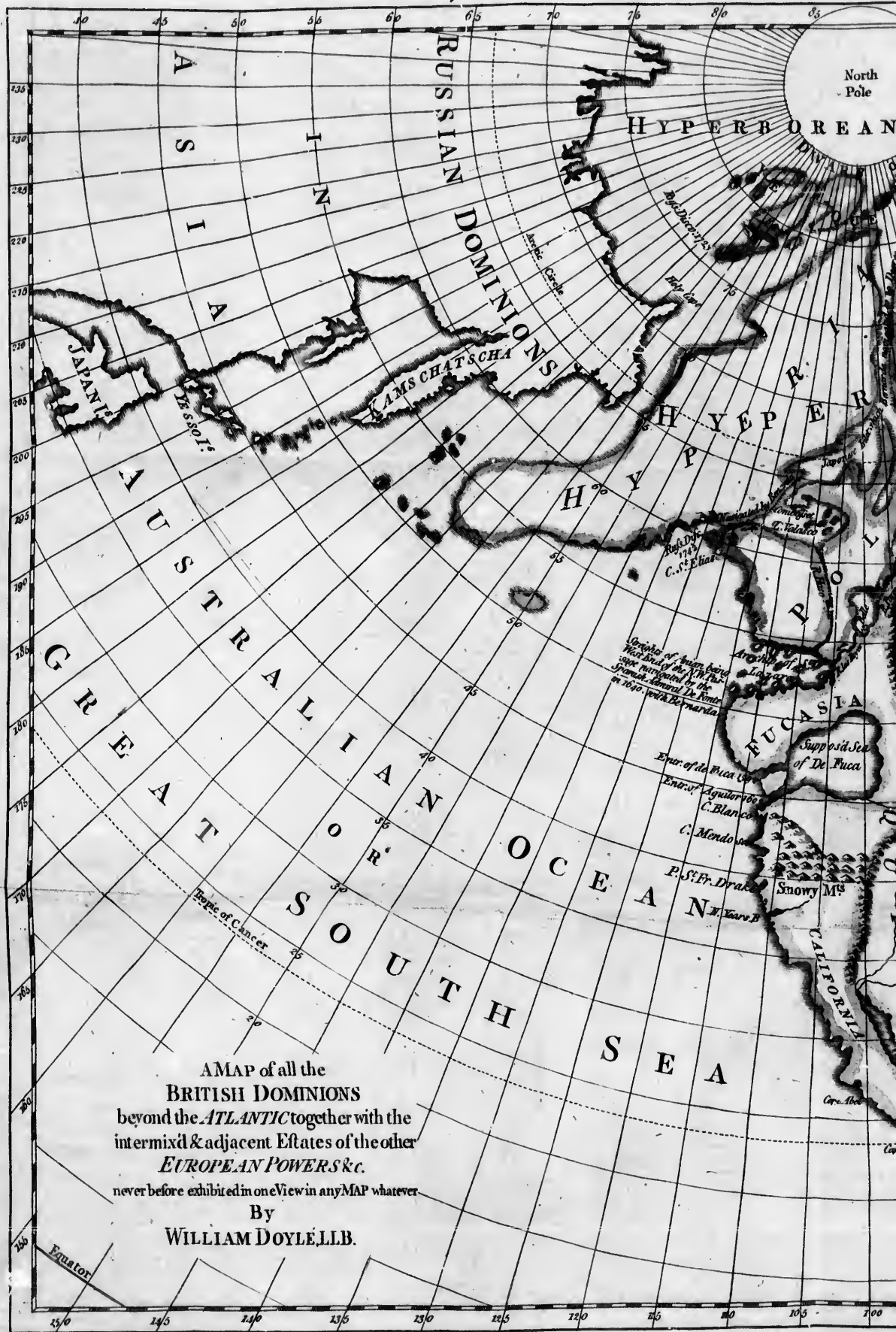
In the annexed map, the parts not heretofore known to us, are delineated from the Russian and Japonese maps and charts; especially some discoveries made in consequence of the search after the north-west passage. But the long north-east point, beyond Spitzberg, is sketched only from reasonable conjectures.

In this map names are given to such parts as had not obtained till now any proper one.— Thus the Arctic regions are called Hyperborea; a term adopted from the antients: The eastern part thereof, including Greenland, &c. is here called Asperofa, from the exceeding asperity of its surface as well as its climate. Perhaps, some would choofe the Greek word Thracia, which signifies the faze; but to prevent mistakes from a familiarity of names, Asperofa is here preferred. The more western part of Hyperborea, is named Hyperia, which signifies far west; and the middle portion thereof is denominatd Polynesia, from the great number of islands of which it almost wholly confists.

The region above Callifornia, is here called Fucafia, from the real or pretended discoveries of De Fuca; and the immense tracts from thence to Hudfon's Bay, and the Allegenny mountains, are named Polimnia, as in a manner intirely composed of lakes and meadows, which that word implies. Anthofia, to the fouth of Polimnia, signifies the fame as Florida, but founds better, as is the case with regard to Mexicanaea, here propofed for New Mexico.

As to the names of Apalach; Azilia, Tegeita, and Accadia; they are but the former ones, now in this map restored.

The alterations propofed for the limits of the Old English provinces are chiefly as follow: 1. To join New York to New England, and call the whole Neanglia. 2. To make the river Poddee, the boundary between S. and N. Carolina. 3. To take from the latter and from Virginia, what ever lies between James's and Roanoake rivers, and to erect it into a province or rather a province, to be called Jacobea, from king James I. in whose reign, and in this very part, the English established their first colonies; the capital to be James's town; and this with the other two to be considered as so many provinces; all three composing the one great province of Carolina; just in the same manner as was now propofed with respect to New York and New England.



AMAP of all the
BRITISH DOMINIOMS
 beyond the *ATLANTIC* together with the
 intermixd & adjacent Estates of the other
EUROPEAN POWERS &c.
 never before exhibited in one View in any MAP whatever

By
WILLIAM DOYLE, LL.B.



As the east and west divisions of Maryland are entirely separated and disjointed from each other by the mighty bay of Chesapeake; perhaps it would be a more natural distribution, if the west part of Maryland was united with Virginia, and the east part to Pennsylvania, and both with New Jersey, to be called either from the Greek word *Medeia*, or the Latin *Midenfia*, both implying the middle, unless the name which the Indians give thereto be preferred, viz. *Tocarrihogon*; which signifies not only the middle, but also most excellent: and may as well as *Allegheny* (which signifies endless) be well enough adopted for the omen's sake, and be thought on that account therefore very eligible names. And for a like omen's sake, the capital of all our colonies might be called *Sebastia* (from whence *Sebastia*, the name of the regions thereon depending) and the situation for it, both as most central, and as most convenient for commerce and correspondence, is certainly the narrow neck of land on the frontiers of Maryland and Pennsylvania, which separate the two great bays of Chesapeake and Delaware from one another. And there it is where the chief bishopric of all our colonies would most conveniently be fixed; and which, being but on the very borders of Maryland and Pennsylvania, might easily be purchased from the proprietors of these two provinces; if the crown should not make even an acquisition of the whole; which ought by all means contentedly with justice to be done; and at which the inhabitants of both provinces would very much rejoice; as those of the Carolinas did, when the crown purchased the property of those countries.

If none of these schemes are brought into execution; then, as it would be ill judged to erect a bishopric in a place the immediate sovereignty whereof was not in the crown, the seat of it must be at Gloucester, in New Jersey, about five miles down the river Delaware, below Philadelphia, and happily enough situated; as there is a fine creek in the river, just thereabouts, fenced in by an island, which renders it a place of most secure anchorage, and is generally used as such by vessels navigating that river. Perhaps too, some might think the bishopric best fixed there, for the sake of the old adage, *As sure as God is in Gloucester*. But if the government was determined by any such consideration, it would be easy to found a new *Gloucester* any where else.

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now in this map restored.

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respect to those Parts:

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The important Question about the

NORTH WEST PASSAGE

Is satisfactorily discussed:

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IN WHICH

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REGIONS, are more fully delineated than ever before:

By WILLIAM DOYLE, LL.B.

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ADVERTISEMENT.

THE Title Page, if attended to, will sufficiently inform the Readers, that they are not to expect in the following work a full and circumstantial account of all the parts therein treated of; but only such particulars as are most curious and interesting, and least known or attended to. The observations about the North West Passage, it is hoped, will be found more entertaining and satisfactory, than any thing that as yet has appeared upon the subject: Perhaps, indeed, they will be thought almost decisive.

The Reader, however, is requested to observe, that the account of De Fonte's voyage to discover this North West Passage here inserted, is copied from his own relation, which is not indeed in a very good English stile; though for the most part clear and intelligible enough; and therefore it is hoped, that any impropriety of expression which may be observed in copying that narrative, shall not be objected as a fault to the author of this tract: He chose to give the story in De Fonte's own words, rather than leave the least doubt upon the Reader's mind, with regard to the genuineness and authenticity thereof; about which some uncertainty, perhaps, might have arisen, had he put it into his own words, rather than exhibited it in those of De Fonte's original memoirs.

36 525



Jan 18/86

To his Royal Highness, GEORGE-
AUGUSTUS-FREDERIC, Prince of
WALES.

May it please your Royal Highness,

THE subject treated of in the following sheets is (after the King) of nearer concern to your Royal Highness, than to any prince, or any other person in the world; and therefore it is that to you the author presumes to dedicate it; humbly hoping that your Royal Highness may peruse it, with that condescending candour, which has in all ages been a characteristic of the magnanimous and illustrious house of BRUNSWICK LUNENBURGH.

Your Royal Highness will then be disposed to excuse the liberty, which he takes, to propose plans for the exchange of principalities and regions of great extent; in order to render the British dominions so much more complete, than otherwise they can ever be; and your Royal Highness will perhaps also consider with some favour and attention what is here suggested with regard to the education of those, who are to preside over the government of states.

As to the utility, nay, the absolute necessity of a large acquaintance with geography to this end; and perhaps preferably to many most
A amiable

amiable endowments of the mind; there cannot be a fuller proof brought, than from the latter government of Queen Anne: Her most sincere and truly respectable zeal for religion; her most inexpressibly tender regard for her subjects and for Britain, whose welfare and prosperity she so much preferred to any private satisfaction whatever of her own; her so numerous and decisive victories, by which her enemies were reduced to submit to whatever terms she should please to propose: All these for want of a little geographical knowledge were of no use towards planning a solid peace. Neither she nor her ministry (even at Gertruydenberg) ever once thought of demanding Canada with Florida, nor Cuba, nor Hispaniola, nor even, tho' so peculiarly convenient to Britain, so much as the little Isle of Portorico for her crown; though she might have had them all for the bare asking; nay, perhaps, Mexico too, if it had been thought prudent for Britain to acquire it.—She might have obtained Flanders for the Dutch; an acquisition so natural in itself and so convenient to them; and who, in consideration of their so acquiring it, would not then envy her enlarging her dominions beyond the Atlantic: while France would have thought herself happy to get all the Charibbee Islands, for consenting to the above-mentioned articles.

Perhaps, indeed, France would even yet rejoice to make this acquisition by the cession of Hispaniola; which, however valuable in itself, is certainly a much less secure possession to them; whilst Britain must ever be supposed to
have

have an eye thereto, because of its so convenient vicinity to Jamaica; and who, however, if Masters of Hispaniola, would probably never even in any case whatever think of the Charibbees more. These would then be considered as a natural barrier between the Spanish and English possessions in those parts; even as France by its interposition between these two monarchies in Europe, does most effectually separate them from each other. And as such a barrier they probably would be for ever left.

Indeed the house of Bourbon has now furnished a very fair opportunity for Britain, to insist on the exchange here mentioned. Queen Anne's peace at Utrecht, bad as it was, yet contained an article of vast importance to Britain; *That France should never extend its commerce in the Spanish colonies*: With what right then could it acquire so much more than an extension of commerce? even an extension of dominions? an acquisition of even some of the Spanish territories there, for instance Hispaniola, which they have lately got; though so greatly to the dissatisfaction of the Spanish inhabitants thereof. Britain has therefore a most just right to see, that this important article of the peace of Utrecht be not infringed; has a right to insist on the restoration of Hispaniola to Spain; or, since this latter sets so little value thereon, as to give it away even for nothing; that the cession be made to Britain rather; either for those useless, burdensome acquisitions, Gibraltar, or Minorca, or else for our southern Charibbees: while the Leeward Islands might

be given to France for the other part of Hispaniola; which we, from a most unpardonable supineness, suffered them to possess, so lately as King Charles the second's reign; nay more, restored it to them, after its capital having been reduced in King William's wars; but which may now be so reasonably insisted on, to be forever given up to us.

Should such an exchange of the sovereignties take place, the subjects of both crowns might easily agree upon like exchanges of their private estates also: the respective dominions would be then no ways intermixed, and of course, in case of future ruptures, the navigation to and from the colonies but little interrupted.

This scheme might indeed be much further improved, to not only the advantage of Britain, but even greatly to the satisfaction of Spain and France likewise, if they all considered their dominions geographically; and if they would study that so easily acquired and so pleasing a part of knowledge a little more; and without which, we, from the foregoing observations on Queen Anne's peace at Utrecht, may see; that neither piety, nor even other great virtues in Princes joined thereto, can secure wisdom to direct their councils, when yet they may merit from heaven success to their arms. Indeed it must be an immediate inspiration, that can guide the judgment right, when it determines of things, with which the mind is wholly unacquainted; as must be the case where dominions, lands, and territories are to be disposed of by those who know nothing

D E D I C A T I O N.

v

in the world of their Situation. Such is the consequence of an unacquaintedness with geography.

Alas! how easily might the affairs of Corsica be settled to the full satisfaction of every party whatever, that is in the least interested therein, if the ministers and governors of the states so interested, were possessed of but a very moderate share of geographical knowledge, which would lead them to a most easy removal of all the seeming difficulties that affair now appears to be involved in. A way might be shewn for France, with honour and advantage, to come out of the disagreeable circumstance she has brought herself into, by intermeddling with the affairs thereof: An equivalent most naturally offers itself to the Genoese for their rights therein: And all the neighbouring Princes would be much benefited by such a plan, as geography alone suggests, for the settlement of all the seeming intricacies, with which the affairs of that island appear to be so beset.

I know the people of England in general entertain too great a dislike to France, to be able to hear with patience of any advantage proposed for them: but 'tis full time for us to leave off that characteristic unsociableness of temper, and to learn to consider our so near neighbours, the French, as inhabitants of the same world with ourselves: and though we may be very well allowed to desire the possession of Hispaniola from them, yet to do so, not in the least from envy, but from the consideration of the peculiar necessity the European

pean

pean possessors of Jamaica may be under, to add Hispaniola thereto—especially as the whole string of the Charibbee Isles would in truth be a more permanent and convenient; and therefore a much more eligible acquisition for France to make, than even all Hispaniola can ever prove to them : which it is not to be imagined Britain will always continue to suffer them to enjoy. And, for my own part, I solemnly declare, were I the most Christian King, I should prefer the Charibbees to the latter; and 'tis therefore, and not in the least from enmity to France, that I have here taken the liberty to propose the exchange : because I consider the thing entirely with a view to geography, on which should ever be built all political systems for the adjustment of the interests of states.

Indeed, a thorough knowledge thereof must so influence the conduct, as necessarily to give to administration a steadiness that cannot but gain popularity and reverence from the people at home, and a respect and deference from the nations abroad : even from those, who, from secret motives, might not yet perhaps agree to come into a plan, which they could not however but confess to be most judiciously laid down, and most generally approveable, though not, coinciding with their own particular views.

That your Royal Highness may so carefully study this part of political knowledge (indeed the very foundation thereof,) as to be able to frame therefrom the most wise and just determinations of the respective interests of states, whenever, by the King, or by Britain, or even by any neigh-

DEDICATION. vii

neighbouring country, called upon for your judgment on those points; and whereby the glory and honour of our crown and our people, as well as the peace and happiness of every other state upon the face of the whole globe, whom we may have connexions with, may be the more advanced, and to be able to promote which, is the greatest worldly felicity that a Prince can desire to attain to, is the very sincere, and ardent wish and prayer of,

May it please your Royal Highness,

Your Royal Highness's most

Obedient, and most

Humble Servant,

WILLIAM DOYLÉ.

INTRODUCTION.

Of the General Extent of the British Dominions, and of the Names proposed to be given to such Parts as have not yet obtained any peculiar ones: The Regions next the Pole to be called Hyperborea, and the rest Sebastia.

THE countries, which the English profess to claim beyond the Atlantic Ocean, extend from about the Bay of Bonadventure, and the great Gulph of Darien; the former in the South, and the other in the North Sea, that is from about three hundred miles on this side the Equinoctial Line, to about the same distance from the North Pole.

Indeed many regions in that extent are confessedly the property of other European powers; especially of the Danes and Spaniards: these last are sovereigns of Mexico and its dependencies, and of Panama with the parts near the line; which they have very odly annexed to the viceroyalty of Peru. The others are masters of Iceland, and of some tracts of West Greenland, amongst the polar regions; whilst a great deal within the above-mentioned limits is still in the hands of the wild original inhabitants; over some of whom however towards the north-west, the Russians seem of late to have thoughts of extending their jurisdiction,

But

INTRODUCTION. ix

But as the English do now and then talk of reviving their claim to New Albion, on the North of California, discovered by their countryman, Sir Francis Drake, and by the natives subjected at that time to the English sceptre; and as our people seem even in earnest with respect to this claim, if ever they succeed in the discovery of a north-west passage; and as some Indian tribes towards the southern mentioned boundaries; for instance, the Moskitos, and Samballaws, have always either as subjects or inferior allies acknowledged their dependence on the crown of England; I shall probably be thought not much out in extending their empire as far as is now mentioned.

By my assigning to the English dominions those boundaries, I would not however be thought to exclude the French, the Dutch, and the same Danes from the property of some islands which each of them possess in the West Indies: Those shall be taken notice of in their proper places. I have now only designed a general sketch of what the English hold or claim in those parts, without as yet specifying the precise determinations between them and their neighbours.

This mighty space, thus extending no less than eighty degrees or sixteen hundred leagues, which make above five hundred English miles; is by nature's self divided into two great and almost equal parts, lying north and south of each other, and separated towards the sun-rising by Hudson's Bay, as on the other side they are by

x INTRODUCTION.

the Straights of Arian, named in some Spanish maps the Archpelago of St. Lazarus, being full of islands, in about fifty-two degrees of latitude. The intermediate space is taken up either by the north-west passage, if such there be, or else by chains of lakes, rivers, and mountains, where that passage is imagined to lie.

The more northern part of the two has been called the Polar Countries, the Arctic Regions, Terra Septentrionalis, and the like; but never distinguished by any more proper name, expressed by one word, and peculiar to itself, unless we admit that of Hyperborea, which signifies far North; is also therefore characteristic enough, and was given by the antients, amongst others by Herodotus, five hundred years before Christ, to the most northern part of the world then known, and which name has been ever since retained in that of the Hyperborean Ocean, that washes the shores of this part we are speaking of: so that I cannot see why we should hesitate to renew that antient name of Hyperborea; and to give it to this part of the world, which is thus washed by that ocean, and which has never as yet obtained any other particular and more proper one. At least I hope for these reasons to be excused, if I use it in this work, where I have occasion to speak of it.

The other part, and which lies south of the former, has been generally rather described indeed, than called by any other proper name. The appellation it is usually known by is, "The
British

INTRODUCTION. xi

British dominions in North America," a strange long one truly, when another so much shorter and more proper, and better sounding also, so naturally occurs: viz. that of Sebastia; and which might be thought preferable even for the omen's sake (as Sebastia, which is a Greek word, signifies the same that Augusta does in Latin) as well as in memory of Sebastian Cabot; the first discoverer thereof for the English.

Indeed one should think that whole Peninsula, called hitherto North America, might much more properly go by the name of Sebastia; for as Americus Vespucius, by being the first European who sailed along a great extent of the shores, of that which is now called South America, did thereby acquire a right to give it his own name; let him not therefore be envied the honour of doing so, but let this part thus discovered chiefly by him be called America simply, not South America. And as for what has been named North America, since he never saw, nor sailed within many hundred leagues of it; whereas Sebastian Cabot did, being the first that navigated along and discovered all that tract of the shore thereof, which is washed by the Atlantic Ocean; and this also four or five years before Americus's voyage, and even within two years after Columbus had first discovered the West Indies: why then should not he, that is Sebastian Cabot, enjoy the like honour as Americus, and be allowed to give his name to the northern Peninsula, as the other did to the southern.

xii INTRODUCTION.

One would think the English at least, whose king, Henry VII. was the person that actually employed Sebastian, when he made that discovery; the English, who reap such ample fruits by that very discovery, and who actually possess or claim half at least, if not rather indeed the larger moiety of this vast region; and who can undoubtedly give what names they please to their own possessions; one I say might think that they should prefer giving thereto rather that of *Sebattia*, in memory of the man who in their own service first discovered so great a part thereof, than to call it *North America*, so much longer an appellation and taken from another person, in the service of another nation, who never saw, nor so much as sailed even within many hundred leagues thereof. And if but one news paper of credit persisted in retaining this name, it would soon become common, and the only one in use, which might prove an incentive to some publisher of such to adopt it; that so he might have the reputation of first introducing it into general usage. At least I have determined to take this liberty, and desire it may be observed that whenever the name of *Sebattia* is here used, thereby is intended what has hitherto been vulgarly called *British North America*.

But here it may be asked, how many parts do I make the globe of the earth to consist of? or would I reckon more than four? viz. *Europe*, *Asia*, *Africa*, and *America*.

I answer

INTRODUCTION. xiii

I answer by asking again, which of these four do the northern polar regions belong to? for instance, Greenland? and which of these are the Southern ones part of, as New Holland, New Zealand, &c. Every one knows they belong to none of the four: yet since it is beyond all doubt that there are really such countries, ought they not to be called and known by some name? and will there not then be six parts for the globe to be divided into, instead of four?

But the truth is, there are neither six nor four; that is, if we consider only those divisions, which not princes or states, not geographers, or historians, but which nature itself has made between the several parts of this globe, and that by the most natural of all boundaries, namely seas.

For let any one but cast his eye on a globe of the earth, or in a map thereof, and he will presently see the whole is most naturally divided into three great parts; which, being separated from each other by seas and oceans, may therefore be well considered as three mighty islands. And this has been observed by the great geographer Cluverius.

One of those, and which almost always occupies the right hand space in a map of the globe, is what was first inhabited and planted by mankind, and that even for ages before either of the other two were at all known. For this reason it has been frequently called the
Old

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Old World, but has not as yet obtained any more peculiar or proper name, to distinguish it by from the others.

What then if we call it Ogygia, an appellation used by some modern authors, but borrowed indeed from the antients, who used to call things very antique by that name? and will not this therefore be a very proper appellation for it?

This third portion of the world so proposed to be called Ogygia, may be observed to be very naturally likewise divided into three other parts, namely, Europe, Asia, and Africa; which therefore ought no longer to be considered as three subdivisions of one of those other capital parts and great divisions thereof, namely of the Old World, or of Ogygia.

A second capital division of the earth is that which in maps thereof usually occupies the left hand space, and to which has often been given the name of the New World, as it were to distinguish it from the former; but this very improperly; since the third general division might as well be called by that name, viz. the New World as the said second.

Well then, why may we not call it America? because America (even in its utmost supposed extent) takes in only part thereof, and was never yet considered as including the Arctic Regions. But if here we again consult the antients;

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tients, we should find a very proper appellation for this second grand division of the earth, namely, Atlantis. For though they had confessedly, but very imperfect notions thereof; yet it is certain, they knew so much of it, as to give it a name, and to call it Atlantis, by which it is expressly mentioned by Plato; three hundred years before Christ, who describes it as a mighty island, lying on the west side of the Atlantic Ocean, and near as large as the whole then known world. He supposes indeed, it had been swallowed up by an earthquake or an inundation, as in his time, it was no longer so known.

What need we then be longer at a loss for a name? and why not call it Atlantis, as the ancients did? and who therefrom perhaps transferred the name of the Atlantic Ocean to that, which separated it from this part of the globe, that is from Ogygia.

This second capital part of the earth, so called Atlantis, is like the other first one, very naturally subdivided into three more lesser parts as beforementioned, namely, America, Sebastia, and Hyperborea; by the first of which is meant only South America; by the second is intended North America; and by the last are the Arctic Regions designed.

The third grand division of the globe is always placed at the bottom of the maps thereof, because it lies south of the other two; and therefore

xvi INTRODUCTION.

therefore may very properly be called Australia, which implies a relation to the South; and the great South Sea, which washes so much of its shores, may thence get the name of the Australian Ocean: for what is a great sea but an ocean? or the great South Sea but the southern or Australian Ocean?

Upon the whole then, let us not be afraid to say, that the whole globe of the earth is naturally divided into three great parts only, namely, Ogygia, Atlantis, and Australia; that Ogygia is again subdivided into three others, viz. Europe, Asia, and Africa. That Atlantis is in like manner subdivided into three more, namely, America, Sebastia, and Hyperborea; while the very imperfect knowledge we have of Australia, makes it impossible to say into how many lesser parts it is subdivided.

Return we then to the more immediate consideration of our subject; beginning first with Hyperborea, as it is indeed nearest to the British Isles, and was first discovered, and that for ages also, before either Sebastia or America; the other two parts of Atlantis, were at all known to us.

C H A P.

C H A P. I.

Of Hyperborea.

FROM Spitzberg, which lies almost north of the port of Wardhuys, near the north cape of Norweigh, though at a considerable distance therefrom, nearly two hundred leagues; Hyperborea extends westward, very nearly within sight of Siberia, at the extremity of Asia, above seven or eight hundred leagues; and from within four or five degrees of the pole, the main body of it reaches to sixty degrees, or five hundred leagues southwardly; while some parts, which however are hardly the twelfth part of the whole, extend somewhat further to the south, viz. about fifty-two degrees; that is above one hundred and sixty leagues more.

Those parts thereof, which we assuredly know, are only Spitzberg, before mentioned, Iceland, east and west Greenland, and the countries bordering on the west side of Baffins, and Hudson's Bay. For the rest, we are only certain that there is an extent of above seven hundred leagues, running from the said bays westward towards Asia, which the Russians have

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actually visited, and given us a map of some parts thereof, and seem to intend making settlements therein; but this is all we know for certain of the existence thereof.

There is, indeed, a Japonese map extant of those parts, which was brought into Europe by Kempfer; and has been published in London from the late Sir Hans Sloan's Museum; which agrees well enough, both with the Spanish accounts of California, and of the Streights of Anian; and also with those which the Russians have given us of the parts they visited: but what regard is to be paid to many other particulars in that Japonese map, is more uncertain. There may, very possibly, be such a number of islands lying on the north and north-east of the most eastern parts of Siberia, which are therein mentioned and called Ye-Que, or the Country of Dwarfs; because we are well assured, and know for certain, that the inhabitants of the most northern countries are of much lower stature than their more southern neighbours; as, for instance, the Laplanders, Icelanders, Greenlanders, and Eskimos; none of whom exceed five feet and an half high, and most of whom are short of that: and these isles we speak of, being assuredly the most northern inhabited part of this globe, it is likely their people may be of still lower stature; and no wonder, therefore, they might be considered as dwarfs by the Japonese, who are a tall personable race.

Indeed this mention of the Ye-Que gives a kind of credit to the map in question; and shews those, who made it first, had visited these islands;

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islands; as we are sure the Japonese were great navigators, and had actually visited Kamschat-scha, which is the remotest part of Asia; because, when the Russians first entered this country, they found Japonese there; and therefore it is not incredible but that they might have visited Ye-Que too; or, indeed, how else could they have entertained the notion of such a diminutive race, if they never had seen such there?

However, of the certain existence of some, at least, of those Ye-Que islands, we can the less doubt, as the Russians actually visited the most southern of them in the year 1723: and the people of the neighbouring continent have a constant tradition of there being some such islands.

But for other parts, more remote from Japan, their map cannot be so well depended on. It is true the coasts of the several countries, they have delineated therein, have a visible likeness to what we know is the truth: but then this likeness is very far from being exact in such more remote parts. However, as theirs is the only one we have of those northern coasts of Hyperborea; we must follow it, whenever we pretend to delineate them; until some more exact discoveries shall, in some future time, be made of them.

C H A P. II.

Of the Climate, Soil, and Produce of Hyperborea.

THE climate of Hyperborea, in general, (except perhaps the parts extending to fifty-two degrees towards the Streights of Anian) is very much upon the extreme; being so intensely cold in winter, that, upon touching iron or stone, without gloves on, the skin sticks thereto, as if blistered, which is enough, without descending to further particulars, to give the reader an idea of the severity of the weather there. On the other hand, the heat in summer is proportionable, very much exceeding that of the West-Indies; so that very often in Greenland, people are not able to bear their cloaths on, when they are doing any thing that may be called exercise, but they are obliged to strip to their shirts on such occasions.

This extraordinary heat produces such innumerable quantities of muskitos, as are almost absolutely intolerable; and to avoid the plague of which, the natives let their hair always hang down over their eyes, to keep those troublesome little animals from them, which else would every moment be getting into them.

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This great heat causes a very quick vegetation; so that all the produce of the earth in summer is very soon ripe; and therefore it might probably yield barley, if it were sown; also whatever else can grow to perfection in three months, which is all their summer, the rest of the year being winter, without any intervening medium of season.

A very great part of Hyperborea is totally destitute of trees; and, in most parts, the trees are low, and stunted in their growth; or rather are only of such kinds, as exceed not the height of shrubs, as juniper; which, however, if properly cultivated, might yield a very comfortable shelter.

The soil is in some places, as in East Greenland, a vast assemblage of nothing but naked rocky mountains, totally destitute of all vegetables fit for the use of man; and therefore wholly uninhabited, except by wild animals: but in other places it is more fruitful, and generally inhabited, even far north; as for instance, in the Ye-Que islands beforementioned. Spitzberg is uninhabited indeed, though said to be covered with a very fine verdure in summer; but its being desert, may be owing to its great distance from any inhabited place, from whence it might be peopled; East Greenland, which is nearest to it, being, as was observed, unfit for the residence of man; and the Russian dominions too much out of the way, and separated besides, by a part of the Hyperborean ocean, which is not always, even in the height of summer, navigable.

This

The

The wild animals are in greater or lesser numbers, according to the plenty or scarcity of food they can find. The north-west parts, next Siberia, the Russians assure us, produce the finest furs as yet known in the world. In the parts nearer to us, they are mostly beasts of prey that are found, particularly bears, which are exceeding fierce, and when pressed by hunger, will attempt forcing their way into the very habitations of the people; and are not daunted by the greatest efforts of resistance made even by numbers of men together. However, the natives often master them, and regale sumptuously on their flesh, which is said to be very good and nourishing, and their skins very valuable.

As to tame animals, I cannot find they have any except dogs; only that in Iceland they have also sheep in tolerable numbers: but of this island we shall say more by and by.

All the seas, rivers, and ponds, however, of all Hyperborea, as far as we have been able to discover, abound in incredible quantities of fish of many sorts, of which the whales are the chief; the catching of which is most highly profitable to the Dutch and Hamburgers, and might as well be so to the English, if they were as attentive to it.

The seas of Iceland abound in ling, which they dry without salt, and is therefore much valued for sea provisions, as not causing the scurvy near so much as salted foods do; however, one should think all the other seas of Hyperborea might have the same advantage, if they yielded the same species of fish; but as the matter has
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not been tried, the Danes, who are masters of Iceland, are the sole venders of this commodity; for they suffer no other European nation to fish in those seas.

Iceland also produces vast quantities of the finest sulphur in the world; and abounds in a most sweet and fragrant herbage, that feeds abundance of sheep and small neat cattle; and some of it of so excellent a nature, as to be perhaps preferable to any other perfume whatever for scenting cloaths; and this I take notice of, the rather, as I do not recollect Horrebrow, in his account of Iceland, mentions this particular: but I perfectly well remember to have seen a small bag of it about the size of a big pincushion, which was preserved in my mother's family, the Pynsents and Wandesfords, for above fourscore years, as I was assured, for that purpose; and in all that time the perfume was no way impaired: I thought it highly agreeable, and even to exceed lavender; they said it was Iceland grass; and I have so often had it in my hands, and asked so many questions about it, that I think it impossible I should be mistaken, only that I confess I never saw the contents, which were sewed up very elegantly in a silk bag; nor perhaps did the possessor ever see them: they took it on tradition; yet such as I think might be depended on; for how should it come into their heads to say it was from such an out-of-the-way part of the world as Iceland; the situation of which I question if they knew any thing of; for ladies are not usually such great geographers. However, what I have said may put those who are curious in such matters, and have
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opportunities by the means of the Danish ambassador at our court, upon inquiring further into this.

The Iceland lap dogs, I have been assured, are the most curious creatures of that kind in the world; their hair uncommonly long and beautifully curled, generally of a snow-white, though sometimes of a cream colour.

The other natural curiosities of this island are so extraordinary, that I venture to recommend to those, who desire to be more fully informed in those particulars, the perusal of Horrebrow's work beforementioned, or, where it cannot be had, the Abridgement of it in the Universal Magazine for 1758, where it is far better done than in the other Magazines that I have seen.

The air of Iceland is much more temperate than in any other part of Hyperborea that we know of; owing perhaps to its being an island at a considerable distance from any other land, and therefore its atmosphere more replete with saline particles, besides being much better inhabited: the great number of fires must needs attemper the rigour of the cold. Yet it produces no trees but juniper and birch.

C H A P. III.

Of the Inhabitants of Hyperborea; and how this Part of the World, as well as Sebaftia, America, and all Atlantis, became peopled.

THE inhabitants of Iceland, though low of stature, are yet rather handsome. They are of good parts, ingenious, and often apply themselves with great success to literature. They are christians of the Lutheran persuasion; devout and religious without superstition.

The Greenlanders are ingenious likewise, but destitute of literature or christianity; except what they have lately learned by the instruction of Danish missionaries. They are shorter of stature, and not so handsome as the Icelanders.

All the west coasts and islands of Baffins bay are inhabited by people of like persons and manners; as are also the environs of Hudson's bay, quite round for a considerable extent, including Labrador, or New-Britain. All these people are called Eskimos, or Eaters of Raw Flesh, which they are very fond of; a custom began at first, probably, from necessity, but continued from use, and, perhaps, some liking; for I have been assured by those who had, by mistake, eaten meat, scarce warm through, that it far exceed-

ed what was more dressed. These Eskimos, as well as the Greenlanders, who likewise follow the same usage, are not at all for that, the more savage, wild, or barbarous; they are extremely witty and ingenious; and, no doubt, had they an education like the Icelanders, would make an equal progress in the sciences.

There is one peculiar custom common to all these people, that is, the Icelanders, Greenlanders, and Eskimos: they are extremely fond of satyrical poetry: their bards frequently send challenges to one another to contend herein, as Latin school-boys with us, challenge one another to cap verses: and so great a licence is allowed on those occasions, and their satyrs are often so severe, that there have been many instances of those poets, who were thought to have the worst of it, making away with themselves for grief.

This puts me in mind of Juvenal's *Et conducendo laquitur jam Rethore Thule: And even the people of Thule now talk of establishing public lectures of oratory*: and has sometimes made me doubt, whether Iceland was not the antient Thule, as many learned men have thought it was: for Angrim Jonas, as well as other old authors, have assured us that Iceland was always famous for this satyrical poetry: Mr. Horrebrow beforementioned, tells us the practice is continued to this day. Mr. Egede, a Danish missionary in West-Greenland, tells us, that people, illiterate as they were found, yet have the very same custom: and all who have visited Hudson's bay, have given us the same account of the Eskimos.

After

After this, can there be a doubt but that they are derived from one another; and all from the Norwegians, who we know for certain were the first planters of Iceland and Greenland.

For the Norwegian annals inform us, that between eight and nine hundred years after Christ, they sent colonies to Iceland; and, in process of time, having visited West-Greenland, and discovered an hot spring there, they founded a city; and being then become christians, established a bishop's see in the place, and called it that of St. Thomas.

Greenland is washed on the west by Davis's streights and Baffin's bay. What wonder if the descendants of the Norwegian colony rambled round the bay, and crossed the streights, which are of no great breadth but twenty leagues; and thence still spread all round Hudson's bay, and even into Newfoundland; which, when first discovered and visited by the Europeans, was peopled, though thinly, by the Eskimos?

And one Capt. Richard Williams, of Milford, (but now, as I hear, resident on George's kay, Dublin) a man of as scrupulous a veracity, as ever I knew in my life, told me he had passed two entire winters in Newfoundland; and that he and his companions, rambling in the woods, discovered what they all took to be a tomb, consisting chiefly of a very large and mishapen flat stone, on which was an engraving; very like writing, which, though none of them could read, had, in their opinion, the entire similitude of an epitaph.

As I can absolutely depend on the probity of Capt. Williams, I cannot doubt of the matter

of fact; and hence conclude, that either some Norwegians, or of their descendants, the Icelanders, or perhaps of the Greenlanders, or Eskimos had been in this island, and erected this monument; when as yet these two latter nations had not totally forgot the use of writing. But if it was the work of either of the other two, that is, of the Norwegians or Icelanders, it is abundantly sufficient to shew how these parts might have been, and, indeed, beyond doubt, were first peopled originally from Norweigh.

And as for the objection drawn from the Norwegians, till of late, appearing to be totally unacquainted with those parts; the answer is very easy: we know the three northern kingdoms of Norweigh, Swedeland, and Denmark, were, for above three or four hundred years together, after the sending out of this colony, in a continued uninterrupted scene of civil wars; during which time, there need be no wonder if they neglected their colonies; indeed, the wonder is, how they preserved Iceland. And as for their colonies not sending, and endeavouring to keep up a correspondence with their parent state; it is very conceivable they might choose to drop it, for fear of being involved in the miseries of the civil wars; as well as at the instigation, perhaps, of some of their principal inhabitants; who, from motives of ambition, might be tempted to make use of this opportunity, to throw off their dependence.

As to their forgetting letters and literature; the very laborious life, which the penuriousness of their country subjected them to, and the want of schools, might have occasioned it. And after

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ter all; How came the ancients to loose all knowledge of Atlantis, except just its name? The same will account for the Norwegians, with respect to those colonies of theirs in Greenland also.

What has been hitherto said on this subject, is abundantly sufficient to shew how Hyperborea, Sebastia, and America; in short, all Atlantis might have been peopled; namely, from the Norwegians; even if he could give no other account, or form no other guess about it.

But, indeed, we have no necessity to confine ourselves to the Norwegians alone. It is probable enough, that some of the Japonese might have contributed to the peopling thereof; because we know that the Japonese had in use a map of the north-west part of Atlantis, conformable enough to the accounts which the Russians and Spaniards have given us of those parts; and which we are sure they could have had from neither. How then could they have drawn or made out such a map, but from a knowledge of the coasts? and how that knowledge, without visiting them? And might not those visits naturally occasion some Japonese to be left ashore, and so to begin the peopling of some parts thereof?

Besides, the Mexican histories constantly affirm, that their nation came originally from the north-west; which we know to be nearest to Japan: and how, indeed, could a nation like the Mexicans, learn that polity and those arts they were masters of; but from such a nation as the Japonese; when we know all their other neighbours were mere barbarians?

And

And as to their not being acquainted with writing, but preserving their history by another method, let it be considered, that the Japonese, who visited those coasts, were but navigators who, perhaps, had very few books with them, which might be very soon worn out. They might be also entirely ignorant of the art of printing, though in practice in their country; and as we know they have no A B C, but use, in writing, hieroglyphics instead of letters, they probably taught somewhat of the same kind to their posterity; amongst whom, if the Mexicans were such, it is no wonder if we find their histories preserved by bundles of threads, variously coloured and knotted, to express the ideas they would communicate; and which may be considered as analagous to the Chinese and Japonese hieroglyphics, and so make out the greater probability of those being the ancestors of the Mexicans.

But, further; as Siberia lies so very near to the north-west part of Atlantis, as to be almost within sight of it, we can hardly doubt but some of its people may have, at some time or other, removed thereto.

And, possibly, even the Phœnicians and Carthaginians; (who must have been those that knew any thing of Atlantis, and visited it, if it was visited at all by any of the inhabitants of Ogygia, that is, of the old world) some of them, I say, possibly might have staid, or been left behind in some of their voyages hither, and contributed somewhat to the peopling of it in part: so that, all these particulars considered, one cannot see how the peopling of this part of the world can be any longer a matter of wonder.

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C H A P. IV.

How all Hyperborea may be peaceably acquired by the English, with the full and free Consent of the Danes and Russians, who are the only Europeans to contest it: and in order thereto, first, How Britain may obtain the Feroe Islands.

THE fisheries and furs of Hyperborea (to say nothing of the sulphur, minerals, and other fossils thereof) are so very valuable, that 'tis no wonder if every nation who, had it in their power to possess the whole, should attempt to do so; and 'tis therefore a greater shame for the English, who are the only nation in Europe that are in a way to make such acquisition, to have neglected to do it.

No European state is in any sort whatever able to contest it with them, but the Danes and Russians. Let us then consider, whether these two nations may be gained over to consent, that the English alone have it. Nor should I propose this out of any predilection for my own country, but because it to me seems, that they alone have it in their power to make this entire acquisition; besides that, the British isles are, of all Europe, the nearest to the countries in question; and therefore,

therefore, if possession was to follow vicinity, they ought to have it, exclusive of all others.

Adjoining to Scotland are two considerable parcels of islands; one lying north-west, and called the Hebrides or Western Islands; for Heber, Hiber, Iber, Iver, and Iër, all in the old Celtic language, signify the West; from whence comes the Greek EAR, and Latin VER, the *spring*, because the West wind then begins to blow, whereas all the freezing months it was the eastern. From hence comes Iberia, Spain, that is the western region; and Hibernia, Ireland, the same, so named by the Iberians or Spaniards, who, we know, were they who principally peopled Iceland; and that not as the Irish romances say, in the time of the Israelites; but in that of Augustus Cæsar, who having conquered Spain, and the Spaniards not able to bear the Roman domination, they passed over in great numbers to Ireland; and finding it in truth the most north-west part of Europe, as Spain was the most south-west, called it, after their own country, Ibernia: the letter *n* being added to Iberia, either to denote the plural number, as in *Teuton*, *Saxon*; (which those who understood not the language, thought to be part of the original names; whereas, indeed, they were originally *Teut* or *Sax*, and the *n* being added, only implies the plural, and therefore ought, in English, to be called, not Saxons and Teutons, but Saxes and Teuts, from which latter comes the word Dutch :) or if the *n* in Hibernia is not inserted to denote the plural, then it signifies *there*, so as *Iërn*, or rather *Iërin*, signifies the West there; as if one was looking and pointing

to it, in order to shew it to another; as the inhabitants of Wales might, from whence it may be seen

The other parcel of islands, adjoining to Scotland, have been called the Croadies; or Croadic isles, and lie off the north coast thereof; but from whence the name Croadies is derived, I know not. They are again subdivided into three parts, each consisting of a separate detached cluster, namely, the Orkneys; Schetland, and Feroe.

These three parcels, in old times, did all of them belong to Denmark and Norweigh, being thence peopled: but it is now a long time since Orkney was united to Scotland; whilst the others continued under their old proprietors; till James the VIth of Scotland, who was afterwards the 1st of England, got Schetland transferred to Scotland, by way of portion with his Queen, Anne of Denmark, when he married her. But whether it is to continue annexed to that crown; if his posterity should fail, I never could yet learn; only one would imagine it was to revert back again in case they failed; or, why should it be made a part of the shire of Orkney, from which it is so distant, and not be made a county of itself? And why did the court of Denmark, some few years ago, talk of their expectative rights therein? However, whether it be so or not, nothing, one should imagine easier, than to get an absolute cession, both of all these, and of the Feroe islands too; if either the Danish or English ministry ever thought of, or troubled their heads about the matter.

Feroe lies so much nearer to Schetland, than it does to Norweigh, or to any other part of the Danish dominions; that it is impossible not to consider it as naturally a British island, and destined by the Author of Nature, one time or other, to be annexed thereto. How then shall that be?

Very easily! The king is possessed of a county in Germany, called Wildeshufen adjoining to the Danish county of Oldenburgh, and very convenient to it. He has also a jurisdiction in the very middle of the city of Hamburg, and independent of that magistracy. He possesses this latter as sovereign of Bremen.

And the foundation or origin of it was this: When the archbishoprick of Hamburg was founded; being amongst nations somewhat savage, and for ages not thoroughly reconciled to christianity, it was thought best to annex it to the see of Bremen, which was very potent, separated but by the river Elbe from Hamburg, and therefore more abundantly able to keep up and support against any encroachments or mal-treatment, this new see of Hamburg, than itself could do, if left alone.

The archbishop of Bremen, therefore, had always a considerable jurisdiction in Hamburg; and when the sees were secularized, and Bremen given to the Swedes, at the peace of Munster, this Hamburg jurisdiction went along with it: and when King George I. of England, in 1718, acquired Bremen from the Swedes, (which, by the following peace, in 1720, was left to him) he got the forementioned sovereignty

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reignty in Hamburg along with it; and, at the same time, had the county of Wildeshufen ceded likewise to him by the Swedes, to whom it also belonged; though not as a dependent on Bremen, that I can find, but a little separate state, as; indeed, it is no way contiguous to it as Hamburg is; it is true, it joins on the king's county of Diepholt, and so might conveniently enough be under the same sovereignty; but much more of it touches on the Danish county of Oldenburgh; to which, therefore, it is so convenient an accession, that there is little doubt, if it was proposed, but the court of Denmark would, for it, give up to our king both Feroe, and whatever expectative rights he might have on Shetland also; at least, if not for Wildeshufen, which perhaps is little more than an equivalent for Feroe, yet assuredly they would, for the Hamburg jurisdiction, which, though inferior in real value to Wildeshufen or Feroe, yet to the Danes, who have so long had an eye on Hamburg, it would be of many times more than both of the others put together.

However, as it is probable that the sovereign of Bremen would chuse to exchange rather with the Hamburgers themselves, that jurisdiction we speak of within their city, for a little territory called Ritzenbottle, which they possess at the very mouths of the two rivers Elbe and Weser; and which would be very convenient to Bremen. I suppose the exchange for Wildeshufen would rather take place between the king and the Danes; and I make no doubt of the consent of the latter, as Wildeshufen, of how

little value soever, would certainly be of more, and might be indeed of more importance to the Danish dominions, than ever Feroe can, as shall be more particularly shewn hereafter. Not to mention how much securer the possession of Wildeshufen would be thus guaranteed by the whole empire, than that of Feroe ever can; which all the powers of Europe could not hinder the British naval force from making an acquisition of, if the government of England was so disposed.

Trifling as this article of Feroe may seem to a ministry, who know very little of the interest of this our country, and nothing at all of that of foreign states; and if they did, have seldom virtue enough to consider any thing if they could help it, but their own private advantage in the securing themselves in power; and who probably may affect to treat what has been said of Feroe, as an idle notion of a mere schemer; yet I cannot help insisting upon it, as one of the first acquisitions that Britain ought to make, even before much more opulent ones. For who indeed can cast an eye on a map of Europe, and not take notice of the Feroe islands, and finding that they belong not to Great Britain, whilst yet they lie so much nearer thereto than to any other country; and therefore must of necessity be considered as naturally British islands: who, I say, can avoid thinking it a pity that they are not so; and then proceed to ask, Is there no method for Britain to acquire them? And being informed of the circumstances mentioned relating to Wildeshufen, who could but with an exchange effectuated, whether he were English

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of Danish, it being equally, as was observed, the interest of both courts to agree to it.

And here let me be permitted to observe, how useful might the former acquisition of Bremen, Wildershusen, &c. by George the first, hereby become to England; an acquisition so often and so loudly since exclaimed against, and which yet, by the exchange proposed, might be made use of to procure to the crown of Great Britain, the complete union under its dominion of all the British isles; which, whilst it wants Feroe, is still incomplete. Add, that no other state in Europe could propose such mutual advantage to itself, and at the same time to Denmark, by any such like exchange as Britain could. To Sweden, Russia, Prussia, or Mecklenburgh, with whom Denmark has nearest connexions; to any of them the acquisition of Feroe would be absolutely useless; these dominions lie not near it, nor could it be in any navigation of the least service to them; Prussia, besides, has nothing at all to give in exchange, nor Sweden any but some of itself; which, to be sure, it would never part with. So that the sovereign of Bremen, or Wildershusen alone, who happens at the same time also to be king of Great Britain, can furnish an equivalent to Denmark for it. An equivalent too, which, as shall hereafter be shewn, may become of most singular utility to the Danish court itself, and of a thousand times the advantage that it will be to the end of time possible for Feroe to prove to it. Supposing then an English minister to exist, who for a very little time (for very little indeed would suffice to bring about a treaty, which would

C H A P. V.

Of the Acquisition of all Hyperborea.

NORTH from Feroe, but inclining a little to the west, and considerably nearer thereto than to Norweigh, lies the large isle of Iceland, about as big as England, though peopled only by about sixteen thousand families; valuable, however, for its fisheries, its sulphur, and its uncommonly fine herbage. Its fishery the Danes wholly appropriate themselves, altogether excluding foreigners therefrom. This created some disputes, in queen Elizabeth's reign, with the English, and some years ago with the Dutch. However, as far as I can learn, the Danes have prevailed in the contest, and retain the exclusive right to themselves; and to be sure they do the same with respect to West Greenland also, which lies somewhat beyond Iceland. So that upon Great Britain's acquiring those two countries, it is of course to be supposed that they would therewith have the exclusive fisheries, and every other produce also of the two.

Indeed queen Elizabeth, on occasion of the dispute before-mentioned, so far forgot herself
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and the rights of her crown, to which appertains the sovereignty of so much of the seas; as to present a memorial to the court of Denmark against these claims; wherein she insisted that all seas were free, and all fisheries therein, by the law of nature, equally so to all nations however distantly situated. I do not recollect whether Grotius, in his *Mare Liberum*, has quoted this memorial; but I suppose Mr. Selden has convinced every one who has read his *Mare Clausum*, in answer to Grotius; that the navigation of seas, and of course their fisheries may in many instances be the privilege and property of particular neighbouring nations, who have a right thereby to exclude all others; and this being the case, with respect to the seas and fisheries of Iceland: and Britain, being most abundantly able to assert their exclusive rights; if they were once in possession of the countries (as Iceland in the present instance) to which they belong; I presume there need be no further argument on the subject; come we then to see how this acquisition may be made.

His Britannic majesty does, as duke of Brunswick Lunenburgh (as I apprehend) enjoy the dutchy of Lawnenburgh, about as large as, at a medium, the counties in England generally are. It is well inhabited, advantageously situated for trade, and may be thereby rendered very rich, if it be not so already. The great navigable river Elbe, just before its entering the territories of Hamburg, runs through this dutchy, dividing it into two; the northern part whereof is the largest, and has the chief town

town Lawenburgh in it. And this northern part runs out very excentrically on that side, beyond the main body of the king's other German dominions, which are entirely separated therefrom by the said great river Elbe; except only a small part of the county of Danneberg, which lies on the same side of the river, though hardly contiguous to Lawenburgh; and, except also the district of Ratzeburgh on the north of the whole, near Lubec; and otherwise also very advantageously situated; and thought of such importance by king George II. that he went and paid it a particular visit the last time he was in Germany. This was formerly a bishoprick, but secularized; and the district of Ratzeburgh given to the house of Brunswick Lunenburgh; as the rest of the bishoprick was to the house of Mecklenburgh, who still enjoy it. The king is in possession also of some small territories close adjoining to Holstein, and supposed to belong to Lunenburgh; about which, some years ago, the court of Denmark and king George II. had a dispute; but the former, in consideration of a subsidy treaty, relinquished them.

This subsidy could not, at the time it was made, be considered as of the least advantage to England; but if a proper use be made of the district purchased thereby, it may now be of very considerable service, by being along with Ratzeburgh, and so much of Lawenburgh as is on that side of the Elbe, given to the court of Danemark, in exchange for Iceland, Greenland, and for every other pretention they can make to any part of Hyperborea. Thus would

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his Britannick majesty's subjects become instantly in possession of the exclusive fisheries and commerce of those regions; and Denmark be still benefited by this acquisition from the king's German dominions, ten-fold more than either the king himself could by retaining them; or, than the Danes could by the greatest improvement they could make of Iceland, and of the others.

For the districts in question would be so highly convenient accessions to the dutchy of Holstein, that nothing whatsoever, of three or four times the extent or revenue, could be found of equal value and advantage to Denmark, as these would prove; and therefore there can be no doubt of the exchange on their sides taking place: and what other power on earth could hinder it?

Come we now to examine how Russia might consider this, and whether they might not be induced to quit all thoughts of extending their empire over the west part of Hyperborea, near the extremity of their Asiatic provinces; and even to guarantee it to Britain, if this latter chose to have it made a part of their dominions.

In order to this, I am obliged to anticipate somewhat we should else defer till we came to the article of the West-Indies; but which the subject now before us obliges us to bring in here.

The Danes are possessed of three of the Virgin Islands, lying between the east end of the Spanish isle of Porto-Rica, and the English part of the said Virgin Islands. These three
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are St. Thomas, a free port, St. John, and Santa-Cruz. These Danish isles are mostly inhabited and planted by the English, who have settled there; partly from the scarcity of sugar land in their own islands; and partly in order to be protected from their creditors, who sometimes, but very rarely, however, are permitted (and that by the express orders of the court of Denmark, but never at the mere pleasure of the Danish governors) to seize the effects; but never, on any account whatever, allowed to imprison the persons of their debtors; and which has made these three to become very flourishing places, notwithstanding the bad policy in general which their governors assume a power of ruling them with.

These islands, however valuable in themselves, were so little regarded by the late king of Denmark, that he sold all his lands and domains in St. Cruz to a nobleman, whose name I have forgot, for not a very great sum of ready money, which he then had occasion for.

I take it for granted, therefore, that the court of Denmark would part with them in exchange for any thing of great and real value to them in Europe.

Now it happens, that his Britannic majesty has, on the west side of his German dominions, a principality called Diepholt, before-mentioned, about as large as two thirds of Lawenburgh, or perhaps more.

It adjoins, indeed, conveniently enough to his other states, as Bremen and Hoyer; but would not in the least deform or incommode them if it were separated therefrom: but it

would greatly add to the value of the Danish counties of Oldenburgh or Delmenhorst; on which Diepholt, and also Wildeshufen, as in the preceding chapter mentioned, border, if they were united thereto.

Suppose, then, an exchange made between the three Danish itles in question, and this country of Diepholt; of what consideration would this be to Russia?

This latter court had not long ago been on the point of making an exchange with Denmark, by ceding the imperial prince of Russia's part of Holstein to them, in exchange for Oldenburgh and Delmenhorst; which, however, being acknowledged much inferior in value, was to have the difference in worth made up by a sum of ready money; I think about twelve hundred and fifty thousand pounds sterling; to raise which, it was, that the late king of Denmark sold his domains in St. Cruz, as before-mentioned; and, at the same time, made the Lubbeckers and Hamburgers to advance him considerable loans. But the agreement still remains unfinished, as I apprehend the treaty lately executed between them, being, as I hear, not for the exchange of all, but only of some part of Holstein alone, viz. some Russian parts thereof for some Danish.

What now, if the court of Denmark, by the exchanges proposed with his Britannic majesty, should be able to add Diepholt and Wildeshufen, to Delmenhorst and Oldenburgh? might not that be more satisfactory to Russia? But, if instead of pursuing that plan, what if these four counties were given to count Buren; or, as
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he calls himself, Biron, now duke of Courland. Inferior as they are, by about half, or perhaps more, to this latter, the possession of them would however be so much more secure to his family, when thereby become members of the Empire; and of course at all times whatever sure of its protection, than can ever be the case with regard to Courland; which, if any revolution happens in the Russian empire, or change of humour in the sovereign thereof, will always be so precarious a possession to one, who has no better title thereto, than the mere favour of a former Empress, and of the present Czarina, forcing him upon the Courlanders; that it is not to be thought he would hesitate a moment to prefer the possession of Oldenburgh, &c. to Courland: his rights in which he might then assign over to the Ducal House of Holstein, and to the Imperial Prince of Russia, who is head thereof; who, with the consent of Denmark and Sweden, (which are presupposed) could hold it against all the world, if Britain, with its marine, guarantied it; and to secure whose powerful interposition herein, the court of Russia might well relinquish to the English, all pretensions to the regions next Siberia; assuring themselves, that while Courland was in the possession of the Imperial prince, the Russians would never think of a revolution, which would hazard the separating so valuable an acquisition from their empire, as Courland would ever prove.

I know, indeed, another exchange might be proposed, and perhaps easier effected too: namely, instead of Diapholt and Wildeshusen, to give

give up the county of Danneberg along with all, or the greater part however of Lawenburgh; for which the Danes should cede Feroe, and their three West Indian isles to Britain; and transfer Oldenburgh to the electorate of Hanover, to be annexed thereto. For if even the exchange before-mentioned with Courland, should not take place, still the dominions of the house of Holstein would hereby be rendered all contiguous; a circumstance well worth the attention of all the branches of that family; and therefore such an exchange as should effect this, would undoubtedly, with great readiness, be agreed to by them.

But as it is uncertain whether this might not interfere with some arrangements, which the government of Hanover might wish to agree upon with the king of Prussia; as that prince did offer to king George II. to cede East Friezland, &c. to him, in consideration of getting Danneberg, &c. in exchange; which our king, out of too great a predilection for his old paternal inheritance, rejected, though so greatly to the advantage of both Hanover and of England: and as it is possible such proposed exchange may yet take place, which could not be, in case of the cession of Danneberg to the house of Holstein. Therefore it is, that I have rather insisted on the other plan; though either would be equally advantageous to Great Britain.

See now the unspeakably vast, the incredibly mighty acquisitions, which the parting with so exceeding small a portion of his majesty's German dominions could procure to his regal ones; and which no other prince in all Europe could possibly

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possibly have it in his power, by any imaginable method whatever, to obtain from Denmark and Russia, but a British king of the house of Brunswick alone. How greatly, therefore, ought England to regard such a family! How rejoice, that providence destined them, above any other in Europe, to their crown. And how much consideration ought they to have now for Hanover, which they have formerly so much despised, nay, prosecuted with downright malevolence; when they consider, how exceedingly valuable an acquisition it may thus procure to their empire; besides, what it may yet, by some further exchanges, be the means of adding to them, even territories of still much more immensely great importance; and which we may perhaps, in the prosecuting of our present design, hereafter mention.

C H A P. VI.

Of the Advantage which the Possession of all Hyperborea may be to Britain, and of the best Method of settling and securing it.

A Minister of state, if he condescends to read over the past pages, which, however, is much if he does, especially in England, where an universal dissipation reigns, and where nothing but the absolute necessity of affairs can oblige those in power, to think of any thing but the methods of keeping that power and reaping the fruits thereof, in procuring pleasures of all sorts to themselves; utterly regardless of the public, and dead to all sentiments of honour and glory. Such may probably ask, well after all, *Cui bono?* where is the good of all this? What is the value of such an acquisition, as you, good Mr. Author, do yourself represent Hyperborea to be? I am of the French ambassador's mind, who being shewn all the rarities of Swedeland, and been entertained at all the royal villas about Stockholm; when asked, by queen Christina, how he liked the country? answered, without ceremony, that his liking of it was such, that if he was sovereign thereof, he would sell the
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crown and royalty, and buy a private estate with the purchase money in France or England; for he had been ambassador before that, at the English court. And 'tis thought this had a greater influence on that queen to make her resign her crown, than any other consideration whatsoever.

Undoubtedly, there are many such instances of insensibility, as to every thing that favours of heroism or virtue; and with such 'tis in vain to argue: but for those who are friends to commerce, who wish to civilize mankind, and to introduce religion into countries as yet unknown of it; what nobler employment can be proposed, than thus spreading the light of religion over an ignorant people, and humanizing a nation that is partly but mere savages? What greater advantage could be even almost wished for to Britain, than the securing to herself alone the endless fisheries, the abundant furs of all that mighty tract? Is such an acquisition not worth regarding or endeavouring after? especially when, as I have shewn, it may be so easily, so cheaply effected, without one single drop of human blood shed; one single drachm of silver expended on the purchase.

And for settling it, inhospitable as the climate seems, we find it is inhabited; and that by people who have the means of removing to a better southward, where there is waste land enough for their settling in, and yet they choose their present frozen seats: and why, pray, may not others be found the same way inclined? especially, as we know many of the servants to the Hudson's Bay company, who come home to

England about business, do yet pine and long for the snows and frosts of the regions they left behind them there.

Some of the army might be tempted by double pay, to try a season there; it is beyond dispute, they with proper care and provision would survive: for companies of English have passed an intire winter in East Greenland, by much the most inhospitable part of the whole, without losing one of their number. And many private soldiers, on being favoured with a discharge before their time, might very possibly be tempted to accept of a settlement in some parts of Hyperborea: while many other spots of it might be peopled by convicts, to whom transportation thither would be a real punishment; and not, as it is now, rather an encouragement to their crimes, when they are sent to our fine colonies in Sebastia.

Besides, not only convicts, but persons who are too justly suspected of guilt, might, and indeed ought to be sent thither, and not suffered to brazen out their honest neighbours, as if they were innocent, because the lenity of our laws did not convict them; whereas, perhaps, every man on the jury were persuaded of their guilt. In short, whenever there were strong circumstances against criminals, transportation to Hyperborea should follow, and that to a more or less severe climate, according to the degrees of their apparent guilt. In this case, robbers and thieves would not escape through the unwillingness of the prosecutor, to take away a life, as too often happens; and then all rogues would be called to an account, and punished; as indeed,
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not only theft and robbing, but all wilful frauds whatever ought. All bankrupts should be sent thither; what business have they here? I mean, however, only such as become so by carelessness or wilful extravagance. All persons likewise that even attempt to defraud, though unsuccessful: in short, a knave should not be left in Britain. Let them all be sent off to Hyperborea; and all others besides, that on good grounds, and such as their two juries shall think sufficient, are strongly suspected of knavery; and then I believe it would soon be well replenished with inhabitants, who would then, perhaps, become honest; at least they would of absolute necessity become industrious, and of course be serviceable to themselves and to their country.

There would be no danger of their rivalling their mother country in manufactures; the summer is too short, and the winter too severe for carrying on of such; they must therefore have them from other parts of the British dominions, and they would be abundantly able to pay for what they wanted, by furs and the produce of their fishery; to say nothing of valuable minerals and fossils that are said to be there.

Misfortunes and punishments fit the mind for religion; these new colonies might thereby become good, if proper provision was made for pastors amongst them; and the burden of procuring and maintaining them not left upon the poor new settlers, as has been done in the southern Charibbee Islands, where there was so much waste land to spare; and where, instead of providing lands for the maintenance of the clergy, and thereby easing the people, the very

glebes which had belonged to the French priests were sold, and not a foot of ground or house left to their reformed successors. I only, by my own personal interest and application, procured at Barroualle, in St. Vincent, a glebe of fourteen acres; I put in for nineteen, all contiguous to the church, whereof two for a clerk. The commissioners gave none to a clerk, but allotted ten adjoining to the church for the minister, and four more at some distance, but in sight, and planted with coco, and so, much more worth in their opinion than the other seven or nine which I asked for. At Washogunny, the capital, the glebe house was suffered to be pulled in pieces by the common soldiers through mere wantonness; though a very pretty and convenient mansion. The glebe, however, of two acres, was continued; but the minister out of above three hundred adjoining, which belonged to the crown, could get no addition, but two, of coco land indeed; but which being out of sight, and separated by the river, which in rains is impassible, it was of little value. In Buccamaw parish they sold the glebe of eight acres, and gave none instead; at Chasteau Bellair, they did not give one foot.

At Dominica they gave two acres of parched ground for a glebe, while they suffer the French priest to possess about four and twenty with a little house. There was some reason for not at first disturbing Pere Maffey, their then priest; for it was he who induced the greatest part of the French to take the oaths, and live under the English government, and has a very favourable opinion

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opinion of our church. He has since purchased a little estate, whither he is retired; and is succeeded by a worthless fellow, a bigot, and an enemy to our church, and insolent to our clergy; in which, however, he told me. he was abetted by the president of the island, who bid him give himself no trouble about the English minister. This I mentioned to himself, he did not deny it, but excused himself on account of the English minister's not waiting on him at the government house, to congratulate him on his becoming president; though he acknowledged, indeed, that he had on the very day of his accession complimented him thereon: but it seems it was at the collector's house, not the government's. So it was not thought in form enough by Mr. President, who as he was never seen at church but twice in a whole year, once whereof in his presidentship; so he acted but suitably in bidding the French priest give himself no trouble about the English minister; pretending, however, to act out of resentment.

And here on the mentioning of this, let me be permitted to anticipate what some might think ought to be referred to the future account of the English Charibbee Islands; but which will not be improper here, as what I am going to mention, equally concerns all English colonies: it is the scandalous behaviour of the great, with respect to religion, which has such an effect, that all follow the example; and it is incredible how few attend the public worship of God, whereby a general depravity of manners and brutishness of behaviour is too general.

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At St. Kitts, in one parish, (I think it is called St. Pauls) though full of gentry, it is a good congregation that amounts to twenty persons of all sorts. At Sandy Point, a well inhabited trading little town, out of three hundred, of age to go to church, there are usually but about sixty. And for communicants, the parish clerk assured me, that in fifteen years he never knew so much as a seventh person attend on the occasion. At Basseterre, the capital, where they have above fifteen hundred grown persons, the congregation consists of one hundred and fifty. At Middle Island, of fifteen only.

The Isle of Nevis contains five parishes, whereof two are served alternately; and in the four congregations, there are not sixty. I have counted but seven in the church of Charles Town, the capital; there are, however, more communicants in proportion than at St. Kitts. In the little country parish of St. George Gingerland, that had not even the smallest village in it, the communicants were never less than nine, though the congregation was very rarely twenty.

At Antigua, I reckoned twice the congregation at the capital town, which they told me was at the time I happened to be there, uncommonly large, but it was not quite two hundred and fifty in all, out of two thousand five hundred whites, (the number of them through the island having been lately taken) without reckoning the Blacks and Mulattos, of whom above twenty helped to make up that congregation.

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knew there, indeed they were much oftener but but twelve, eight, or six only.

At Grenada, I am told, scarce any body goes to church at all; nor do they so much as desire a minister among them, though there are such numbers of British settled in the island. And for Tobago, they have no clergymen at all in it, which is an excuse for there being no proper public service in the whole island. The king, it is true, pays a chaplain; but the governors too easily grant them leave of absence, as they do at St. Vincent's and Dominica too; where at present there is neither island or regimentary chaplain, one deputy discharging both offices: and there is but one at Grenada too, by which children die unbaptized, and great numbers are buried without funeral service, to the scandal and infamy of the church of England; as those islands are full of French, who are very punctual at all public worship, and must needs think very unfavourably of those, whom they see so totally neglectful of it.

Barbadoes is so exceeding populous, that it is impossible but the congregation must be large. Though I have heard many of the inhabitants say, they went more to see and be seen, than out of devotion. However, those public assemblies contribute much to civilize the people, and therefore they are highly useful, independent of religion: and I have observed, that in proportion, as the public worship was neglected, good manners and decency decayed.

At St. Kitts, where the congregations are so thin, the middling and inferior people are generally rude and unpolished. At Nevis, where they are

are still thinner, they are much more so: and at Dominica, where scarce any go to church at all, they are proportionably more deficient in every instance of good behaviour. I mean, however, only the British dominicans; for the French there, as they constantly frequent the public worship, are a much better behaved people.

No wonder indeed those British I speak of should be such; not a governor do I remember to have seen at church but Mr. Scott six times; not a president but Mr. Pringle four times; and Mr. Woodbridge once; and once more before he was president; not a single member of the council but two twice; and one of the collectors as often; not one of the judges; not one lawyer or attorney; not one justice of Peace; not one of all these, even one; not a single officer of the crown, either civil or military, but a landwaiter a few times, another just once; the comptroller never, the secretary of the island never; always indeed the military officer of the day was there, and now and then a stray officer besides dropped in. But I knew the soldiers were once peremptorily forbid to go to church, nobody knew why: so that indeed, no wonder as I said, the island should be in a kind of barbarism. At Nevis and St. Kitts, they are not near so bad; because some of the gentry do sometimes go to church, and are followed by some of the middling and inferior folk; yet there is still too great a neglect in that particular. Many estated men were never at church in their lives, but on occasion of some ceremony as a burial, or the like. The present

present president of Nevis was never, I believe, seen within the walls but on such account; his predecessor but seldom, though his family indeed often went. There are many lawyers, attorneys, judges, justices of peace, and other publick officers, as well as members of the council and assembly in both islands that never go at all. What wonder then if there be no religion, and if, of course, there must follow a great decay of good behaviour and civility.

The easiest remedy in the world for all this, would be the sovereign's insisting on his governors always going; the members of his council always attending; and no person whatever that had a commission under the crown making a practice of absenting; requiring also that every one of them brought their families too. This would gather full congregations; this would polish and humanize the people; they would get a habit of much better behaviour; and, of course, be more respectful to their superiors than they now are, and dutiful to the government.

For a proof of this, let me mention president Symmonds of Nevis, who never or his family missed church, which was that of the little out of the way parish of Gingerland, before mentioned; but the congregation all his time was so great and the place so thronged, that many people could not get room in their own pews. They are now reduced to thirteen or fourteen at a medium: I have sometimes seen but six, nay but two, there; though the day was exceeding fine; so much bad or good influence has example.

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At St. Kitts lieutenant governor Flemming never missed church; and though he is reported to have slept the whole service, yet it brought a very large congregation, now reduced to 150. Sir George Thomas at Antigua was a constant churchman; and 'tis therefore beyond all comparison a much more civilized island than Nevis or St. Kitts are now become; and as near half the people of Monserrat are Romanists and never miss their church, it makes the reformed go to theirs in tolerable numbers too. The consequence is, they are some of the best educated and humanized in all the Charibbees.

In order therefore to civilize the new settlers of Hyperborea, the article of religion must by all means be taken care of; the public officers obliged, under high forfeitures, to attend at the duties of it; and pastors for that end provided for the ministry thereof: and out of the poor little starving candidate clergy, with which England is overstocked, if few or none can be prevailed on to go thither, these offices may be supplied by the Icelanders; who will not refuse, for a moderate stipend, removing to no very great distance, nor very much worse climate; and who are as religious, sensible, well-behaved men of their kind as any where exist. When Iceland was once under the crown of England, as before proposed, in five years the scholars and clergy would all learn the language, so as to be able to perform religious offices therein; and at a small expence to the crown, they might be supplied with printed English sermons, in sufficient quantity, for preaching.

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The mention of Iceland makes me go back to the state of the church there. They have two bishopricks worth about 300l. sterling a year each; it would be better if they were made five sees; an archbishopric being one, and placed at their head: each diocese would then have about fifty parishes in it, and each parish above sixty families; which would answer well enough. An university should also be established for supplying the ministry both of this island and of all Hyperborea; as making establishments in the British colleges for them would be attended with a much greater expence to the scholars, than is incurred at Copenhagen, where they now study; as also perhaps soften them too much for the rigour of an Hyperborean climate. Bishopricks should here and there also be established in the rest of Hyperborea, according as it becomes peopled; and one or more archbishoprick over them. The adversaries of prelacy may say what they will; but the institution of overseers in all religions, and in all states, christian or heathen, has been found so useful that mankind have, either from nature alone, or insensibly, fallen into it: which, singly, is an argument that can never be answered or refuted in it's favour, and supersedes all necessity of recurring to Christ or his apostles for it; though neither is that any way difficult.

CHAPTER VII.

Of the Government to be established in Hyperborea.

AS to the government of Hyperborea no doubt but all the provinces thereof, as of all our colonies in general, should be admitted to the enjoyment of English freedom. The contrary would be very dangerous, as under an arbitrary minded king and corrupt ministry it might be made use of to destroy the freedom of England itself. 'Tis therefore a wonder that attempts are made to deprive our ancient colonies of that freedom, which not only by charter, but by a prescription of above 140 years, (which perhaps is a better title than the charter itself) they have been so long in the undisputed possession of.

I know 'tis said that 'tis not to the king, but to the legislature of Great Britain they are to be subjected in matters of taxation: but people will very little consider who taxes them, if they think they are taxed unjustly.—Did the British parliament ever pretend a right to tax the little Isle of Man? and shall they not shew the same regard to those colonies? the meanest of whom, perhaps Nevis, is worth more to the crown than ten such islands as Man. No, no! let them tax themselves; they may indeed be restrained in the method of taxation: For instance,
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let all excises be abolished, and nothing taxed but property; and in order to know that property, there will be no occasion for oaths, which but introduce perjury; let all taxable property be registered or forfeited; there will be then very few concealments.

If all the oppressive taxes of England were abolished, which bear hard upon the poor, (indeed the property does not pay above a sixth of the whole) and the burden were laid upon the rich, (and who were so, would easily be known by a registry) no one could then complain.

People unite in political societies for the mutual preservation of their lives, liberties, and properties. Every man's life and liberty is alike; but their properties are very unequal: If there was no property, as amongst savage nations, then all should alike contribute to the publick: but the inequality of property makes it just, that he who possesses most, should contribute most to the public necessity. And first of all land; for it is to defend the land that the publick puts itself to so much expence: stocks of cattle may be driven away; household goods perhaps removed; gold, silver, and jewels carried off to a great value in a small compass, for instance, in a pocket; and so all put out of the reach of plunderers: but the land cannot be stirred; 'tis that which invaders most court the possession of; and 'tis therefore what ought to pay most.

And that not by an ill judged arbitrary taxation, rating one piece of ground at 100%. and another at not so many shillings; just as they happened

happened to be worth near fourscore years ago, without any regard to the great alterations that must have since happened in the value. But precisely as the rents were now, or in any future taxation, so should the levies be; and in case of a fine, the public should receive its proportion thereof also. For it would be but just that where, for a fine, the rent was abated, the fine should be brought into account too; and whereas, by many past agreements, the tenants are subjected to pay the taxes; they should all instead thereof be liable to augment these rents, according to a medium of what taxes they have paid for so many years; and all past or future bargains as to taxes be annulled; and the burden laid where it can be best borne, on the owners of the land.

What injustice that a poor labouring man, who being not able to brew his own beer but forced to buy it, and who thereby gives employment to brewers and their servants; and is so far, therefore, a very useful member to the state, that he, for every pot he drinks, shall pay to that state more than double what the rich man does, all whose drink is made at his own house.

Why, for God's sake, should drink, more than meat, more than bread, be taxed? how ill can mankind do without it, more than the other two; but, in short, every method has been tried and put in practice for laying every tax possible on the poor, rather than on the rich.

I know your little pitiful narrow minded financiers, who, know nothing of the eternal laws

laws of right and wrong, never trouble their heads about the justice, but the facility of collecting the tax they propose. And this way of thinking has so generally prevailed, that 'tis scarce possible to find a man of sufficient other qualifications for the educating of princes, who do not industriously instill these wretched mean notions into their heads. But would a sovereign throw off those so contemptible prejudices, would he study the laws of God and nature, and consider how the infinitely wise providence of the creator has disposed his gifts to divers countries, on purpose to force a necessity of intercourse; and thereby to introduce an universal philanthropy and humanity amongst all the nations of the globe; he would soon see the wickedness and iniquity, as well as the folly of cramping trade, or limiting it otherwise than as God and nature have visibly designed it. He would then lay it open; he would take off all disproportioned taxes on it; he would much lessen those on labour and industry; and he would lay the burden where it could be best borne, and where most justly placed, on property, whether land, or money put out to use, or wherever else it would be with the greatest justice imposed.

And if the rich refused to bear this just and necessary burden, the prince need but throw himself upon the people, they would be entirely on his side; and the rich would not dare to make the least opposition.

The colonies following such an example, would all agree in taking off excises and taxes on trade; they would assess property alone,
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and never refuse a very ample share of theirs to a sovereign; who by recommending and pursuing such a scheme would become the idol of their souls; they would perfectly adore him.

It is on this plan that Hyperborea should be established; and on this it would soon thrive and become flourishing; and perhaps repay the mother state more than half our ancient colonies are able to do: for what indeed have they to pay us with but timber? which is so very much inferior to the Norwegian, that it is of little value in Britain: whereas fish, furs, and sulphur will ever prove most valuable commodities, both for the price they may be sold at, and for the employment they must needs give so many hands about them.

But what if a colony should refuse to contribute towards easing the public burden of the whole state and not consent to pay any taxes towards it? though this is a case in the highest degree improbable ever to happen, yet public faith ought not to be broke, nor justice be violated; let the whole race of mankind perish first; but this may be easily provided against: it is but laying taxes on goods exported to such plantations, in proportion to their real value.

This cannot be thought injustice in the mother state; they have a right to impose taxes on all the produce of their own country, while it is yet unexported; provided such taxes be fairly and equally laid; but not otherwise: for a greater tax ought not to be laid on a pound's worth of one commodity more than another.

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Let a colony refuse to aid its parent country; why then let nothing be sent out to that colony, without first paying a just tax at home. This will do it at once; both raise the tax, and yet not levy it in the colony, where the mother strte has certainly no right to levy it.

But they will then set up manufactures of their own; as for Hyperborea they cannot be carried on there, as was shewn, the climate will not permit it them. And for other colonies, give the people land upon cheap and easy terms, and there will be little danger of manufactures being established amongst them. Not one manufacturer in a thousand will follow his trade, if he has land of his own; or if he does, being under no necessity to labour, he will afford his work no cheaper that it can be had for from home. And these artists now gone or going to New England will soon quit their trades if the king will put them in possession of lands; for they will then assuredly settle on such lands.

But the fees of grants are raised to such extravagant heights, by the little petty officers of governors, that people are not able to take out these patents. In the new Charribbee lands I have known the fees of some patents exceed the whole purchase money paid to the crown. And I presume the government did not mean to sell the public lands cheap, that the people might pay the more to the several offices, through which the patents passed. Though all the patents there are ready printed in one form, and a blank left only for the names and dates; yet truly the attorney-general won't let them pass under 3l. 12s. sterling

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each, and so on in proportion to all the rest, and yet the poor secretary of St. Vincent was turned out for taking ten pistoles, for transcribing the whole at length in writing into the public registry.

Grants therefore should be made as cheap as possible, to enable the poor to take them out. They, the poor, are the artificers and the manufacturers, and when once they have got an hundred acres or so, of their own for themselves and family for ever; they will assuredly work no more; they will have no time to spare from their plantations; or if they have any, they will expect to be paid so high for these manufactures, that the buyers may as well have them from their mother country; and the rather as they would be sure of having them much better.

See now how very easily the disputes at present subsisting between England and her colonies, about the right of taxation, may be accommodated; England ought to drop her pretensions; as indeed they are unjust: she can have no more authority to tax her colonies than she had to tax the Isle of Man. Yet they ought to contribute according to their several abilities to ease and relieve her; this they have never refused, and probably never will; but if they should, 'tis only laying taxes on the exportations thither, and it will, without the least breach of justice, answer the same end. And as for their establishing manufactures, so many ways may be found out to prevent it; especially by giving, upon easy terms, grants of land to the manufacturers; who will assuredly then leave off their trades, in order to attend to the cultivation

vation of the grounds: that while such immense tracts remain open, to be granted to such numbers of people, more than probably all Europe will even send thither; it is altogether unlikely that such manufactures should ever be carried on to any purpose. Indeed there is as much propriety in the colonies employing themselves only in raising materials for manufactures, without fabricating themselves, as in tracts of land in Britain being laid out under sheep, or flax, or the like, while in the trading towns only, these should be worked up. Some arts are more absolutely necessary, even in the most out of the way places, and the thinnest peopled; for instance, smiths to shoe horses, and the like; and which, therefore, ought by all means to be permitted to the colonies; but by far the greatest part of all arts can be followed, to purpose, only in towns; and, therefore, will never be followed, so as to do much hurt to the mother country, if she but takes care to find out a more eligible employment for the emigrants she sends or permits to go out to her colonies; and to whom, as indeed to all mankind, the culture of the ground will ever appear preferable to any other occupation whatever. I mean where the property of the ground is their own, and the advantage made of it is to be to all perpetuity their descendent's property.

Such is the plan that ought to be followed in all our possessions beyond the Atlantic, the consequence of which will be an uninterrupted good correspondence between them and Britain; to which, if the God of Peace gives such success to these remonstrances of mine, as to render them the means of establishing, I shall think it a most singular glory and felicity of my life.

C H A P. VIII.

Continuation of the preceding Subject.

HAVING treated of the articles of religion, taxation, manufactures, and commerce, and insisted on the freedom of the latter, as far at least as it does not hurt the mother country in general, though such a freedom may affect particular persons; and which, however, there will be much less necessity of considering, with respect to Hyperborea, than to the other British colonies, and referring till we come to them the more particular further examination of this subject. Let us now see what form of government will be the fittest to be there established.

It will, perhaps, be thought strange, that I, who contend for so much freedom in the articles of taxation and commerce, should be altogether for a restraint in point of government; yet, from the most mature consideration of the subject, I am fully convinced that all colonies should universally be prohibited a legislature. They ought by all means to be allowed to hold assemblies for determining the necessary taxes; for examination of grievances; accusing of suspected persons, and causing them to be brought to trial, where justice is withheld, or overawed
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by the greatness of delinquents; and for making, from time to time, all necessary applications to the supreme authority at home. And these assemblies ought to meet regularly at stated times, without waiting for writs or summonses from governors; neither ought they to be prorogued or dismissed at their pleasure, till they had sat a sufficient length to finish their business in. To subject them to the arbitrary directions of governors in particular, is intirely to take away their freedom; and as their complaints are often against the male-administration of the governors themselves, it is not to be supposed that they would ever be allowed an opportunity of presenting them to the throne, if it was in the power of the governors to prevent it, by proroguing and dissolving such assemblies at their own pleasure.

I know princes are told that they ought to be jealous of their authority, which must ever suffer, if their governours are not allowed such and such powers: but they ought to be told that governors much oftner abuse their authority than the people resist it.

Princes seldom know those whom they intrust with the government of their people; they are recommended by others, whom they think well of; and those others, if ever so honest and undesigning, which however is not always the case, yet are themselves often deceived in those whom they recommend to their sovereign; who, therefore, knowing the weakness of human judgment, and how easily it is biased by love and friendship, and sensible of the depravity of the heart of man, and well aware that for one thoroughly honest

honest sensible well judging person, there are a thousand, perhaps ten thousand, cunning, artful fools or knaves; as in all the world, so probably more about the palace than any where else; because there will be for certain a perpetual guard kept, to conceal such follies or depravities; so for this reason should a prince be always ready to receive information, though against the greatest of his servants, the dearest of his attendants.

Not that he should be disposed to a mean jealousy; but as he can never know the truth but by examining, so ought he never to decline the task of such examination. If his favourite has acted well, he cannot but be cleared; the good will of the prince will ever be of service to bring him off, if he deserves it; and if he does not, why should the royal favour be employed to skreen.

A courtier may be the honestest best meaning man in the world, but he may err in his judgment; and, if his sovereign relies too much upon it, he must needs do things wrong. This will inflame his people, and they will certainly make him uneasy, if he persists in acting contrary to their inclinations: when this happens, his favourite may believe, but whether he does or no, will certainly endeavour to persuade his master that they are disaffected. But a people in general were never yet disaffected without cause; go over all the histories of past ages, and it will be found wherever a great majority persisted in a dislike to public measures; that, independent of the dissatisfaction they occasioned, they were originally wrong.

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In settled governments especially, the very mob are more inclined to reverence their prince than to design him hurt; the blame is always laid at his minister's door; let but their master leave them to a fair trial, and, be the issue what it will, the tumult will always subside.

To what end are your little parliamentary intrigues, but to skreen some ill judging or ill designing minister from being called to an account; and it is little matter whether the public suffer by his weakness or his wickedness, still if they suffer, they cannot but complain; and were he a man of sense and honour, he would choofe to have all his actions examined with the utmost exactness, and not try every shifting art to evade a parliamentary inquiry. He would scorn to closet the members; he would disdain to threaten them with their sovereigns displeasure, in order to intimidate them from making the fullest inquiries. If all he has done in his administration is but to thift and shuffle, to rob Peter in order to pay Paul, just to get rid of a present inconvenience by bringing on a future much greater one; he will have need in truth to practise all those little arts to save himself from effects of public indignation; and he will endeavour to persuade his master, even when his master comes to discover the weakness of his whole administration, that yet truly it was for his good, and to procure him some repose, even a momentary repose, though by exposing him to greater subsequent inquietudes; and a good natured prince is too often prevailed upon by such representations to permit the royal name to be made use of to save such a minister.

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But what if a minister errs through a mistake of judgment, not a depravity of heart; why still the public will ever think they have a right to be eased; and where they have any reason to believe it is the head not the heart that has failed, they are inclined enough, especially the English nation, to be content with a removal of the offending party.

But all men are fallible, even the public itself often finds itself mistaken; and by what rule then shall a minister's abilities be examined, so as to be thought worthy of being confided in.

No man can possibly be qualified for the ministry, who has not first a considerable knowledge in geography, and a taste to incline him that way, so as to give a very eager attention to all discoveries therein; because thereon is founded all the skill necessary for conducting the public commerce, and regulating the connexions of the state with their neighbours; without this, no plan whatever can be proposed for carrying on a war; and without it, to direct in framing a solid peace, the greatest success in the field cannot insure such.

I suppose I need not tell the reader, that a man, much conversant in geography, must be supposed not ignorant of the state of the government in every country he has occasion to have concerns with; which will include somewhat, though, indeed after all, for the purposes we are now speaking of, there need not be so very much of history as may be imagined.

This is the qualification necessary for the management of foreign affairs; of which commerce, being

being between different nations; must always be considered as a part.

As to domestic affairs a very great deep and thorough knowledge of the law of nature, and nations, is indispensibly necessary for the well management thereof: a king who has not learned that most valuable part of science, has been greatly abused by his preceptors. He that has, will never be much out of in judgment of the measures, he is to observe with his people. He that has not learn'd it must look for a minister that has, and that understands this most important point of ethics, and without which all other parts of education are of no value in a statesman. Painting, music, architecture, and many others of the fine arts, are ornamental, and such as it were to be wished every sovereign, and every prime minister had a taste for; but alas what are they to the good government of their people. The renown'd Grecian, Themistocles, being asked to play on some instrument of music, declared he had never learned it, and when he observed it created a surprisè, he nobly answered I know not indeed how to handle such an instrument, but I know very well how to make a small state a great one; and accordingly he raised his country Athens to a pitch of glory it had never known before.

These two parts of knowledge then, Geography and the law of nature and nations are the two great, and comparatively speaking, almost only qualifications necessary for a prince, or a prime minister. For when thoroughly instructed in these he can hardly judge amiss, either of foreign or domestic affairs, or if deeply

principled in the latter, he can scarce be able to prevail on himself to act wrong. This part of ethics will open to him so clean a prospect of the rights of all mankind, that he can no more act against it, than a man with his eyes open would choose to leap down a precipice.

Religion, politeness, the belles lettres, are all ornamental and useful, but a prince or minister very deficient in every one of them, will, humanly speaking, and supposing divine providence not to interpose, govern a state better, and render it happier by such knowledge in geography and ethics, as we have mentioned, than the most accomplished, and otherwise worthy king or minister ever born can without them.

A prince so qualified will never refuse to listen to the representations of his people, I will not say assembled together in bodies, but even those of the very meanest, single person: when a poor old woman had applied to king Philip, the father of Alexander the Great for redress of some grievance, and he answered he had not leisure to hear her complaint; she smartly replied then, sir, you ought not to reign. And the present king of Prussia, it is well known finds time to answer, even in his own hand writing, the particular letters he receives from private persons. One Mrs. Goodham, an Irish lady, who had shares in his Embden Asiatic company, finding herself very ill treated by some of the governors thereof, took the liberty to trouble the king by the common post with a letter on the subject: By the very next return of it, she received an answer under his own hand, informing her that he had
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taken care she should have immediate justice done to her.

The king of Prussia is fond of poetry, music, and elegance of every kind? His dominions are widely spread, and dissected into a number of states, all separated from one another; yet he finds leisure for his amusements, and for attending to, and dispatching the minutest and most trifling affairs of all that wide extent of states he is sovereign of; and what should hinder every other king to do the same; to see with his own eyes; hear with his own ears; and trust altogether no minister whatever; none of his governors will then dare to abuse their authority, to maltreat his people; and if any complaints be made against his greatest favourite among them, he will, even from his being a favourite, be still the more ready to attend to every representation relating to him, and will the more willingly punish him for having, more than others, abused his confidence, as he put more in him than in those others.

So soon, therefore, as the representations of the smallest community in his dominions, and much more those of large colonies are design'd to be presented to him, be it on what subject it will, they ought to be allowed the utmost freedom herein: I say the utmost, because it can never be imagined they will offend against common decency in such applications, or treat their prince designedly with rudeness.

But for legislation such mixed assemblies should never be trusted with it; and how indeed should such be able to execute it well, who, so very few

of them, know the first principles of law, right, justice, or equity.

There never was a good system of laws yet made by such assemblies; all that ever were well received were composed by single persons, Moses, Minos, Lycurgus, Solon, Zaleucus, Numa, were all such: all that have been made by numerous societies have been foolish, absurd, contrary to natural justice, nay even to common sense; liberty unnecessarily oppressed, the common actions of life pretended to be regulated, and the common rights of mankind abrogated.

Upon the whole I am fully persuaded that a very short comment on the ten commandments, contained perhaps in a single sheet of paper, would be all that mankind could possibly need for their general direction. Every thing hereto superadded is but form; and how simple might those forms be? the greatest city, every town, every village, require just the same forms of government; only the times of judicature and the numbers of the magistracy enlarged, in proportion to the populoulness of the place. What can be necessary for the government of London or Paris, more than the meanest village, except thus enlarging the times of judicature, as I said, and the number of their respective magistrates? what power has a lord-mayor more than any other justice of peace? they may go by different names indeed, but the authority is the same. And what power has a court of aldermen and a common-council, or ought at least to have, more than a vestry of a country parish? neither of them, nor
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the assembly of any colony should have power to make by laws, all such are infringements of general liberty, and breaches of public right.

Not that there must not be regulations for the better government of subaltern societies in a state; but these regulations should be all alike; and therefore one universal code should be made for every the smallest part of the dominions of the greatest state; and that the code should be so framed, as to suit all other political societies of the rest of mankind too. Why a Japanese governed by one system of laws; and a Spaniard, or Britton, an Indian, or Russian, by another? is not the human nature every where alike? are not the necessities of the whole species the same, to provide for their lives, liberties, and properties? all other wants are imaginary, and ought not to be taken notice of by laws; but those should be every where alike taken care of, and provided for; and is it possible indeed that the same methods can not serve for the security of all? and those when once known and published are what are called laws; which, therefore, it is evident will never be sufficient to fill volumes, but may be comprised in a very small compass.

Let us look over the codes of any of our colonies, and see what a heap they often are of contradictory institutions; but generally of such as are inconsistent with the welfare of any part of mankind but themselves. One colony makes laws to hurt the next one: is this to be permitted? and so if one state makes, it's laws to the prejudice of another, is not this as much against the laws of God and nature, as those of a particular

particular colony are against the interest of the whole state, of which they are parcels? which requires that every member thereof enjoy equal liberties, rights, or privileges, and to God and nature, would have it that all mankind should with respect to one another.

Is it because a little river, or arm of the sea, divides your country from mine, that I am therefore to do you all the indirect hurt I can? that I shall never buy any thing from you, tho' it be confessedly better, and cheaper, than what I can get at home, or any where else, even though I search to a greater distance for it?

Yet such are the arguments, such the system, upon which many European states, above all others the English, have form'd their many heaps of volumes upon volumes, which they call their laws, and are every day adding to the bulk of their ill-digested code, by still making new ones of the same absurd tendency.

If the other states of the world followed the same plan, there would be an end of Britain; at least of all her commerce, and of all her wealth and glory. Let Piedmont and China stop the exportation of their raw silk, as she does of her wool, and why not? what then will become of all her manufactures made of that material? Let Spain suffer none of her wool to come to Britain, and where then will be her trade for fine broad cloaths? In short, if people would judge dispassionately, and of their own concerns, with the same equity as they would of their neighbours, they would instantly see and acknowledge the injustice and the folly of such restrictions, and nothing but the strongest pre-
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judice arising from mere avarice, and a mean contemptible selfishness, can ever make them approve or continue such institutions.

But alas where, when, or how, can we hope for a legislator to arise with such noble sentiments, in favour of universal equal liberty, in these points? No! the directors of our parliaments endeavour to instil into them the poorest pityfullest ideas on such occasions; they rack their brains for ways and means to raise money, by oppressing the poor with taxes, loading manufactures with burdens, cramping trade by prohibiting every thing that should be tolerated, and tolerating every thing that should be prohibited; just to get over a session, without either knowing, or so much as even striving to know; (not perhaps indeed thro' their narrow prejudices capable of discovering,) the true basis of commerce, the real interest of their country, or so much as the ease and glory of their indulgent master.

The scene is too gloomy, the prospect of it must damp every joy, and spread an horror of melancholy over every thinking heart. Let us then here drop the curtain, and strive to turn our thoughts to some more entertaining subject.

C H A P. IX:

Of the North-West Passage.

WE cannot pass from the northern regions of Hyperborea, more to the southward; without crossing that space, where the North-West passage (which opens a communication on that quarter between the Atlantic and the Australian oceans) is supposed to lie; the consideration, of it therefore, here naturally occurs. Nothing can be more certain from the past discoveries of the Spaniards, and later ones of the Russians, than that the nearest part of the Australian ocean is 600 leagues, or about two thousand English miles distant from Hudson's Bay, which opens to the Atlantic, and which space, as was said, is the shortest between them.

If therefore there, is any communication from one to the other by the North-West passage, it must be by a strait, or very narrow, sea of that prodigious length. This at once is apt to preclude all hope of there being such a thing.

Another consideration is, that the Indians who traffic with the English at Hudson's Bay, and who it is affirmed, do some of them come all the way from the shores of the Australian ocean, or of some bay or inlet communicating therewith, do yet never come by water but always the whole by land; except that they using indeed canous to
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cross lakes or great rivers in their way. How comes it then that those people who carry canoes with them to help in the crossing such lakes and rivers, do not use them during the whole passage, but fatigue themselves by traversing on foot such immense tracts of woody and sometimes swampy grounds? For it cannot be pretended they choose the latter way for the sake of hunting and of getting provisions; as 'tis known that the Indians who sail up and down great rivers in these canoes, do constantly from time to time make a practice of going on shore to hunt and get provisions; and so to be sure they would along all this north-west strait if there was a possibility of a continued navigation thereon: that is, if the Indians trading to Hudson's Bay came from that part of the Australian ocean which was nearest thereto. And to be sure there is great weight in these arguments against a north-west passage; and nothing in the world could induce people, one should think, so much as to suspect the smallest probability of such; if it was not actually by some navigation or other either really discovered, or pretended at least to be so.

For independent of such real or pretended discovery, all the reasonings commonly used to make out the probability thereof, do in truth prove nothing at all to the purpose: Let us consider them: It is said that the flocks of wild geese, which visit Hudson's Bay in the spring, always come from the westward: Well what then? Why to be sure the west sea they come from, must needs be near Hudson's Bay: Far from it: These geese may indeed come

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from the Australian ocean ; but as we know that species feed as well in fresh water marshes, ponds, lakes, and rivers, as at the sea ; and as we assuredly know from Pere Charlevoix's relation, that there are three very great lakes just midway between the two seas we speak of, (besides that from the accounts of the Indians, and from the general nature of the regions in those parts, all abounding in lakes; we have abundant reason to believe there are great numbers of others also, besides the three before mentioned, lying in the tract which these wild geese follow in their supposed flight ;) there will be no necessity for allowing that tract to be so short, as those who use this argument would persuade us : It may be as long as was before represented, and the chains of lakes, reaching perhaps the whole length of it, may well be considered as temptations enough to the wild geese to proceed all the way, long as it is : nor can any argument be brought from that species not being known usually to range so far, because allowing it was so in general ; yet here an exception might reasonably be admitted, where there is such a continued long extended tract, abounding in lakes, more than in any other part of the world besides.

But in truth we have no sufficient reason to think that wild geese do not take flights of very great length, hundreds of leagues at least ; for we know that those which annually visit the British islands, about the latter end of August or beginning of September, come from the southward, and cross in their way at least the whole Bay of Biscay, if not a much greater tract, perhaps

perhaps from Barbary; whence to the south-east part of Ireland, where I have been assured they are every year first observed, about the time mentioned, is at least 400 leagues. I have conversed with men of sense and skill upon the subject, who have assured me that they have purposely gone out to sea, to make their observations on the flights of these fowl; and that though they flew too high to be seen, they could yet be heard up in the air very distinctly, both before they approached, also when directly over their heads, and afterwards when they had passed. And particularly the late Rev. Dr. John Wynne, precentor of St. Patrick's Dublin, who was very generally known, and his character respected in England as well as Ireland, told me, that once, when he had been out on such an expedition, off the coast of Wexford, on purpose to make the observation, he had heard the geese, but could not see them, and the next day found considerable numbers of them had landed there. Their noise he said came from the southward, rather inclining from towards the west, and therefore they must have come from Spain or Barbary; and of course have in one continued flight traversed that space, near 300, and perhaps more probably 400 leagues, over the sea: And so might the geese near the suppos'd north-west passage have done: And as it is but 300 leagues from the Australian ocean to Perse Charlevoix's three great lakes, lying mid-way between it and Hudson's Bay, even upon supposition that they had not stopp'd at all on their passage till they came thither; but from what was just now mentioned

about the European wild geese, 'tis plainly no manner of improbability, that as in two such flights, those others might have reach'd that fen from their leaving the shores of the Australian ocean; so from hence no kind of argument can be drawn to prove any greater vicinity between them.

Another argument is taken from the size of the rivers which run into Hudson's Bay; the which still, as one proceeds more northerly, are found to grow smaller, a proof that the land is there narrower.

It is indeed a proof that the mountains or sources whence those rivers proceed, are in the northern part much nearer to Hudson's Bay, than are the sources of the rivers which run from the south; but this is no manner of proof in the least, that the land in general grows so much proportionably narrower, because we know the contrary often is the case.

For suppose one sailing along the coasts of Italy, and observing the Tiber and the Arno to be considerable rivers, but these on the coast of Genoa adjoining to be very small; ought they thence to conclude the land lying north of Genoa to be much narrower, than what lay beyond the sources of the Tiber and Arno? If they did, they would on trial find themselves greatly mistaken; for north of Genoa there is no sea till you come to the Baltic, about 600 miles distant, whereas the other sea, namely the gulph of Venice, is not near a quarter so much. And by the same rule, though the rivers in the north part of Hudson's Bay be of very short course, the land beyond them towards the Australian

Australian ocean may be as we are very full

A third argument which run into Hudson's Bay, and which proceed from Baffin's Bay, the tide in this latter the other it rises and comes from some part of the Australian ocean.

It is a shame should be used; that the further from the sea, the tide in the ocean they rise from it towards the islands; but towards the main in the cod or bay to be fifteen feet still more.

By this rule Baffin's Bay but to ten or more indeed is most the former into

But if it were certain they did that yet would flow from the Hudson part of it as well thereof towards

Australian ocean may be of a very great extent, as we are very sure the main body of it is.

A third argument is brought from the tides which run into Hudson's Bay from the northward, and which therefore they say cannot proceed from Baffin's Bay, because forsooth the tide in this latter rises but five feet, whereas in the other it rises ten feet; and therefore it must come from some other sea, and what other but the Australian ocean.

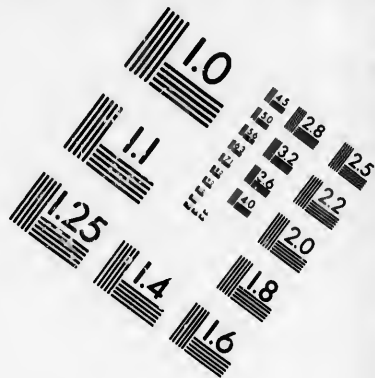
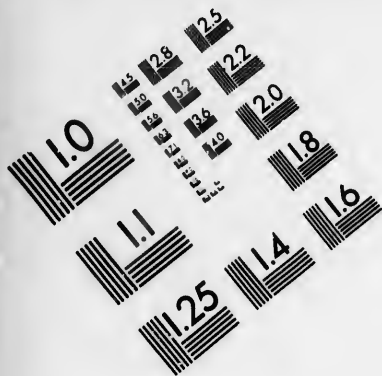
It is a shame indeed that such an argument should be used; for is it not always observed that the further one goes into deep recesses of the sea, the tides rise higher? In the open ocean they rise scarce two feet, and near the edge of it towards the equinoctial line, two feet is nearly about their height: So it is in the Caribbee islands; but as one proceeds more inwards, towards the main, the tides are higher; so as in the cove or bottom of the Bay of Honduras to be fifteen feet, and in the Bay of Campeachy still more.

By this rule then, though the tides rise in Baffin's Bay but five feet, they may well mount to ten or more in Hudson's Bay, supposing, as indeed is most probable, that they run from the former into the latter.

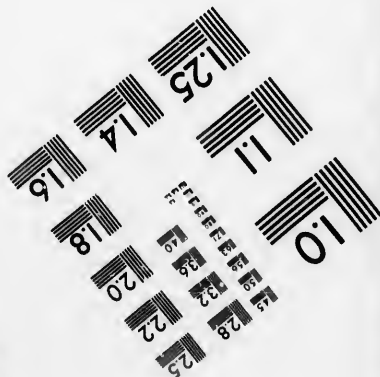
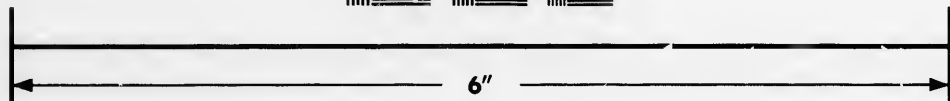
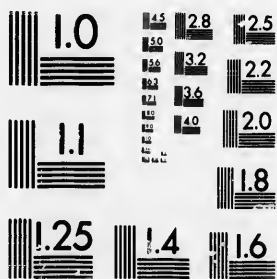
But if it were otherwise, and that it were certain they did not come from Baffin's Bay, that yet would be no proof that they proceeded from the Australian ocean; for they might flow from the Hyperborean, namely from such part of it as washed the most northern shores thereof towards the pole.

And





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And that the very abettors of the argument from the tides, did not believe that they come from the Australian ocean, but rather from the most northern part of the Hyperborean, (which would no way answer their scheme, as such a passage could never be navigable, at least never shorten the way to China) nay that they rather suspected, or found at least after all, that they came from Baffin's Bay, notwithstanding their pretending to argue for the contrary: This is to me very highly probable, from their declining to search that very passage, from which the tides came. At first whilst they ranged along that clump of supposed islands called Cumberland islands, and which they name the east main, the tide was always found to come from the north-west: well, they followed it on, until they came nearest to that place where Baffin's and Hudson's Bay approach each other, and from whence the tides most certainly come; yet all on a sudden, instead of proceeding on still to the extreme north west, we find them unexpectedly (and we cannot from their own relations guess from what motives) got to the west main, and the tides then coming not from the north-west, as hitherto they had observed, but from the north-east, which they had passed.

It is plain they had then so passed the opening, through which the tides enter the bay: ought they not then to have turned back, and to have searched till they had discovered the very strait, through which the tide so entered. No! 'Tis to be thought they now suspected, what I verily believe will be found the truth, that this tide came from Baffin's Bay, which as

was

was observed would no way answer their scheme; and therefore for fear they should discover that disagreeable truth, they proceeded still further off, all along the west side, searching, or pretending rather to search, for a north-west passage, where, according to their own system, it was impossible to be found; and accordingly indeed they did not find it.

I have said, that according to their own system, framed from their observation of the tides, the north-west passage could not be where they continued to search for it, because they found that in every inlet which they examined, the tides still continued to flow from the north-east or north-west; and it appears from all they have published, that they looked upon it as indisputable, that the supposed north-west passage must be in that part from whence the tide comes: and therefore, that as it proceeded from the north-west at first, and afterwards when they changed their course from the north-east, the passage must have been there, where yet they never tried for it; and that it could not be supposed by them to be, where yet they persisted to search, or rather to pretend to search for it.

But after all, I confess that this argument, drawn from the tides, is in no sort a proof of the non-existence of the north-west passage; or that the mouth of it is not in one of those very inlets which they searched. I say the argument drawn from the TIDES is no sufficient proof, for at present I am considering only that one.

Supposing

tion's rowling [or 72]
Supposing an inlet from the Australian ocean to run a considerable way up within the land, and the tide also to run so far: is it not easily conceivable, that it might, before it reached Hudson's Bay, meet another tide coming thence? just as the tide coming up the English channel from the west does, some where near Dungeness meet the other tide, that comes along the east coast of England from the northward; and therefore, though this argument drawn from the tides is, by no means to be admitted as a proof of the reality of a north-west passage, neither is it indeed a proof of the non-existence thereof.

I have before mentioned two circumstances that make much against the probability of that passage; namely, 1st, the great length, no less than 600 leagues, which must (if there is such a passage) be all taken up with so long a strait or very narrow sea, which one is not much inclined to suppose any way credible. 2. That we cannot learn the Indians, who visit Hudson's Bay, ever navigate such a long passage; and which one cannot help thinking that they would if it existed. Neither can any reasoning whatever be brought to remove the prejudices, which those two considerations must be apt to raise in our minds, against the probability of such passage, except its appearing to be a matter of fact, by some credible relation, of the passage's having been actually navigated. We have indeed extant stories of such; let us then examine them fairly, and see what proofs to the purpose they bring.

As none of those relations mention any particular latitude, where it is said they found the passage, nor give any particular circumstances that may be thought to mark with precision, or even very nearly the place where such passage was made; except only the account published in the name of De Fonte; I shall pass over all the others (even that of De Fuca, though inserted in the maps, because it is extremely unsatisfactory) and proceed to examine that of De Fonte: and here follows the substance of his story as related by himself.

He tells us, "that in the year 1639, the 14th of Charles I. of England, the court of Spain being advertised of some navigations being attempted by the people of Boston in New England that year; he was ordered to equip four ships of force [in order to oppose them] and having left Callao, the port of Lima in Peru, April 3, 1640, at five in the afternoon, he made the following courses."

	Leag.	Deg.	Course.
"April 7, St. Helena at Guayaquil	200	2	South.
"April 10, the equinoctial by C. Passoe			
"April 11, C. St. Francisco		1-7	North.
"April 16, Rioloja	320	11-14	W.N.W.
"April 25, Chiametlan Compostella	480	17-31	N.W. by W.

This must be a mistake, for he made in the last course only 6 degrees 17 minutes; his course N. W. by N. and yet ran 480 leagues; whereas from C. St. Francisco to Rioloja, he made 10 degrees 7 minutes; the course W. N. W. and yet ran but 320 leagues. Besides Chiametlan, near to which Compostella lies, is really

in near 23 degrees of north latitude ; and not in 17 degrees 31 minutes. If we change the latitude of Chiametlan from 17-31, where he mistakingly places it, to 23, where it really lies, this will add near 6 degrees more to De Fonte's course ; so as to make the whole about 12 degrees or 240 leagues : though to make out the 480 leagues, if that be not likewise a mistake, we must suppose he made many traverses which lengthened his course.

To proceed, " being hereabouts assured by a master of a vessel, whom he had hired at Compostella ; that on the east side of California, about 200 leagues up the gulph thereof, a flood from the north met the south floods, and that therefore he was sure it must be an island. He sent Pennelossa, one of his captains, with his ship, and four challopes, which they had bought at Rialeja, accompanied with the said master of the vessel whom he had hired, and his mariners, in order to discover whether California were an island or not."

What happened to Pennelossa, or what discoveries he made we know not : De Fonte taking no further notice thereof. But we are now assured by the Jesuits, that it is a Peninsula and not an island ; though some maps still say that it is both an island and a Peninsula. The sea at spring tides running quite across the land, from the ocean into the gulph of California, which at other tides is joined by that overflown ground to the main ; and so it is sometimes an island, sometimes a peninsula.

Indeed the Japanese map before mentioned, makes a continued channel of water to communicate

nicate between the gulph of California and Hudson's Bay; but this I fancy will not be much regarded: and so we must leave this particular article, till future discoveries shall have certainly determined the truth.

Return we to De Fonte, who sailed from Chiametlan with his remaining three ships &c.

	Deg.	Run	Leagues.	Course.
" May 10, 1640, made Cape or Port Abel in	26.	N.	160.	N.W.by W.
" May 16, to Cape Blanco			410	N.N.W.
" June 14, to Rio los Reys	53	N.	456	Ditto.

All the sailors that have made remarks on this voyage, universally agree, in supposing the last course to be mistaken, or that it should be only partly N. N. W. namely as far as to the mouth of the Archipelago of St. Lazarus, or Straits of Anian (for all allow they are the same) and that from the entrance of the said Straits to Rio los Reys, the course was N. N. E.

There is certainly some mistake here; though how to rectify it one knows not: he positively says, " he failed before a steady gale, which blew from S. S. E. so as that from May 26 to June 14, he had no occasion to lower a topsail, in sailing 866 leagues N.N.W. 410 leagues whereof were from Cape Abel to Cape Blanco, and 456 more from Cape Blanco to Rio los Reys." We are morally certain from the Russian discoveries, and from every other information, that the whole 866 leagues could not be one continued N.N.W. course; but that part thereof must have been N. N. E. or on some such point. So here is a great uncertainty, with respect to the mouth of Rio los Reys; except indeed that he lays

it down in 53 degrees north latitude. But how far east or west, we know not: however, as De Lisle's scheme seems to be most approved, let us follow that.

De Fonte's account of his navigation up the Archpelago of St. Lazarus is, "that it was 260 leagues long, in crooked channels, amongst islands, where the ship's boats sailed a mile a head, founding to see what water rocks or sands were in the way.

"After De Fonte had arrived at the mouth of Los Reys, he sent one of his captains, with orders to another of his captains, one Bernarda, to sail up a fair river, a gentle stream and deep water [observe the word *up*, which plainly implies that the river ran down to them.] Its course was up N.N.E. and N.N.W. its depth not less than 4, 5, 6, 7, and 8 fathoms; it came from a large lake full of islands, and one very large peninsula full of inhabitants, a friendly honest people; the lake he named Valasco: the river he had sailed up into it, they called the river of of Haro; and the peninsula was by the native called Connibasset. Both the rivers and lakes abounded with salmon trout and large white perch, some of them two feet long. And it flowed in both rivers near the same water: in the river Los Reys, twenty-four feet full and change of the moon, S. S. E. moon making high water; and in the river of Haro, twenty-two feet and an half full and change. [The tide therefore flowed up both rivers.] Captain Bernarda first sailed from the ships, in the lake Valasco, 140 leagues west, and then 436 E. N. E. to 77, or rather, as afterwards, appears to

to 79 degrees of latitude. But first leaving his own ship, between the island of Bernard and the Peninsula of Connibasset, a very safe port; went down the river from the lake three falls, 80 leagues and fell into the Tartarian sea in 61 degrees latitude. This, in three Indian boats each made of a tree, fifty or sixty feet long," accompanied with thirty-six of the natives, twenty of his own mariners, and two father Jesuits, [whence it appears the river was not navigable by his own ships, since he made use of Indian boats] in which they went down a river (observe *went down*) a river from the lake, which shews the river ran into the Tartarian sea in 61 degrees. For he tells us in another place, "that Bernarda was dispatched by him on the discovery of the north and east part of the Tartarian sea." [And this discovery was first, it seems to be made, before he proceeded to the north-east, to discover if there was any communication between this lake of Valasco, and Davis's Straits]

What put this into their heads, was probably the information of the two Jesuits, "who were with them, and who had formerly been as far as 66 degrees north latitude; and had made curious observations;" which two seem, both of them to have gone with Bernarda upon this new discovery which he was sent on.

Now the place where the unnamed river before-mentioned, (that had three falls in it, and that had a course of 80 leagues) entered the Tartarian sea in 61 degrees, must be that bay, which was afterwards discovered by captain Beering in the Russian Service, in the year 1741; the south cape of which bay, is terminated by Cape St. Elias;

Elias; and within it a good large island of about forty miles every way over: Though the ranges of hills and high lands which every where surround that bay, make it very doubtful whether any such river could enter into it. But tho' it be doubtful, it is, however, no proof, that it certainly does not so enter it; especially as the three falls, said to be therein, make it not impossible, but that they might be occasioned by its passing those hills and high lands mentioned. And note here, that Bernarda in order to sail down this river, had left his ship; and therefore it appears to have been navigable only by boats.

After sending this account by letter to De Fonte, "Bernarda proceeded north eastward, whether the land trended; and this in the three boats before-mentioned, with the twenty Spanish seamen, the two father Jesuits, and the the thirty-six natives. He sailed N. E. and E. E. N. E, and N. E. by E. all the way, to the 79th degree of north latitude (which is nearly the height of the upper part of Baffins Bay)" which Bernarda in this relation calls Davis's Straits: "that from the said latitude of 79, the land trended northwards, the ice setting on the land; that the natives had conducted one of his seamen to the head, or said upper part of this Baffins Bay, or Davis's Straits, which terminated in a fresh lake, about 30 miles in circumference, in 80 degrees latitude; on the north of which were prodigious mountains; and on the north-west side of the lake, the ice was fixed from the shore to 100 fathoms depth for ought he knew, and on the whole, that there is no communication;

tion; the way he went between the Spanish seas (viz. the Australian ocean) and Davis's Straits, or Baffins Bay. All this was performed between June 22 and August 11, in the year 1640. while the season was exceeding fine." [Whereof the five first days were spent in sailing through lake Valasco, and exploring the river with three falls, that entered the Tartarian sea in latitude 61; as appears from Bernarda's first letter to De Fonte, dated June 27, and in which] " he describes the country thereabouts, to abound in excellent venison of three sorts, and the sea and rivers with excellent fish:" Observe, he says, *the sea*, which shews he had in these five days entered what he calls the Tartarian sea, and which therefore, as was said, must be at or near the bay of St. Elias, discovered again by captain Beering, 101 years afterwards. The remaining forty-five days were spent in navigating up to the head of Davis's Straits, or Baffins's Bay, and returning therefrom.

Observe, that Bernarda does not say the land along the shores of which he sailed up to 79 degrees ended there, as the maps of the tracts he navigated represent it. No! " he says the land trended then northward; the ice resting on the land;" so that it should seem that body of water which he sailed on, reached still further than he went: and, if there be any truth in his relation, must be the same with that great inlet, which the Japanese maps represent to extend from the most northern coasts of Hyperborea, in about 82 degrees quite into the land, as far southward as to the 68th degree, that is 280 leagues, and there dividing it into two arms, they

they both run still more southward; the westernmost terminating in 65, and the other in 62 degrees; within 80 leagues of the place from whence Bernarda began his navigation up this bay.

And this relation of Bernarda's, compared with the Japanese maps, though not perfectly agreeing (as the Japanese maps take no notice of that northern inlet's communication with the South Sea in 61 degrees.) Yet however are so alike, as to gain credit the one to the other.

This relation of Bernarda's is decisive against any communication between Baffin's Bay and the Australian ocean as the followers of governor Dobbs affect to make us believe. I say affect; because from what I before observed, it is pretty plain, those whom he procured to be employed on the discovery of a N. W. passage, did not themselves believe it to be thereabouts. In short, if there be any communication from the Australian ocean with any other in that tract which Bernarda navigated, it must be only with that ocean which washes the northern shores of Hyperborea, and which to us would be useless.

Return we now from Bernarda to his commander De Fonte, and see what he did towards discovering the N. W. passage in the other tract up the lake Belle, which he chose for himself to try. And he tells us, that he sailed from the place where Bernarda had been dispatched [which seems to have been at the joint mouths of the two rivers, viz. Haro which Bernarda sailed up to lake Valasco and Los Reys, which De Fonte reserved to himself to examine] and which did lead up, as we find, to a lake which he called Belle." " De

“ De Fonte on the 22d of June, the day he had sent Benarda to go to the northward, entered lake Belle, with his two remaining ships; and there was then no fall or cataract, but four or five fathom water, and six or seven generally in the lake Belle. For [it seems] there is a little fall of water till half flood; and an hour and a quarter before high water, the flood begins to set greatly into the lake Belle [So that this tide of flood seems to go from the sea lying to the south-westward, up the river Los Reys and so into Lake Belle.] “ The river is fresh at 20 leagues distance from the mouth or entrance; and both the river and lake abound with salmon, salmon trout, pikes, perch, and mullets, and two other sorts of fish peculiar to that river; and these mullets caught in the river Los Reys, and in lake Belle, are the most delicate he believes in world.

“ The first of July, 1640, De Fonte sailed from Lake Belle, from a port thereon named Conossett, covered by a fine island, to a river, which he called Parmentiers, from his industrious comrade Mr Parmentiers, who had exactly marked every thing in and about that river. In doing all this, he left his ships, [that is; the two ships which remained with him, at Conossett; and therefore he sailed in boats.] He proceeds, “ he passed eight falls, in all thirty-two feet perpendicular from its source out of lake Belle. [The falls being one with another four feet each; and the river did not run into, but came out of the lake Belle] and falls into a

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large lake, named De Fonte, where he arrived the 7th day, that is July 6."

It seems then that the lake Belle is the highest water in these parts between the two oceans; that is, in all the N. W. passage; and as they sailed up the river Los Reys into lake Belle in ships; so they sailed down the river Parmentiers, from thence into lake De Fonte in boats.

"This lake of De Fonte is 160 leagues long and 60 broad, lying E. N. E. and W. S. W. it is twenty, thirty, and sometimes sixty fathom deep, and abounds with excellent cod and ling, [and therefore the tide comes up into it from the eastward.] "It has several very large islands and ten small ones; they are covered with shrubby woods; the moss grows six or seven feet long, with which the moose a very large sort of deer, as well as the smaller species of fallow, are fat in winter. There are abundance of wild cherries, straw-berries, hurtle-berries, and wild currants. Also of wild fowl, heath cocks and hens; likewise partridges, and turkies, and sea fowl in great plenty: On the south side there is a very large fruitful island which had a great many inhabitants, and very excellent timber, as oaks, ashes, elms, and fir trees, very large and tall."

"The 14th of July, he sailed out of the E. N. E. end of the lake; and passed along another lake which he named Estrecho de Ronquilo, 24 leagues long, 2 or 3 leagues broad, and 20, 26 and 28 fathom deep. He passed this strait [observe he here calls it a Strait, which he before named a lake, probably from its being so
narrow

narrow in proportion to its breadth,] in so little a time as ten hours, having a stout gale of wind and the whole ebb;" [so that it is plain the ebb ran eastward, that is towards Hudson's Bay, since it favoured him.]

"The 17th of July, he came to an Indian town, and the Indians told the interpreter Mr. Parmentiers [and who therefore must have been in those parts before, going thither from either the westward or eastward, or how could he understand their language, so as to be interpreter:] That a little way from them lay a great ship, where never had been one before. De Fonte sailed to them, and found the ship was from Boston in New England, belonging to one senior Gibbons, major-general of Massachusetts colony, who was then with the ship there; the master was one Shapely, a brave navigator: De Fonte gave a ring worth 1200 ducats, and a quarter cask of Peruvian wine to Gibbons; and also a thousand ducats more to captain Shapely for his fine charts and journals; and twenty pieces of eight to each of their ten seamen: and the 6th of August, having as much wind as they could fly before, and the current with them, [and therefore they now sailed with the tide of flood] arrived at the first fall of the river Parmentiers, the 11th of August 86 leagues; and were on the south side the lake Belle, on board their ships, August 16, before the fine town of Conoffet, before-mentioned, where all things were found well. After which, September 2, he sailed from Conoffet, and the 5th in the morn'g. about

M 2

eight

eight o'clock, was at anchor between Arenna and Mynhasset, the former of which places was 20 leagues from the mouth of the river Los Reys, and the other near it; and so sailing down that river, [observe, 'tis *down*, which shews the course of the river ran now the way he was sailing; whereas before he sailed it up from the north-east part of the South Sea.] "After that he returned home, having found that there was no passage into the South Sea, by that called the north-west passage; [he adds,] the chart will make this more demonstrable." But alas, no chart has accompanied this relation. That, which we have, being invented to suit this narrative; and to suit also that of other real or pretended discoveries.

The only difficulty or obscurity in the latter part of this relation is, to know whether the 6th of August mentioned was the day they left the English ship or not; and what space it is, that he says was 86 leagues where he was the 11th of August on his return, at the first fall of the river Parmentiers: because in going out he does not give us the length of the course of the river Parmentiers, but says the lake De Fonte is 160 leagues extent; so that what part of his course was thus 86 leagues long, we cannot at all guess.

I have taken no notice of the proofs brought for the authenticity of this relation, from its mentioning the names of two Englishmen, who really existed at the supposed time: of whom Shapely had such extraordinary adventures at sea, as to be called Old Nick; and to have some tradition of them to this day preserved in his family

family and neighbourhood: And major Gibbons can be proved (as it is said) to have been at the very time absent from New England; and so might have been met by De Fonte, as the relation informs us. For what if the mention of these two Englishmen proves ever so much, that the narrative of De Fonte not being published, till sixty-eight years after, could not be a fiction. (For, how indeed, could it hit upon the names of these two men, if they had not really existed, and been actually met with by the author?) Yet still we from the whole (observing it ever so genuine) can conclude at most that there is a navigation for boats uninterruptedly from sea to sea, by that called the N. W. passage: but that the cataracts or waterfalls in the river Parmentiers are such, as to make it utterly impassable by ships; for else why should De Fonte quit his ships in the lake to perform the rest of the navigation in his boats; and so, as De Fonte concludes, if there be no other; then there is no N. W. passage at all: except only in the way of an inland navigation; which, however (if even that was certain,) would be valuable enough to excite a very great attention from the public.

It is a great misfortune that all the writers on this subject appear to be under strong prejudices: They who wish for it, would fain make us believe every idle rumour of a story, and fancy every imagination in its favour to be real: while from the weakness and absurdity of the several relations and arguments brought to prove it, one can hardly think they themselves look upon them to carry any weight.

On the contrary, those who think it their interest

terest to oppose and hinder a discovery of this passage, use every art to destroy all credibility of it.

I persuade myself I am quite dispassionate : I have fairly proposed two exceeding strong objections to it : 1. from the prodigious length of the passage; such as one cannot without the greatest difficulty persuade themselves exists at all in nature; and 2. from its never being known to be navigated by those Indians, who come to Hudson's Bay from the Australian ocean, and who to be sure would use it, if they knew of such. Nor can one admit any answer whatever to this; not scarcely, tho' ever so well authenticated, relations in favour of the passage; but only the supposing it to lye in some other tract than that, which these Indians use, who visit our settlements in Hudson's Bay.

On the other hand, notwithstanding the strength of these objections; I confess De Fonte's relation, even with its inaccuracies and some mistakes, does yet carry with it such an air of simplicity and truth, and the circumstance of meeting Gibbons and Shapely, is so strong in its favour, that I cannot think myself at liberty quite to reject it.

But then as after all, it will not prove that there is any such N. E. passage as can be navigated, uninterruptedly by ships; so must it therefore appear of much less importance to have it fully discovered; and yet it must be owned, if navigable only for boats, that it highly deserves very serious considerations from the government.

What

What effect this discovery might have on the trade of the East-India, and Hudson's Bay companies; and in what way they should be compensated for the loss they must expect to suffer thereby; (for I think common justice requires that by all means they be compensated to the full, and this without paying the least regard to those who cry "down with them, down with them even to the ground;" and who, if themselves had shares in these trades, would think themselves very ill used, to be in so arbitrary a manner deprived of the profits without full compensations made for their loss.) How much satisfaction should be given to the two companies, I say, we cannot at present determine. It would too much lengthen this little tract, which has already grown, perhaps to too great a bulk, to enter into the detail of such particulars: political discourses must not be long, else they will be tedious. So here we shall for the present put an end to this first part: intending, however, if God permit, to proceed with the least loss of time possible, to the remainder; in which, besides the interests of the two companies in question. We shall endeavour to lay before the public the true state of our other colonies; and to shew how the British dominions beyond the Atlantic may be settled to the greatest advantage, and vastly more than perhaps the most sanguine schemer at present thinks them capable of.

END of the FIRST PART.

E R R A T A.

Towards the end of the Dedication, p. vii. l. 7. the sentence following the word *advanced*, ought to be inclosed thus () being a parenthesis.

In the Introduction, p. ix. paragraph the last, p. 3. for *five hundred* read *five thousand*.

In the same Introduction, p. xiv. middle paragraph, a whole line is omitted after the word, *considered*, viz. *as three original divisions of the whole globe but*

Chap. I. page 1. paragraph 1. after the word *twelfth*, dele the word *part*.

Page 3. After *Asia* read *before the Russians; because when these latter*

Chap. II. Page 4. paragraph 1. last line but one dele *they*

Page 5. l. 3. dele *very*, and page 7. last line but six, after *how* add *also*.

Page 10. for *laquitur* read *loquitur*; near the bottom, for *tells us*, read *informs us*.

Page 11. paragraph 4. near the middle, for *he and his companions*, &c. read, *as he and his companions were rambling &c. They discovered*.

Page 13. paragraph 2. l. 5. for *be*, read *one*.

Page 14. last line but one, for *peopling* read *planting*.

Page 16. near the middle for *Iceland* read *Ireland*.

Page 21. near the middle for *these* read *their*; and six lines lower, for *or*, *Wilderthufen*, read *and Wildeshufen*.

Chap. V. line 4. after *Iceland*, insert *before mentioned*.

Page 24. l. 2. for *so much* read *so great extent*.

Page 25 l. 2. after *part*, read *is chiefly contiguous to Holstein, and*

Page 27. l. 10, 11, for *never on any*, read *on no*; and same page, paragraph 2. l. 5. for *not* read *no*.

Page 29. l. 17. after *which* read *latter*.

Page 30. l. 4. 5, for *and transfer*, read *and also transfer*.—l. 10. for *wbell*, read *well*; and after the word *them*, the last in the paragraph, add *all*; and in paragraph 2, last line but one after *either*, insert *of them*.

E R R A T A.

- Chap. VI. Page 32. l. 11. for well, read "Well; and after
I am, add, good Sir.
Page 32. l. 2, for *England*; put *England*:"
Page 14. for *religion*, read *the gospel*.
Page 35. l. 13. after *then* add, *also*.
Page 37. l. 7. after *to* insert *the president*.
Page 40. l. 5. for *dominicans*, read *Dominicans*;
paragragh 2. l. 11. for *one*, read *once*.
Page 42. paragragh 2. l. 6. after the last *the*, add
number of; and l. 7. for *clergy*, read *curates*.
Page 43. towards the bottom, read *an argument in*
its favour.
Page 46. l. 12. for *these*, read *their*; paragragh 2. l. 6.
for *pot*, read *drop*.
Page 47. l. 7. for *do*, read *does*.
Page 51. line the last of the first paragragh, dele.
property.
Page 54. l. 3. for *fools or knaves*, read *weak or bad*.
men.
Page 55. paragragh 2. l. 1. after *are*, insert *many of*.
Page 57. paragragh 2. l. 4. for *a king*, read *A*.
king; and l. 7. dele *of* and for *judgment* read
judging.
Page 63. paragragh 2. l. 11. for *every* read *many*.
Page 68. l. 4. for *sen* read *length*.



