

Up to this time no attempt had been made to colonise Newfoundland or any of the neighbouring lands. The hardy fishermen of various nationalities, among whom Englishmen were now much more numerous than formerly, were in the habit of frequenting the shores of the island during the summer, and using the harbours and coves for the cure of their fish, returning home with the products of their toils on the approach of winter. Eighty-six years had passed away since Cabot's discovery, and we now arrive at the year 1583, a memorable date in the history of Newfoundland. On the 5th day of August in that year, there were lying in the harbour of St. John's thirty-six vessels belonging to various nations, Portuguese, Spanish, French, and English, all employed in fishing. In addition to these there were four English warships, which had arrived the day before. They were the *Delight*, the *Golden Hind*, the *Swallow*, and the *Squirrel*. Early on this morning boats were lowered from the English ships, and the commanders and officers went on shore. Soon a goodly company had assembled on the beach, then lined by a few rough wooden huts, and "flakes" or stages for drying cod. The rough inmates of these huts gathered round the company that had landed from the English ships; and the captains and

"In the year 1536, 28th of K. Hen. the 8th, Master Hore and divers other gentlemen made a Voyage to Newfoundland their Names were as follows.

"Master Wickes a Gentleman of the West Countrey of 500 marks by the year.

"Master Tucke a Gentleman of Kent.

"Master Tuckfeild

"Master Thomas Buts the son of Sir Will^m Buts K^{nt} of Norfolk w^{ch} is yet alive, (1589) and from whose mouth I wrote most of this relation.

"Master Hardie

"Master Biron

"Master Carter

"Master Wright

"Master Rastall Serjant Rastall Brother

"Master Ridley and divers others which all were in the Admiral called the Trinitie a ship of 140 Tons wherin Master Here himself imbarked.

"In the other ship named the Minion went Master Armigil Wade a very learned Gentleman, Father to Master William Wade now clerk of the Privie Counsell.

"Master Oliver Dawbeney merchant of London.

"Master Joy afterwards Gentleman of the King's Chappell. with divers other of good account. The whole number that went, in the above two ships, were about 120 persons, wherof 30 were gentlemen. they embarked from Graves End the End of April 1536. In about two months sailing they fell in with Cape Breton—from thence they sail'd N.E^t to Penguin Island w^{ch} is very full of Rockes and 'stones and great Birds white and gray colour as big as Geese. they took some of the Birds and killed some Bear's. this Island is in the Lat of 50 d. Master Oliver Dawbeney inform'd Master Richard Hakluyt the follows particulars. that after their arrival in Newfoundland and having bene there certain days at Anchor He saw a boat with Savages, rowing towards them to gase upon the ship and our people. they manned their ships boat in order to have taken them. but they fled to an Island in the Bay and escaped our men—they found a fire and a side of a Bear on a Wooden spit. also a Boot garnished on the Calf as it were with raw silk. also a great Warm Mitten. whilst they lay there they were in great want of provision and that there they found small reliefe. more than that they had from the Nest of an Osprey (or Eagle) that brought hourelly to her Young great plenty of divers sorts of fishes. But such was the famine amongst them that they were forced to eat raw herbs and Roots. which they sought for on the Maine: But the reliefe of herbs being not sufficient to satisfie their craving appetites. when in the deserts in search of herbage. the fellow killed his mate while hee stouped to take up a root, and cutting out peices of his Body whom he had murdered, broyled the same on the coals and greedily devoured them. by this means the company decreased, and the officers knew not what was become of them—the reason wherof was at last discovered. Upon which the Captain made Notable Oration, containing how much these dealings offended the Almighty &c. &c. he exhorted them to repentance and besought all the Company to Pray. that it might please God to look on their present miserable state, and such was the mercie of God, that the same night there arrived a French ship in that port, well furnished with Vittaille, and such was the Policie of the English, that they became masters of the same, and changing ships and Vitaling them, they set saile for England. they saw many Islands of Ice and arrived at St Ives in Cornwall the latter End of October. from thence they departed to a castle belonging to Sir John Luttrell. where M. Thomas Buts and M. Rastall, and other Gentlemen of the Voyage were very friendly intertain'd: after that they came to the Earle of Bathe, at Bathe, and thence to Bristol, so to London. M. Buts was so changed with hunger and misery that Sir William his Father and my