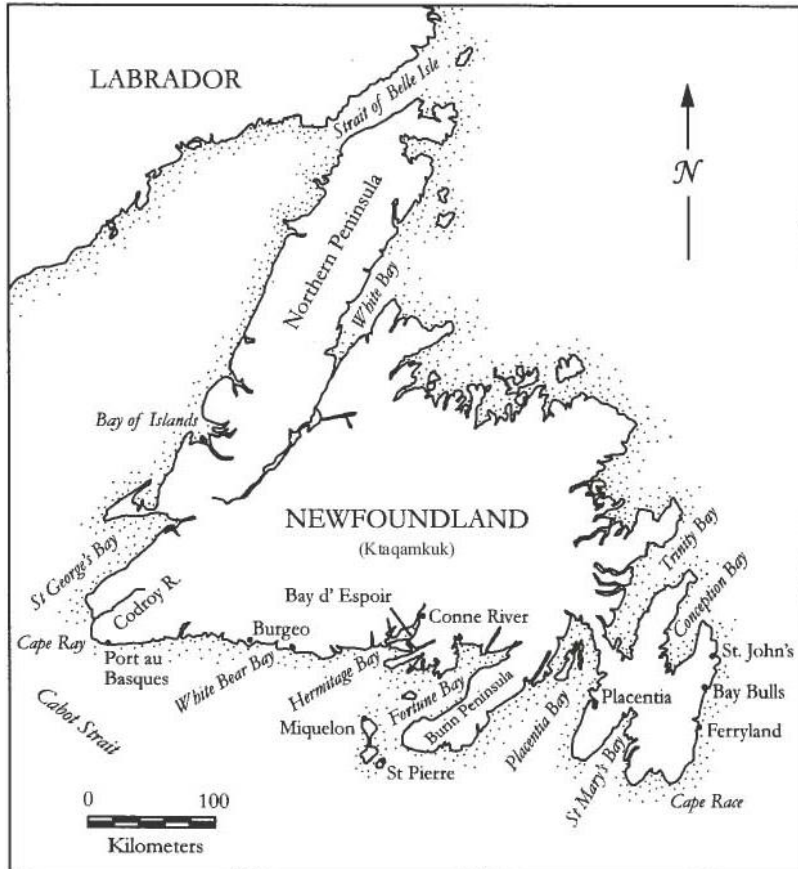


The Things of Newfoundland

by Tor Fosnæs



Mobilewords Limited

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being plain English, sometimes abridged, renderings of Whitbourne's and Vaughan's *Discourses* on Newfoundland; along with Eburne's and Raleigh's economic treatises on how to improve the English *trade*, in particular, through fishing, 1620-1626

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Due to changes in the CIP process, self-published books are no longer being considered for cataloguing by Library and Archives Canada.

Ching is a Chinese word for *book*, as in *I Ching* and *Dao De Ching*.

Cover map is from *Early Mikmaq Presence in Southern Newfoundland: An Ethnohistorical Perspective, c.1500-1763* by Charles A. Martijn, Research Associate, Mi'gmawei Mawiomi Institute of Listuguj (Res-tigouche, Québec) in *Newfoundland and Labrador Studies*, Vol 18, No.1, Memorial University of Newfoundland, 2003. It is a splendid map of the island.

This book is respectfully dedicated to the late, great, Newfoundland Early Modern scholar Dr. Peter Pope.

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Preface

Just about every Newfoundlander has heard of the early *Discourses* that promoted planting (settling) in Newfoundland. Mason, Whitbourne and Vaughan are the most famous. *The DAO of New-Found-Land; Mason's 1620 Discourse* (Mobilewords 2016) presents Mason's work along with annotations and explications from modern references. This book does much the same for Whitbourne and Vaughan and includes summaries of plantation *Discourses* by Richard Eburne and Richard Haklyut (for Walter Raleigh), this last being the oldest, from 1584. The Whitbourne 1622 *Loving Invotation ...* is treated briefly.

Also, see *Richard Whitbourne's Ballast* (Mobilewords St. John's 2016) for details on the effects of ballast dumping, then it was *filling in the harbours and ruining anchorages*, now it is the *ecological effects of introduced plants and animals*.

The *Discourses* are just about all of the early modern documentary references to Newfoundland, along with some Colonial Office papers and Board of Admiralty records; the basic geography and natural history knowledge of Newfoundland first set out in the *Discourses* remained unchanged for a long time.

In all instances the language was converted to modern spellings; they are surprisingly easy to read once the eye is no longer hindered by archaic spellings. Curious words and references, characters details and editorial commentaries are marked [ed.] in indented paragraphs. Active hyperlinks to reference material are underlined and in blue.

Some criticism may be levelled against the use of Wikipedia references, but this is not an academic document. Wikipedia entries for the Early Modern period can't be all that wrong. Other sources for annotations and biographies are from *first page found* internet searches.

The reasons for five similar *Discourses*, each borrowing from the previous, published in six years is answered best by Eburne, they were attempts to *perswade* investment. A *Discourse* was really a prospectus in today's terms. They make much of profits and measures to improve trade and hence the overall economy. If there is conviction in repetition then these volumes alone would be seen to be adequate; unfortunately, they were of little avail in bringing widespread public or private investment to Newfoundland planting schemes, a situation hindered mostly by the West Country fish merchants who resisted change or anything that might be seen to reduce their profits.

They all explain how the Newfoundland cod fishery could save the English national economy, *the trade*, and how the fishery could contribute economically, if the Island were settled. All propose that their scheme are meant to improve planting in ways not before attempted. While Mason's work is pretty straightforward. Technical and brief, Whitbourne and Vaughan used *lighter* but more detailed arguments, presumably as a way to increase readership and potential investors. Whitbourne added stories about dogs and wolves consorting together and a mermaid, Vaughan went completely overboard with metaphoric references, so much so, it is difficult to find the Newfoundland parts unless

they are searched for assiduously. Vaughan wrote very elliptically and used Classical Latin references and obtuse poetry to make his points. He used euphemistic names and characterizations rather than direct references to people and places.

Vaughan's *Golden Fleece*, and the others, were primarily treatises on saving the English economy and it explained Vaughan's theory that the economic malaise of the times could be ascribed to three important factors; errors in religion – the creeping advances of Catholicism into the Protestant church of England; curing social diseases in the Kingdom – predominantly laziness, lewdness, addiction to alcohol and tobacco, and ordinary greed; and the best restorative was organized and well-managed plantations in Newfoundland. Cod, *Neptune's sheep*, was already king. Vaughan's analogue is to the wool trade which was the last time the trade was any good in his opinion.

Much of Vaughan's arguments are repeats of Whitbourne and Mason. Mason's geographic knowledge was made into a map which was inserted into *Golden Fleece* and the year before into *Cambrensiu Caroleia*, Vaughan's poetical celebration of the coronation of Charles I. The death of James and the ascension of Charles made for turbulent times and a flurry of granted awards, honors, baronetcies, dukedoms, knighthoods, and the like; most accompanied by a sinecure at Court.

The takeover of the Admiralty, even with the old Lord Admiral in his dotage, was an example of new blood with new visions and new interests taking over the old power structures. That the plantation effort spanned the two reigns meant things had to be reiterated to the new powers. All the Discourses use what would now be called *sycophantic* language, much of it proper for times of Divine Rights and Royal Prerogatives.

Eburne approached plantations from the point of view of expanding the Christian church. Like Vaughan he enumerated the societal diseases that prevented people from investing or planting, and how planting would save not only individuals but the whole of England.

Hacklyut, acting as Walter Raleigh's amanuensis, started it all in 1584. His planting principles were already in effect in the Elizabethan English takeover of Ireland. New World plantations were mirrors of Irish plantations, without the existing Irish infrastructure, social networks, and local power structures. A very good history, *The Viceroy's of Ireland* by Charles O'Mahony (John Long, London, 1912) is available online. It covers *the story of the long line of noblemen and their wives who have ruled Ireland and Irish society for over 700 years.*

<http://digital.lib.lehigh.edu/trial/justification/newfoundland/essay/>

[ed.] Sir George Peckham - R. Wesley Atkinson in *The Literature of Justification* (January 2004) explores and annotates Sir George Peckham's 1583 *True Reporte*. Peckham was an associate of Humphrey Gilbert. His Report covered planting the New World from political and military aspects.

[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/George_Peckham_\(merchant\)](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/George_Peckham_(merchant))

He was third son of Sir Edmund Peckham. George succeeded to the paternal estate at Denham, and was knighted in 1570.

In 1572 he was appointed High Sheriff of Bedfordshire and Buckinghamshire. In 1574 he, together with Sir Humphrey Gilbert, Sir Richard Grenville, and Christopher Carleill, petitioned the queen to allow them an expedition into unknown lands. In the enterprise, which finally took form in 1583, Peckham alongside Thomas Gerard was the chief adventurer, Gilbert assigning to him large grants of land and liberty of trade. In November 1583 he published *A True Reporte*. A major factor behind this plan was to allow Catholics to emigrate following the increase of fines imposed on those who failed to attend Anglican services in 1581.

Whether by unsuccessful ventures or otherwise, he afterwards became embarrassed in his circumstances, and in 1595 the estate and manor of Denham came to the queen by reason of his debt to the crown. They were conferred on William Bowyer. He died in 1608.

[ed.] Detailed descriptions of various 15th, 16th and 17th century English expeditions to Newfoundland are found in Anspach's 1819 History of the Island of Newfoundland at

<https://babel.hathitrust.org/cgi/pt?id=hvd.hwaq8s;view=2up;seq=6;skin=mobile>

And, finally, no review of Newfoundland's colonial and plantation history should be assayed without Gillian Cell's *English Enterprise in Newfoundland 1577-1660*, various online versions are available.

Tor Fosnæs

St. John's, 31 May 2017, the 400th year of William Vaughan's plantation on the Avalon Peninsula,

Richard Whitbourne

A D I S C O V R S E AND DISCOVERY OF NEW-FOUND-LAND, WITH many reasons to prove how worthy and beneficial a Plantation may there be made, after a far better manner than now it is. TOGETHER WITH THE LAYING OPEN OF CERTAIN Enormities and abuses committed by some that trade to that Country, and the means laid down for reformation thereof.

<https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Plantation>

A plantation is a large-scale farm that specializes in cash crops. The crops grown include cotton, coffee, tea, cocoa, sugar cane, sisal, oil seeds, oil palms, rubber trees, and fruits.

Among the earliest examples of plantations were the *latifundia* of the Roman Empire, which produced large quantities of wine and olive oil for export. Plantation agriculture grew rapidly with the increase in international trade and the development of a worldwide economy that followed the expansion of European colonial empires. Like every economic activity, it has changed over time. Earlier forms of plantation agriculture were associated with large disparities of wealth and income, foreign ownership and political influence, and exploitative social systems such as indentured labour and slavery.

Fishing

When Newfoundland was colonized by England in 1610, the original colonists were called "Planters" and their fishing rooms were known as "fishing plantations". These terms were used well into the 20th century.

Three plantations are maintained by the Government of Newfoundland and Labrador as provincial heritage sites:

Sea-Forest Plantation was a 17th-century fishing plantation established at Cuper's Cove (present-day Cupids) under a royal charter issued by King James I.

Mockbeggar Plantation is an 18th-century fishing plantation at Bonavista.

Pool Plantation a 17th-century fishing plantation maintained by Sir David Kirke and his heirs at Ferryland. The plantation was destroyed by French invaders in 1696.

Other fishing plantations:

Bristol's Hope Plantation, a 17th-century fishing plantation established at Harbour Grace, created by the Bristol Society of Merchant-Adventurers.

Benger Plantation, an 18th-century fishing plantation maintained by James Benger and his heirs at Ferryland. It was built on the site of Georgia plantation.

Piggeon's Plantation, an 18th-century fishing plantation maintained by Elias Piggeon at Ferryland.

[ed.] Plantation was an economic model proposed to develop Newfoundland's fishery. It was developed in the English Elizabethan takeover of Ireland. In 1637 Charles I reneged on all previous grants by turning over the

whole island to David Kirke, in effect, one plantation with great economic benefit.

http://www.heritage.nf.ca/dictionary/#3397In_1620

plantation n Cp OED ~ 4 'a colony' (1614-), DAE 1 (1606-), DC 1 (Nfld: 1620-) for sense 1.

1 The houses, structures and ground on or adjacent to the foreshore of a cove, bay or harbour; COLONY, SETTLEMENT

T O T H E H I G H AND MIGHTY PRINCE, IAMES, BY THE GRACE OF God, King of great Britain, France and Ireland, Defender of the Faith, &c., Most Dread Sovereign,

<https://www.enotes.com/homework-help/what-dos-dread-sovereign-mean-304704>

Actually, in the context of the day "dread" was a term implying great respect. It was considered proper (and was quite common) for one to speak of a monarch in lofty terms such as this. Revered actually means honored, or venerated. This also was rather lofty language but was quite common in that day to describe a ruler.

It has always been my chief study and practice, to serve your Majesty and my Country: the intent of my best labours that way, I have put into the following Discovery, and, upon good approbation thereof by diverse of your Majesty's most Honourable Privy Council, have been encouraged to offer up the same work unto your Majesty. I confess my weakness such, that I cannot put so fit a Garment upon it, either of style or method, as I conceive the matter itself deserves. The substance of the work, I submit to your Majesty's wisdom and judgement; the errors and things needless, to your Highness' pardon.

[ed.] He stated plainly the Discourse was approved by members of the Privy Council to be set before the King. Whitbourne practiced humility, evident in all his writings; he often refers to himself as my poor self .

The purpose thereof, is, with your Gracious allowance, to beget a disposition in all your Majesty's Subjects, for a Plantation in the New-found-land, grounded upon reason of industry, both generally and particularly profitable to the Undertakers and Posterities, as well in matters of wealth, as also the means for increase of Defence and Power; which will the better go forward, when your Majesty's subjects are made acquainted, with what facility it may be undertaken; and so to work the more effectual impression in them, when they shall understand, that it is an Island, near as spacious as Ireland, and lies so far distant from the Continent of America, as England is from the nearest part of France, and near half the way between Ireland and Virginia, and the most part of it above three degrees nearer the South, than England, and has been already well approved by such of your Majesty's Subjects as have lived there above ten years, that the Country is very healthful and pleasant in the winter.

[ed.] Plantation *grounded in industry and profitable*. This is followed by a brief version of the standard geography for the time, which is repeated in all the Discourses. Mason was the most detailed, the others repeating him.

How commodious and beneficially that Land may be peopled with small charge, and prove profitable to the Undertakers, and not hurtful to any of your Majesty's Subjects, the following Discourse will make it plainly appear, the which was presented unto your Majesty at Huntingdon in October last; since which time, it has pleased such of the Lords of your Majesty's most Honourable privy Council, at

Whitehall, the 24. Of July last then present, to give me encouragement with their good approbation thereunto; and ordered, that the book should be printed, with this further addition of their Honours favour, to be recommended to the Lord Archbishop of Canterbury, and the rest of the Lords Bishops, to be distributed to the several Parishes of your Majesty's Kingdome, for the better encouragement of such as shall be willing to assist that Plantation, either in their persons or otherwise. And if your Majesty's Subjects put it in trial to undertake; I trust, God will give a blessing to the success, whereof I have only made a true and plain Relation of the truth: if I should write other than the truth, there are many in your Majesty's Kingdoms that have often traded to that Country, whom I suppose will be ready to disprove me.

[ed.] He was well situated having advanced sales through parishes; the o.k. from the church meant wide distribution, likely unachievable by an individual publisher. He acknowledges the naysayers, identifying them as *those who have often traded to that Country*, his fellow West Country fish merchants.

http://www.biographi.ca/en/bio/whitbourne_richard_1E.html

A committee appointed to consider whether a plantation should be assisted made no recommendation on this, but did approve the printing of the book and requested that the archbishops of Canterbury and York have it distributed in every parish. In 1621 the Privy Council asked for contributions from each parish to recompense him for his services and losses in Newfoundland.

In 1622 a second edition of the Discourse appeared and he also published *A discourse containing a loving invitation . . . to all Adventurers . . . for the advancement of his Majesties most hopeful Plantation in the New-foundland*. This he dedicated to Lord Falkland, for he was now involved in the latter's plan to establish a colony at Renews. In December 1622 he wrote to Falkland, advising him on the financial organization and practical necessities of such a scheme. He recommended that a modest beginning be made in 1623 with only 12 settlers, all of whom should be craftsmen or fishermen. Between 1622 and 1626 he twice visited the colony which was governed by Sir Francis Tanfield. In 1625 Whitbourne was knighted by Falkland but, by November 1626, he was looking for fresh employment. In a petition to the Duke of Buckingham he set forth his past services in Newfoundland and his fitness for further occupation there or elsewhere; this was supported by a reference from several prominent West Country gentlemen. He is next heard of serving as lieutenant on the *Bonaventure* under Sir John Chudleigh in October 1627. The date of Whitbourne's death is unknown, but he was alive in 1628 when Robert Hayman published a poem in praise of his books.

<http://www.historyofparliamentonline.org/volume/1604-1629/member/chudleigh-sir-john-1584-1634>

Sir John Chudleigh - Capt. privateer, 1617-18, 3 RN 1620-1, 1623-8, v.-adm. 1628, member Council of War 1628, Member, Guiana Co. by 1618, New Eng. Co. by 1622, Commr. to arrest *Esperance* of Newhaven and make an inventory of its goods, 1624.

Biography

Chudleigh's father, whose surname is often spelt 'Chidley', gained a taste for privateering at the age of 19 when he sailed on Sir Humphrey Gilbert's

last voyage. His activities brought him into contact with Sir Walter Raleigh, to whom he was related through an aunt, both men serving together in 1586 as knights of the shire for Devon. In 1589, inspired by the success of Thomas Cavendish in raiding Chile and Peru, the elder Chudleigh sold up his estates, equipped a squadron of five ships and, with Raleigh's support at Court, embarked upon a disastrous voyage, which culminated in his death from disease.

Nothing is known of Chudleigh until February 1617, when, aged about 33, he paid £350 for a half share of the *Flying Joan* of London, a ship of 120 tons and 14 guns which he renamed the Flying Chudleigh. The following month, despite his father's fate, he accepted a captain's commission in Raleigh's intended expedition to the Orinoco in pursuit of a treasure mine rumoured to exist in Guiana (part of modern-day Venezuela). He took no part in the subsequent seizure of the Spanish settlement of St. Thomas later that year, but was instead one of those captains who remained with Raleigh at the mouth of the Orinoco to guard against a possible attack by Spanish ships.

[ed.] Chudleigh's career continued throughout the period, including command of the *Bonaventure*, but was all in European theatres, the Channel, Bay of Biscay and against the Barbary pirates. He was of Stretchleigh/Strashleigh, Ermington, Devon.

France, Spain, Italy, Portugal, Savoy, Denmark, Norway, Spruceland, the Canaries, and Soris Islands: and for the New-found-land, it is almost so familiarly known to me as my own Country ,

https://archive.org/details/cihm_67690

[ed.] The 1622 Discourse, subtitled a loving invitation both honourable, and profitable to all such as shall be Adventurers, either in person or purse, for the Advancement of His Majesty's most hopeful Plantation in the New-found-land ...

He outlines the boundaries of *South Fawlkland*, then just transferred from Vaughan to Cary, as the stip between Renewes and the south half of Fermeuse west to Placentia Bay. The land around Renewes held great potential for crops and forest resources. Whitbourne went on for many pages repeating his 1620 information but concentrating on the Falkland holdings in detail.

Trinity Land, the Cary lot in Trinity Bay transferred from the Newfoundland Company, is treated similarly.

He wrote in details about the economics of fishing and provided a list of essential planters for success., including itemized tables of the costs for setting up a plantation.

The material covered is mostly the same as in 1620 but re-written with examples and scenarios of just how successful and profitable such a venture could be.

To his Majesty's good Subjects

Having had my breeding for many years together in the courses of Merchandizing and Navigations, I have, through the expense of my time in that calling, set this down to myself for my duty therein, to observe and collect, wherein my labours might become profitable to my Country;

and the rather, because I could not be ignorant, how much maintenance, and increase of Shipping and Mariners concerns us, who may fitly be called, The nation of the Sea; which general reasons were more and more commended to me, by more particular considerations offered me, in the notice I Took of the disposition & affaires of other States, to which ours has relation; some points whereof cannot now reasonably be mentioned; some others proper to what I discourse of, will present themselves in their places, as I shall go along in giving account of my endeavours.

Among my undertakings & employments in Seafaring, the most part have been to an Island, called New-found-land, in part heretofore outwardly discovered, but never looked into by those discoverers as it deserved; from the beginning I found it promised well, in respect of the purpose I had, to gather something for the bettering of the Common wealth; and the more I made trial of it, the more satisfaction it gave me; Therefore I affected that course better than any other I fell unto; insomuch as I did so fix my industry upon it, that for the qualifying of my travels, I obtained Commission from the State to proceed in it, and am now come to propound to my Countrymen, the benefit they may make of an orderly Plantation and Traffic there: the following Discourse will satisfy them, if they will forgive the unhandsomeness of the form it is put into, and look into the matter itself only.

[ed.] Then nearing 60, Whitbourne was an able and steady hand, by his own and others' accounts; he was or wanted to be the wise man of plantation and merchandizing for the betterment of all England. He obtained a Commission of the State to proceed in the writing of the Discourse, presumably from members of the Privy Council, at Huntingdon in the previous summer. Whitbourne was persistent in his efforts, moreso since his 1615 report was ignored.

[Marginal Note: The description of new-found-land, and the commodities thereof.]

The Island of New-found-land is large, temperate and fruitful, the fruitfulness of it consisting not only in things of sustenance for those that shall inhabit it, but in many sorts of commodities likewise, of good use and value to be transported.

The Natives in it are ingenuous, and apt by discreet & moderate governments to be brought to obedience.

The seat is fit for Harbour and relief, upon the way between us and Virginia, and consequently of advantage to us in any action that may engage us, either by way of offence or attempt, in regard of those parts of the World.

The Seas are so rich, as they are able to advance a great Trade of Fishing; which, with God's blessing, will become very serviceable to the Navy; and the increase of fishing there, cannot despair of finding Ports enough to vent the commodities at profitable rates.

Now if you would understand what motives we have at home with us to carry us thither; do but look upon the populousness of our Country, to what a surfeit of multitude it is subject; consider how charitable for those that go, and how much ease it will be for those that stay, to put forth some of our numbers, to such an employment of living.

Compare the English nature with others; and find whether we have not as much courage as they, both to undertake and maintain; only we lose it, in having less industry.

Turn then towards the Low Countries, behold how they have won upon us, by taking advantage of our sitting still; (and most remarkable in this point of fishing) which, if their Audit were published, would be found (I believe) one of the best Agents they have, both for their strength and wealth.

There is another motive also, which amongst our Ancestors was wont to find good respect, namely, the honour of the action, by the enlarging of Dominions; and that which will crown the work, will be the advancement of the honour of God, in bringing poor Infidels (the Natives of that Country) to his Worship, and their own salvation.

[ed.] A scathing comment on English values and morale. Whitbourne certainly wasn't ever in danger of being called lazy or not industrious and he judged his fellows in his light. Fishing was the sustenance of the Low Countries, he claimed, and unlike England they were prospering.

I commend the design to the entertainment of his Majesty and his kingdoms: because I esteem it such a one, as deserves not only to be undertaken, but to be gone thorough withal.

And as it is a Project of no fantasy in me, but a truth grounded upon a well-weighed experience; so have I not presumed to publish it, but upon good approbation, as has already appeared.

If these considerations, with many others here omitted, but contained in the ensuing Discourse, may work an impression in the affections of his Majesty's Subjects, for the advancement of God's glory, their own, and their Country's prosperity, it shall be some content toward the great pains, loss of time, and expense of my means that I have sustained in the prosecuting thereof, for which I trust you will at least return your thankful acceptance; and so I remain

Your loving friend, R.W.

THE PREFACE, BEING AN INDUCTION TO the following Discourse.

Although I well know, that it is an hard matter to persuade people to adventure into strange Countries; especially to remain and settle themselves there, though the conditions thereof be never so beneficial and advantageous for them: yet I cannot be out of all hope, that when it shall be taken into consideration, what infinite riches and advantages other nations (and in particular, the Spaniards and Portuguese) have gotten to themselves by their many Plantations, not only in America, but also in Barbary [the coasts of Tunisia, Algeria, and Morocco], Guinea [west coast of Africa from Gambia to Angola] , Binnie [perhaps Bonny, a former name for Nigeria], and other places: And when it shall plainly appear, that the Country shall plainly appear, by the following Discourse, that the Country of New-found-land (as it is here truly described) is little inferior to any other for the commodities thereof; and lies, as it were, with open arms towards England, offering itself to be embraced, and inhabited by us: I cannot be out of hope (I say) but that my Countrymen will be induced, either by the thriving examples of others, or by the strength of reason, to hearken, and put to their helping hands to that, which will in all likelihood yield them a plentiful reward of their labours. But before I enter into discourse of the Country itself, I hold it fit to make known partly the means and degrees, whereby I attained onto the experience and knowledge I have thereof.

[ed.] A career in merchandizing and Sea-voyages took Whitbourne to *France, Spain, Italy, Portugal, Savoy, Denmark, Norway, Spruceland, the Canaries, and Soris Islands: and for the New-found-land, it is almost so familiarly known to me as my own Country*, Spruceland may be The southern shore of the Baltic; Soris Islands are perhaps the Azores.

<https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Spruce#Etymology>

The word "spruce" entered the English language from the Polish *Prusy*, Prussia (a historical region, today part of Poland and Kaliningrad Oblast). It became spruce because in Polish, *z Prus* ("from Prussia") sounded like "spruce" to English speakers and was a generic term for commodities brought to England by Hanseatic merchants and because the tree was believed to have come from Polish Ducal Prussia.

In the year 1588, I served under the then Lord Admiral, as Captain in a Ship of my own, set forth at my charge against the Spanish Armada: and after such time as that service was ended, taking my leave of his Honour, I had his favourable Letters to one Sir Robert Denis, in the County of Devon, Knight; whereby there might be some course taken, that the charge, as well of my own Ship, as also of two other, and a Pinnace, with the victuals, and men therein employed, should not be any way burthensome to me. Wherein there was such order given by the then right Honourable Lords of the privy Council, that the same was well satisfied; which service is to be seen recorded in the Book at White-Hall.

[ed.] Whitbourne was 27 years old in 1588, he was a captain and had commands prior to the Armada. This qualification is placed atop his record as it was a pivotal point in his career and it established his professional, naval-officer standing with the Admiralty.

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Charles_Howard,_1st_Earl_of_Nottingham

Charles Howard, 1st Earl of Nottingham, 2nd Baron Howard of Effingham (1536 – 14 December 1624), known as Howard of Effingham, was an English statesman and Lord High Admiral under Elizabeth I and James I. He was commander of the English forces during the battles against the Spanish Armada and was chiefly responsible after Francis Drake for the victory that saved England from invasion by the Spanish Empire.

[ed.] Whitbourne's service against the Spanish Armada was mercenary in nature, like many of his contemporaries; in the headlong rush to participate there must have been a service *quid pro quo*, another form of trade. The captains and ship owners were businessmen and times of war always meant great opportunities. Afterwards, he received from the Lord Admiral a letter of recommendation to Sir Robert Dennis for compensation for his ship, two others, and a pinnace and the crews and their food.

[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Robert_Dennis_\(died_1592\)](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Robert_Dennis_(died_1592))

Sir Robert Dennis (died 1592) of Holcombe Burnell in Devon, was a Member of Parliament in 1555 and was knighted at some time before 16 November 1557. He was Feodary for the Devonshire estates of the Duchy of Lancaster (a Crown possession) in 1556 and to 10 December 1566 and then between 7 December 1568 and 27 July 1590. He was appointed Sheriff of Devon for 1557/8 and again for 1567/8. In 1558 or 1559 he was appointed a Justice of the Peace for Devon, and was appointed to the honourable position of Recorder of Exeter from 1572. He held both positions until he died.

[ed.] As manager of Crown assets, Dennis was instructed to pay Whitbourne his due.

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Privy_council

Her Majesty's Most Honourable Privy Council, usually known simply as the Privy Council, is a formal body of advisers to the Sovereign of the United Kingdom. Its membership mainly comprises senior politicians, who are present or former members of either the House of Commons or the House of Lords.

The Privy Council formally advises the sovereign on the exercise of the Royal Prerogative, and corporately (as Queen-in-Council) it issues executive instruments known as Orders in Council, which among other powers enact Acts of Parliament.

[ed.] The Privy Council has pre-Norman roots.

Now, to express some of my Voyages to the New-found-land, which make most for the present purpose:

[ed.] Whitbourne dated events as *years since*; with Gilbert in 1583 was 36 years ago.

My first Voyage thither, was about 40 years since,

in a worthy Ship of the burthen of 300 Tun, set forth by one Master Cotton of Southampton; we were bound to the grand Bay (which lies on the North-Side of that Land), purposing there to trade then with the Savage people, (for whom we carried sundry commodities) and to kill Whales, and to make

Train oil, as the Basques do there yearly in great abundance. But this our intended Voyage was overthrown, by the indiscretion of our Captain, and faint-heartedness of some Gentlemen of our Company.

[ed.] He was in Newfoundland in 1580 (at 19 years old). Was young Whitbourne in command? Is he the one of indiscretion or was he amongst those of faint heart? Or, was he simply a witness to unfolding events? Would he have gone hunting and fishing, or just traded and worked as the goods were amassed and stowed? Did he have money in the venture? Nor is the ship's size informative.

It isn't without precedent that he might have been in charge, Sir John Chudleigh of Ashton, Devon, was knighted as a captain at 19 in 1625.

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Master_%28naval%29

The master, or sailing master, was a historical rank for a naval officer trained in and responsible for the navigation of a sailing vessel. The rank can be equated to a professional seaman and specialist in navigation, rather than as a military commander.

In the Middle Ages, when 'warships' were typically merchant vessels hired by the crown, the man in charge of the ship and its mariners, as with all ships and indeed most endeavours ashore, was termed the Master; the company of embarked soldiers was commanded by their own Captain.

The master's main duty was navigation, taking the ship's position at least daily and setting the sails as appropriate for the required course and conditions. During combat, he was stationed on the quarterdeck, next to the captain. The master was responsible for fitting out the ship, and making sure they had all the sailing supplies necessary for the voyage. The master also was in charge of stowing the hold and ensuring the ship was not too weighted down to sail effectively. The master, through his subordinates, hoisted and lowered the anchor, docked and undocked the ship, and inspected the ship daily for problems with the anchors, sails, masts, ropes, or pulleys. Issues were brought to the attention of the master, who would notify the captain. The master was in charge of the entry of parts of the official log such as weather, position, and expenditures.

http://www.iro.umontreal.ca/~vaucher/History/Ships_Discovery/

reports ship sizes in tons are confusing because there are 3 variants:

Tonnage: volume of cargo space

Old: volume in "tuns" or wine barrels (1 m³ or 40 cu. ft.)

Register Tons: volume in 100 cu.ft. units

Deadweight Tons (Port en lourd): Maximum cargo weight

[ed.] *Grand Bay* was the northern arm of the Gulf of St. Lawrence between Anticosti Island and Cape Ray in Newfoundland. The narrow northern end is the Strait of Bell Isle. That Master Cotton and his backers were willing to risk an expedition to the Grand Bay means it was well known. English expeditions in the same period were made to the Magdalen Islands and the western shores of Grand bay, now the North Shore of Quebec.

Proselytizing was on their minds as well as whale oil, and, like Guy in Cupids, there was a desire to trade with the aboriginals. The example of nearly

15 years of co-opting the aboriginals of New England was on their minds, but everything they knew of *savages* they knew from New England examples.

The voyage was overthrown by *indiscretion* and *faint heartedness*, what does this mean? Perhaps they reasoned sensibly that they weren't really whalers.

<http://17thcenturyce.blogspot.ca/2009/11/32.html>

Lots of good information about early modern English ships for trade and military/naval/piracy use can be found at this site. Of interest is a note that of the 226 English ships in the action to repel the Armada, only 34 were owned by the Crown; the balance were privately owned. There is a lengthy description of ship sizes and tonnage as [ed.] well.

Whereupon we set sail from thence, and bare with Trinity Harbour in New-found-land; where we killed great store of Fish, Deer, Bears, Beavers, Seals, Otters, and such like, with abundance of Sea-fowl: and so returning for England, we arrived safe at Southampton.

[ed.] He lists three of the 14 native terrestrial mammals. The wolf comes later.

Whitbourne knew seals in 1580, yet James Yonge almost a century later described nameless ocean creatures that barked like dogs; true, Yonge was young and inexperienced, but you think by the time he wrote his memoir someone would have sorted him out.

So the expedition to the Grand Bay turned to hunting; but no mention of fishing. Yet they had fish onboard. *Killed a great store of Fish* might mean they went fishing, in recent history successful fishermen have been called *fish-killers*. But the emphasis appeared to be on *fur* not *fat*. Mayhap, there was more merchandizing than hunting and fishing?

<https://babel.hathitrust.org/cgi/pt?id=umn.319510008929805;view=2up;seq=12;skin=mobile>

[ed.] Michael Carroll, in *The Seal and Herring Fisheries of Newfoundland together with a condensed history of the Island*, (John Lovell, Montreal, 1873) suggested (p.1) the seal fishery was nonexistent up to 1763. Once started, it grew exponentially to 4900 seals taken off the ice in 1787 and by 1807 as many as 30 vessels were dedicated to the seal fishery each spring.

Carroll detailed facts about the herring fishery and included all of Whitbourne's *Loving Invitation* of 1622, followed by a list of historical events by year.

In a Voyage to that Country about 36 years since I had then the command of a worthy Ship of 220 Tun, set forth by one Master Crooke of Southampton: At that time Sir Humphrey Gilbert, a Devonshire Knight, came thither with two good Ships and a Pinnace, and brought with him a large Patent, from the late most renowned Queen Harbour of S. John's, whereof I was an eye-witness. He sailed from thence towards Virginia, and by reason of some unhappy direction in his course, the greatest Ship he had, struck upon Shelves, on the Coast of Canada, and was there lost, with most part of the company in her: And he himself being then in a small Pinnace of 20 Tun, in the company of his Vice-

Admiral, (one Captain Hayes) returning towards England, in a great Storm, was overwhelmed with the Seas, and so perished.

[ed.] Edward Hayes - Hayes so briefly mentioned by Whitbourne was actually an important player in Elizabethan exploration of the New World, and Newfoundland Discourse, as seen from this extract.

http://www.biographi.ca/en/bio/hayes_edward_1E.html

Hayes was at King's College, Cambridge, in 1565 and reappeared there in 1571, but did not obtain a degree. He entered the service of Elizabeth, Lady Hoby (Lady, Russell from 1574), at Bisham Abbey, Berks., possibly as tutor to one of her sons, during which time he seems to have come to the notice of the lord treasurer, Lord Burghley, Lady Russell's brother-in-law. Thereafter he is often in touch with Burghley and is likely to have enjoyed some patronage at his hands from time to time.

For five years, 1578–83, he was very closely associated with the American voyages and colonizing schemes of Sir Humphrey Gilbert. In 1578, as "Mr Haies gent. Of Leerpolle," he subscribed to the expedition which Sir Humphrey Gilbert was preparing to find a site for an English settlement and he may have sailed on the abortive voyage of that year, although we have no record that he did so.

He took to sea as a merchant captain about 1579. Late in 1581 or 1582 he bought the *Samuel* of Weymouth, renamed her the *Golden Hind* in honour of Sir Francis Drake's ship, and engaged in at least one privateering voyage in her. From 1580 onwards, however, he worked closely with Gilbert in preparing a second venture. Like Gilbert, he turned away from southeastern to northeastern America and may, indeed, have been influenced by the propaganda of Anthony Parkhurst in favour of English settlement in Newfoundland, though Gilbert's own interests centred on the mainland south from Cape Breton, and principally in what was later to be called New England. By 1582 he was already known to Richard Hakluyt and was involved in the planning of the voyage (and probably doing propaganda for it). He contributed his bark, the *Golden Hind* of 40 tons. Its master was the tough, experienced seaman, William Cox of Limehouse, formerly in command of a privateer in the West Indies, 1576–78, who was later to distinguish himself (and die) in the Armada campaign.

Hayes may have been appointed to write a journal of the voyage or have decided to do so for himself. In any event, his vivid and dramatic account, "A report of the voyage . . .," published in the 1589 edition of Hakluyt's *The principall navigations*, is the chief authority for the voyage and we see it very much through his eyes. He writes well, especially when he is telling a straight story, and his narrative is deservedly famous. The *Golden Hind* left Plymouth with the expedition on 11 June and sighted land near the Straits of Belle Isle on 30 July. Sailing cautiously south from an estimated 51°N.Lat., Hayes first sighted Funk Island, then Baccalieu Island and Cape St. Francis, picking up the *Swallow* at Conception Bay. He was joined by Gilbert in the *Delight* (Richard Clarke, master) at St. John's harbour. After Gilbert arrived on 3 August, Hayes went on shore, where, the following day, he saw a little of the land round the harbour but he suffered an injury (we are not told how) and was immobilized for some days. He was thus largely dependent on reports from the parties that Gilbert dispatched from his base, though they

were not able to penetrate far into the interior [*see* Stephanus Parmenius]. He summarized the reports carefully and gave an intelligent account of the climate, estimated the fishing resources of the island, and concluded that all northern commodities, whether or not already present – timber products, hemp, flax, furs, and, he thought, wheat – could be grown and exploited; but the rigorous winters would have to be faced as they were in Scandinavia. He picked up something about trees, fruits, birds, and animals, and stressed the mineral potentialities of the island, in iron, copper, lead, and, he thought, silver.

Hayes tells effectively the story of the next leg of the voyage (24–29 August) and all he knew of the wreck of the *Delight*. Hayes, following, appears to have taken a southwesterly course to safety [*see* Sir Humphrey Gilbert]. But the expedition was reduced too far for it to proceed; the *Golden Hind* and the *Squirrel* were unable to face the blustery weather and the long autumn reconnaissance down the coast from Cape Breton which they had planned. Gilbert, from the *Squirrel*, came to confer with Hayes and Cox and they decided reluctantly, Hayes says, to abandon the voyage.

Gilbert, however, had not abandoned his plans. At a last conference he told Hayes and Cox that they should command the expeditions he would get to sea in 1584 towards the south (down the mainland coast), while he himself would command a northern (Newfoundland) voyage. But on Monday night, 9 September, the *Squirrel's* lights went out and Hayes had to assume she had foundered. Next day there was no trace of her or her occupants. So the *Golden Hind* came home alone, reaching Falmouth on the 22nd, putting in at Dartmouth to tell Gilbert's brother the sad news and then sailing to Weymouth where the men were dispersed. His crew had remained healthy and united throughout the voyage and its many frustrations. Hayes, though he had lost much in the enterprise, remained optimistic. He had shown himself an able and resourceful voyager.

Hayes did his best on his return to see that Gilbert's enterprise was continued, contributing much to Sir George Peckham's tract, *A true report* (1583), by which he hoped to revive support for the venture. But its Catholic supporters had mostly abandoned the project and the investors with Gilbert had lost too much money already. Whether Hayes prepared and circulated his own report in manuscript we do not know. Christopher Carleill set out in May 1584 but got no farther than Ireland. Hayes, however, was convinced that Newfoundland offered great prospects if sufficient backing could be got to exploit it, so he did not associate himself with Walter Raleigh and Sir Francis Walsingham, his supporter, who were soon planning colonies just north of Spanish Florida.

Instead, he turned to win the support of Lord Burghley, his old patron, whose interests overseas were centred on the encouragement of fisheries, the fur trade, and the production of naval stores – timber products, flax, and hemp, especially. By 10 May 1585, when Hayes wrote to Burghley (BM, Lansdowne MS 37, ff. 166–67), he had worked out several detailed documents on Newfoundland and handed over early in 1596 both "A discourse of Master Haies of the new lande discovered" (BM, Lansdowne MS 100, ff. 83–87), in which the climate and commodities of Newfoundland are discussed against a background of English political rights and economic needs; and also another "Platt" (plot or plan) (*ibid.*, ff. 88–94) for putting into effect his schemes for a colony which would control the fishery.

He showed some detailed knowledge of the fishery and expressed his belief that both Englishmen and foreigners would submit to control and taxation in the harbours in order to gain security against attack [*see* Richard Clarke, Sir Bernard Drake]. He proposed that a corporation be established, representing the fishing interests in all the principal ports and headed by some nobleman of rank, which would be open to other English participants in the fishery. This was not unlike the fur-trading consortium worked out for New France in 1603. It is possible that Hayes had backing from southern ports like Southampton and Weymouth but the southwestern ports were satisfied with the existing system and all the fishermen concerned were in any event strongly individualistic. Moreover, the prospects of being able to control and tax foreign fishing vessels were by no means assured. His own contribution was to offer to take out 200 convicts to do the hard work of galley-slaves and labourers. He implies too that he should be general of the expedition. Burghley may well have been sympathetic but he did nothing to implement the scheme. It is of some significance, however, in bringing consideration of Newfoundland as a possible colony under closer scrutiny.

The appearance of Hayes's report of the Gilbert voyage in the first edition (1589) of *The principall navigations* publicized his vivid and dramatic account and also gave his views on English colonization in general, along with "A brief relation of the New found lande," the earliest systematic description to be published. (This was reprinted in the second edition, III (1600), 143–61.) Hayes did not confine his activities to the promotion of colonization alone, for throughout his adult life, from 1579 to 1613, he frequently advocated projects to Burghley and his successors as lord treasurer and to Sir Robert Cecil, Burghley's son. Some were plans for domestic reforms, many of them for improving the coinage system in England or Ireland, or for reorganizing the militia; others, maybe, for improving the water supply of London, or some other local purpose. Most of them contained proposals for his employment in implementing them. In addition, this active and resourceful man engaged in privateering from 1589 to 1591.

By about 1593 Hayes had revived his interest in North America but by this time he had decided that Newfoundland was too cold for permanent settlement. What was needed was the plantation of the mainland coast between 40° and 45°, where English colonists could settle in a climate more congenial to them, or else down the valley of the St. Lawrence where the French had reached 45°, and along which there was a substantial possibility of finding a passage to the South Seas. The colony should be built up economically on the profits of fur-trading with the Indians, the gradual establishment of small settlements, and the eventual attraction of the Newfoundland fishermen to the mainland coasts, where new fishing grounds and shore bases could be developed for them. Later, when settlement had developed, large numbers of intending settlers, 20,000 if need be, could be carried on the outward-bound fishing vessels and so a strong dominion established for the crown of England, while the discovery of a passage to the Pacific would make not only the settlers but also England rich.

The project owes much to the ideas of Christopher Carleill, who planned to settle the coasts north of 40° in 1583–84 [*see* Sir Humphrey Gilbert] but who had been diverted to various military employments in Ireland. Returning to England in 1593 he may well have joined forces with Hayes (and quite possibly Richard Hakluyt as well). The result was an elaborate and valuable proposal for the colonization of what are now Canada and northern

New England, which has remained unpublished. "A discourse concerning a voyage intended for the plantation of Christian religion and people in the northwest regions of American in places most apt for the constitution of our bodies and the speedy advancement of a state" (Cambridge University Library, MS Dd. 3.85). The limiting dates for it are 1593 to 1595, but by the latter date Carleill was said to have sailed with Sir Francis Drake on his last voyage and in 1596 Hayes declared himself willing to follow Sir Walter Raleigh to Guiana. Who else was concerned in the proposals is not known but these proposals may well have been directed to Lord Burghley, who was at this time interested in plans for penetrating the St. Lawrence [*see* Richard Fisher, Sylvester Wyet, Charles Leigh].

When the "discourse" appears in print under Hayes's name, as an appendix to John Brereton's *A brief and true relation . . .* (1602), this document is much abbreviated: it is linked more closely with the attempts to explore and settle Maine and Massachusetts with which Bartholomew Gosnold's voyage in 1602 had been concerned. The St. Lawrence references are removed (the English have now left the valley finally to the French), but the title, "A treatise, containing important inducements for the planting in these parts, and finding a passage that way to the South Sea and China," still stresses the possibility of finding, if not by the St. Lawrence, then by other rivers, a westerly passage to the Pacific. But lists of commodities to be found on the Atlantic seaboard include a few new scraps of information from the Nova Scotia area, probably gathered by Hakluyt.

... He was associated with various inventions, or their application, mostly for coinage purposes. In his latter years, from 1603, he was a government pensioner. But he retained a lively interest in North America from 1578 until at least 1606, in which year he and his relative, Thomas Hayes, approached Lord Salisbury with a scheme for the public financing of the proposed Virginia Company.

To Hayes we owe the finest description of any 16th-century English voyage to what is now Canada but in addition he must be regarded as the most devoted propagandist for Elizabethan settlement within Newfoundland, the Atlantic Provinces, and the St. Lawrence. Of these areas only the first was planted by Englishmen in his lifetime, but it seems probable that at least he had kept English interest in that area alive, even if he is not known to have been associated with the Newfoundland Company of 1610.

[https://broom01.revolvy.com/topic/Vice%20admiral%20\(Royal%20Navy\)&item_type=topic](https://broom01.revolvy.com/topic/Vice%20admiral%20(Royal%20Navy)&item_type=topic)



Vice-Admiral - The Royal Navy has had vice admirals since at least the 16th century. When the fleet was deployed the vice admiral would be in the leading portion or van acting as the deputy to the admiral.

In the Royal Navy the rank of vice-admiral should be distinguished from the office of Vice-Admiral of the United Kingdom, which is an admiralty position usually held by a retired full admiral, and that of Vice-Admiral of the Coast, a now obsolete office dealing with naval administration in each of the maritime counties.

Vice admirals are entitled to fly a personal flag. A vice admiral flies a St George's cross defaced with a red disc in the hoist.

[ed.] 1583 (22 years old) in command (again the *Tuns* aren't really indicative of size) of someone else's ship.

In another Voyage I made thither, about 34 years past, wherein I had the command of a good Ship partly mine own, at that time one Sir Bernard Drake of Devonshire, Knight, came thither with a Commission, and having diverse good Ships his command, he there Took many Portugal Ships, laden with fish, and brought them into England as Prizes.

[ed.] 1586 (25 years old) in command of a partly owned ship this time. He sailed with Sir Bernard Drake's fleet and took many Spanish fish-laden ships as prizes and destroyed Spanish rooms and shore facilities; Drake's Commission was to pirate, and the booty was shared according to strict regulation with the bulk going to the Crown. Whitbourne was pirating along with the expedition, but while Whitbourne said they seized Portuguese ships the record points to Spain as the primary target. Spanish ships in Newfoundland waters at the time were more than likely Basque.

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Bernard_Drake

Sir Bernard Drake (c.1537 – 10 April 1586) was an Elizabethan sea captain, and a distant kinsman of Sir Francis Drake.

His life was uneventful until he became associated with Sir Humphrey Gilbert, perhaps through his relatives Richard Grenville and Walter Raleigh. Thus Bernard was first attracted to American ventures and, in December, 1582, he was among the adventurers in a corporation established by Gilbert to exploit his royal grant in North America, although Drake's involvement seems to have been limited to his investment; Drake undertook to lead a party of adventurers to settle whatever part of North America Gilbert had sold him on paper. He did not participate in any overseas ventures, however, so far as is known, until 1585, by which time he had joined with Raleigh and Humphrey Gilbert's brother, John, in activities connected with the Roanoke Island Colony, in present-day North Carolina. When, on 26 May, the Spanish government placed an embargo on English shipping in Bilbao harbour, Raleigh commissioned Drake to warn English fishermen in Newfoundland of the embargo and to seize Spanish shipping. Dropping plans for a privateering voyage to the West Indies enroute for Roanoke, where a colony was to be settled by Sir Richard Grenville who had left Plymouth in April, Drake left for Newfoundland in July.

[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Newfoundland_expedition_\(1585\)](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Newfoundland_expedition_(1585))

On 10 June Raleigh was authorized by the privy council to press ships for a voyage to be made to the Newfoundland fishing grounds. The expedition was to warn English fishing vessels there not to take fish direct to Spain or Portugal (trade being already well established), and to seize any vessels belonging to subjects of the king of Spain they could find. Commissions to lead such expeditions were issued to Carew Raleigh and to Bernard Drake on 20 June, and the latter was ordered about 27 June to launch an expedition against Spain's Newfoundland fisheries. They dropped plans for a privateering voyage to the West Indies enroute for Roanoke, where a colony was to be settled by Sir Richard Grenville who had left Plymouth in April.

Drake's *sweep*

Drake left Plymouth in the *Golden Riall* for Newfoundland in July with a fleet of ten ships many of them bought by investors in hoping to receive a profit. The venture soon hit success; with the capture of a large Portuguese ship laden with Brazilian sugar and other commodities.

Drake arrived off Newfoundland in early mid-August and landed at St. Johns not only establishing England's claim on the place again. He thus used the place as a base for his operations gathering supplies and fresh water. Whilst there he alerted the English fishermen to the danger of heading directly to markets in Spain and Portugal. Instead of heading home many of them joined their ranks and Drake's ships soon increased in number to ten, many of them armed. As the English then established themselves they then intercepted, plundered, captured and even burned many Spanish and Portuguese fishing ships. A few armed flyboats protecting them met the same fate; although small in number, they were no match for the heavily English ships and most either fled or were captured.

As news spread of the raid Spanish fishing ships then tended to frequent the island's south coast mainly on the Avalon peninsula, away from the English area of dominance. By the end of September however Drake had cleared this area of any Iberian ships and then sent some of his own ships back to England escorting the new prizes. His force raided a Spanish whaling and fishing base burning and capturing all the stores on the Burin Peninsula - other smaller locations in Placentia Bay too were destroyed. Soon the lack of prizes in the region became more apparent and Drake met up and joined forces with another of Raleigh's associates, George Raymond in the *Red Lion* who had sailed with Grenville on the way to Roanoke. Leaving Newfoundland they then headed to the Azores in the hope of seizing Spanish ships from the West Indies. More success followed with captures with cargoes of sugar, wine, and ivory, and a French ship carrying some gold. With disease starting to take its toll Drake's ships headed home but not before running into a storm which the loss of two prizes.

[ed.] *Press ships* refers to obtaining the service of ships and their owners, possibly without any recourse by the owners. *Impressment* of men to the English Navy operations was sporadic after the 1660's through to the early 19th century.

Omitting to speak of other Voyages I made thither, during the late Queen's Reign, I will descend to later times.

1586 to 1611 is 25 years (25 years old to 50 years old); how many trips he made to Newfoundland is unknown. His travel destinations set out above were up to the *Late Queen's Reign* which ended in 1603. Given his insistence on the settling of Newfoundland as a great boon for the Kingdom, perhaps his interests were continuous over that time, as he stated in the first two paragraphs of the introduction. Whitbourne's work was deemed valuable by members of the Privy Council, and he was promoted to proceed with the book having arranged for sales and distribution through local parishes with the approval of Archbishop of Canterbury. It might have been that he also received funds from a collection made over and above the sale of the books.

In the year 1611, being in New-found-land, at which time that famous Arch-Pirate, Peter Easton, came there, and had with him ten sail of good Ships, well furnished, and very rich, I was kept eleven weeks under his command, and had from him many golden promises, and much wealth offered to be

put into my hands, as it is well known: I did persuade him much to desist from his evil course; his entreaties then to me, being, that I would come for England, to some friends of his, and solicit them to become humble petitioners to your Majesty for his pardon: but having no warrant to touch such goods, I gave him thanks for his offer; only I requested him to release a Ship that he had taken upon the Coast of Guinea, belonging to one Captain Rashly of Foy in Cornwall; a man whom I knew but only by report: which he accordingly released. Whereupon I provided men, victuals, and a fraught for the said Ship, and so sent her home to Dartmouth in, though I never had so much as thanks for my kindness therein. And so leaving Easton, I came for England, and gave notice of his intention, letting pass my Voyage that I intended for Naples, and lost both my labour and charges: for before my arrival, there was a Pardon granted, and sent him from Ireland. But Easton hovering with those Ships and riches upon the Coast of Barbary, as he promised, with a longing desire, and full expectation to be called home lost that hope, by a too much delaying of time by him who carried the Pardon. Whereupon he sailed to the Straights of Gibraltar, and was afterwards entertained by the Duke of Savoy, under whom he lived rich.

<https://en.wiktionary.org/wiki/fraught>

Fraught - From Middle English, from Middle Dutch *vraecht* or Middle Low German *vraecht* (“freight money”), ultimately from Proto-Germanic *fra- (intensive prefix) + Proto-Germanic *aihtiz (“possession”), from Proto-Indo-European *h₂eyk- (“to possess”). Cognate with Old High German *frēht* (“earnings”), Old English *æht* (“owndom”), and a doublet of freight. More at for-, own.

Noun

(obsolete) The hire of a ship or boat to transport cargo.

(obsolete) Money paid to hire a ship or boat to transport cargo; freight, fraught money.

(obsolete) The transportation of goods, especially in a ship or boat.

(obsolete) A ship's cargo, lading or freight.

(Scotland) A load; a burden.

(Scotland) Two bucketfuls (of water).

[ed.] 1611 (50 years old) in command and held captive by Peter Easton for three months. Whitbourne is referred to as a long-time legitimate trader but his capture appeared more an embassy with the intent of persuading Easton to give up and taking charge of Easton's clemency plea. Easton marauded the whole English Shore of Newfoundland taking ships of all nations, it is estimated his actions cost more than £20,000 to English enterprises alone. What were the Easton inducements to Whitbourne to join up? Whitbourne had pirating experience, albeit sanctioned, some 25 years before. Whitbourne had also decried the pirating of Newfoundland ventures since day one, and with the others demanded naval protection and rule of law for the fishing industry.

The value of the cargos wasn't the gold of the Aztecs or the silver of Peru, it was salt fish, worth thousands on the open markets of Europe and the West Indies.

http://www.biographi.ca/en/bio/easton_peter_1E.html

Peter Easton, once a loyal English seaman, later turned pirate, whose well-equipped fleet of warlike ships and intensive raids on both English and foreign ships earned him the appellation “arch-pirate”; fl. 1610–20.

Easton’s peripatetic exploits brought him into personal contact with Richard Whitbourne (afterwards Sir Richard), a long-time, legitimate trader, and John Guy, governor of the colony at Cuper’s (now Cupids) Cove. It must be said in Easton’s favour that he did no actual harm to the settlement. Indeed, on one occasion, the settlers gave him two pigs. There was only one clash with the colonists, in which one of them was wounded by error. Easton did, however, capture Whitbourne, whom he kept on board his ship for 11 weeks, attempting all the while to convert him to piracy. He only released Whitbourne on condition that the latter should go to England and seek a royal pardon for him.

[ed.] Whitbourne planned to trade his fish from the trip in Naples but it seems his return to England on Easton’s behalf fooled up his plans.

I was there also in the year 1614, when Sir Henry Mainwaring was upon that Coast, with five good Ships strongly provided; he caused me to spend much time in his company, and from him I returned into England; although I was bound from thence to Marseilles, to make sale of such goods as I then had, and other employments, &c.

[ed.] 1614 (52 years old) his trip was interrupted by Mainwaring (then 27 years old) but he managed to save some of his venture and made it to home and then on to the Marseilles markets.

http://www.biographi.ca/en/bio/mainwaring_henry_1E.html

Sir Henry Mainwaring, famous Jacobean pirate; b. 1587 near Ightfield, Shropshire; d. 1653.

As a skilful seaman, he was commissioned in 1610 [23 years old] by the lord high admiral to try to capture the pirate Peter Easton, but failed. He was then given command of a privateer under letters of marque to plunder Spanish shipping in the West Indies, and sailed in the *Resistance* of 160 tons, well-armed and manned. However, he changed his mind on the high seas and turned pirate.

Based at Mamora [a Moroccan seaport frequented by Easton as well] on the Barbary coast, he soon had a large fleet of captured vessels at his command for international pillage and plunder. To recruit men and obtain supplies of fish he made the Atlantic crossing in 1614 and arrived in Newfoundland waters 4 June 1614 with eight war-like ships. He raided the harbours, taking with him, when he left in mid-September, carpenters, ammunition, 10,000 fish from a French vessel at Harbour Grace, and 400 men (at the rate of one out of every six sailors on the fishing vessels). He died at 66 almost 40 years later.

[ed.] How Whitbourne saved his cargo isn’t known but there might have been a great deal of respect shown him based on his reputation and the embassy he made on behalf of Easton.

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Charles_Emmanuel_I,_Duke_of_Savoy

Charles Emmanuel I (Italian: Carlo Emanuele di Savoia; 12 January 1562 – 26 July 1630), known as the Great, was the Duke of Savoy from 1580 to

1630. He was nicknamed Testa d'feu ("the Hot-Headed") for his rashness and military aggression.

<http://ngb.chebucto.org/Articles/1675-pirates-art.shtml>

[ed.] An excellent, non-academic, telling of the pirates that plagued Newfoundland during the early 17th century. Whitbourne, Guy and others are quoted and a series of petitions to curb piracy in Newfoundland are copied from the Colonial Office papers. They asked John Mason be appointed *lieutenant* in Newfoundland. Many of Whitbourne's abuses are repeated in the petition which was signed by Falkland, Calvert and several other financiers and leaders of new World enterprises.

In 1621, a Royal order gave the governor or lieutenant in Newfoundland full powers to deal with all legal issues and the pirates. No boats or other forces were assigned.

In the year 1615 I returned again to New-found-land, carrying with me a Commission out of the high Court of Admiralty, under the great Seal thereof, authorizing me to impanel juries, and to make inquiry upon oath, of sundry abuses and disorders committed amongst Fishermen yearly upon that Coast, and of the fittest means to redress the same, with some other points, having a more particular relation to the Office of the Lord Admiral,

[ed.] 1615 (54 years old) in command and with a Commission to investigate the status and order of, or lack of order of, the Newfoundland fishery. Pirates and fishing admirals, often little better than pirates in their wanton destruction of others' property and blatant theft, were seen as detrimental to good government and financial order.

Whitbourne probably expected the Lord Admiral to come through in the end, just like he did in the aftermath of the armada nearly 30 years before. We can assume there was an agreement by which Whitbourne would augment the profit from his fish with some future consideration. In 1626, at 65, he was still writing, begging for any sort of marine work, still smarting over his cancelled contract with the old Lord Admiral. Also, he was always a *go to* man for Admiralty work, dealing with Easton, for example, Whitbourne stated elsewhere in the Discourse that he himself was never pirated, but one of his ships was; during his Easton and Mainwaring captivities he seems to have conducted some business. He dealt for his fish, the other fellows just took theirs. They were all captains and shared similar histories; some evidently went to the dark side.

His concern for Newfoundland as an enterprise, viewed over nearly 35 years, was a stated motivation but he would have been a fool to not expect compensation over and above whatever fish he could buy. He was no fool.

What was then there done by virtue of that Commission, which was wholly executed at my own charge, has been at large by me already certified into the high Court of Admiralty. Nevertheless, seeing the same has been overslipt ever since, and not produced those good effects which were expected, I will, in some convenient place of this Discourse, set down a brief collection of some part of my endeavours spent in that service; not doubting but it will be as available for the furtherance of our intended design, as any other reason I shall deliver.

In the year 1616. I had a Ship at New-found-land, of 100 TunCaprain, which returning laden from thence, being bound for Lisbon, was met with by a French Pirate of Rochelle, one Daniel Tibolo, who

rifled her, to the overthrow and loss of my Voyage, in more than the sum of 860 pounds, and cruelly handled the Master and the Company that were in her: and although I made good proof thereof at Lisbon, and represented the same also to this Kingdom, as appertained, after my return from thence; yet for all this great loss, I could never have any recompense.

[ed.] 1616 (55 years old) Whitbourne was expectant his report was in the right hands for prompt action. He stayed in England this year and sent a small ship to Newfoundland which was robbed by a French pirate. Besides the £860 loss the captain and crew were mistreated and held in Lisbon. Whitbourne sailed to Lisbon and freed them, probably by paying a ransom. He sought support from the Portuguese and English courts for redress, to no avail.

Whitbourne by 1619 was still out his 1615 promises and the new Lord Admiral was ignoring him. He wanted to bring attention to the debt and his inquiry findings.

The Lord Admiral, an old man in his 80's, was under attack by his critics in 1616, especially by King James' favourite, George Villiers, the Duke of Buckingham (28 years old), who eventually forced the old man out of office. Villiers was more interested in continental affairs and turned his back on Whitbourne, Newfoundland, and the fish trade.

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/George_Villiers,_1st_Duke_of_Buckingham

George Villiers, 1st Duke of Buckingham, KG (28 August 1592 – 23 August 1628), was an English courtier, statesman, and patron of the arts. He was a favourite—and a suspected lover—of King James. Despite a very patchy political and military record, Buckingham remained at the height of royal favour for the first three years of the reign of King Charles I, until a disgruntled army-officer assassinated him.

[ed.] Of passing interest is that Villiers was stabbed to death in a house in Plymouth owned by John Mason.

Shortly after my return from Lisbon, I was sent for by a Gentleman [William Vaughan], who about a year before, by a grant from the Patentees, had undertaken to settle people in Newfoundland; he acquainted me with his designs, and after some conference touching the same, we so concluded, that he gave me a conveyance under his hand and seal for the term of my life, with full power to govern within his circuit upon that Coast; whereupon (being desirous to advance that work) in Anno 1618. I sailed thither in a Ship of my own, which was victualled by that Gentleman, myself, and some others. We likewise then did set forth another Ship, for a fishing Voyage, which also carried some victuals for those people which had been formerly sent to inhabit there: but this Ship was intercepted by an English erring Captain (that went forth with Sir Walter Raleigh) who took the Master of her, the Boatswain, and two other of the best men, with much of her victuals (the rest of the Company, for fear, running into the woods) and so left the Ship as a prize, whereby our intended fishing-Voyages of both our Ships were overthrown, and the Plantation hindered.

[ed.] 1616 (56 years old) Whitbourne was approached by William Vaughan to take over Vaughan's plantation, as Governor for life. Apparently Vaughan was about to send (in 1617) settlers to Newfoundland.

http://www.biographi.ca/en/bio/vaughan_william_1E.html

William Vaughan, Sir, scholar, writer, poet, colonial promoter; b. 1575, second son of Walter Vaughan of Golden Grove, Carmarthenshire, and his wife Katherine; d. August 1641 at Llangyndeyrn, Carmarthen, where he was buried.

Vaughan matriculated at Jesus College, Oxford, in 1592; in 1595 he received the degree of b.a. and two years later that of m.a. He supplicated for b.c.l. in December 1600 but went abroad before taking his degree. He travelled widely in Europe, receiving the degree of doctor of law in Vienna. He had returned to England by the summer of 1603 and in July 1605 was incorporated d.c.l. at Oxford.

[ed.] In 1617 Vaughan had despatched his first colonists to Renews. We do not know how many he sent or what sort of people they were, but as pioneers in a hard land they proved totally inadequate. Furthermore, they appear to have had no experienced leader for it was not until 1618 that Richard Whitbourne took up his appointment as governor. On arrival he found that they had not even built themselves a habitation but had lived out the winter with only old fishermen's shacks for shelter.

1618 (57 years old) in command of his own ship outfitted by Vaughan, and other investors he sailed for Newfoundland, with two ships, one with more settlers and one to work the fishery. Whitbourne and his people arrived but the fishing ship and its victuals were taken by pirates (an erring Captain who had turned away from the abandoned Walter Raleigh plantation in South America) on arrival in Renews. The crew ran into the woods abandoning the vessel.

The story goes that Whitbourne found the 1617 people inadequately prepared, no house had been built, no gardens made, no fish caught, and the everyone living in horrid conditions. He organized them as best he could but it seems he took all but six back to England in the fall. Vaughan's plan and Whitbourne's commission as governor went up in smoke. Vaughan was out money and had little chance of getting more. He sold off bits of land to Calvert and Falkland, who both made attempts. In 1626 Vaughan was still trying to get his enterprise back on track.

Now seeing it pleased your Majesty many years since, to take good notice of the said New-foundland, and granted a Patent for a Plantation there, wherein many Honourable and worthy men's endeavours, and great charge, therein have deserved good commendations (as is well known) the which I desire to further with all my best endeavours: and not to disgrace or disable the foundation and Projects of others, knowing they have been hindered by Pirates, and some erring Subjects that have arrived upon that Coast; it being indifferent to me, whether there be a new foundation laid, or whether it be built on that which has already been begun; so that the Plantation go forward: Yet I may truly say, that hitherto little has been performed to any purpose, by such as therein were employed, worthy the name of a Plantation, or answerable to the expectation and desert of the Undertakers; neither have such good effects followed, as may be expected from a thorough performance hereafter. And seeing that no man has yet published any fit motives or inducements, whereby to persuade men to adventure, or plant there; I have presumed plainly to lay down these following reasons, which is the principal end I aim at, whereby to further that work so worthily intended, by prescribing fit means how a Plantation might be settled there; and have therefore undertaken it, as well to discharge my conscience, which has often prompted me thereunto, as hoping thereby to stir up many of your Majesty's good and religious Subjects, duly to weigh the piety, honour and benefit that will arise from

such a work, considering how your Majesty's Kingdoms do abound and overflow with people. And although I have often suffered great loss by Pirates and Sea-Rovers, and other casualties of the Sea, yet in this point, I have tasted of Gods exceeding great mercy, that never any Ship, wherein I my self was present, miscarried, or came then to any mischance, or any casualty of the Sea, whereunto all Ships are subject: so as I may well say, that my life has been a mixture of crosses and comforts, wherein nevertheless they have not been so equally balanced, but that the one has overweighed the other: for now, after more than forty years spent in the foresaid courses, there remains little other fruit unto me, saving the peace of a good conscience, which gives me this testimony, that I have ever been a loyal Subject to my Prince, and a true lover of my Country, and was never as yet in all my time beholding to any Doctors counsel, or Apothecaries drugs, for the preservation of my health; and it will be to me a contentment, if I may be so happy, as to become the instrument of any public good herein, and in whatsoever, for the good of my Prince and Country. And so I descend to the particular Relation of the Country, &c.

[ed.] Whitbourne reminds the King that he granted patents to settle Newfoundland to many people. Regardless of the failures due to pirates or ineptitude Whitbourne's intent was to support either a new effort or an effort to rebuild on Vaughan's plan. There were only the two Conception Bay plantations - at Cupids and Bristol's Hope - five or six years prior to Vaughan - and they were doing well; expectations were that with some hard work, and an organized approach, the new, or rebuilt, plantation should do as well.

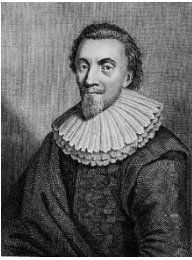
Whitbourne, now old by the standard of the times, wanted to portray that his health and experience was beneficial to plantation establishment, and he was ready to take on new tasks whenever the Crown and English financiers were ready to proceed.

He admitted there was little left to build on but, even worse, it was difficult to persuade the English to settle in the New World. Such were his intentions with the Discourse which followed.

A RELATION OF THE NEW-FOUND-LAND, with a more ample discovery of that Country, than ever was yet set forth to the open view; together with the Briefs of such presentments, as were there taken to the use of your, by virtue of a Commission under the Broad Seale of the Admiralty, directed to me RICHARD WHITBOURNE.

[ed.] Whitbourne introduced Newfoundland and his purpose and referred immediately to the 1615 inquiry. Did Whitbourne know Mason was producing a Discourse touching on the same material? Did Mason know Whitbourne was? Mason's *Discourse* is a fairly comprehensive listing of natural history and geography with minor economic application. Whitbourne repeated many details of Mason's tract and develops the economic management of a fishing plantation; he included ideas on how to increase trade and thereby benefit while supporting and developing a settled Newfoundland society. Both books appeared at the same time and each is based on previous, contemporaneous experience. The 1615-1618 period a busy time for both in business and in plantation management. Calvert visited Ferryland in 1626 but let his governors manage plantation affairs.

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/George_Calvert,_1st_Baron_Baltimore



George Calvert, 1st Baron Baltimore (1579 – 15 April 1632) was an English politician and coloniser. He achieved domestic political success as a Member of Parliament and later Secretary of State under King James I. He lost much of his political power after his support for a failed marriage alliance between Prince Charles and the Spanish House of Habsburg royal family. Rather than continue in politics, he resigned all of his political offices in 1625 except for his position on the Privy Council and declared his Catholicism publicly. He was created Baron Baltimore in the Irish peerage upon his resignation. Baltimore Manor was located in County Longford, Ireland.

Calvert took an interest in the British colonisation of the Americas, at first for commercial reasons and later to create a refuge for persecuted English Catholics. He became the proprietor of Avalon, the first sustained English settlement on the southeastern peninsula on the island of Newfoundland (off the eastern coast of modern Canada). Discouraged by its cold and sometimes inhospitable climate and the sufferings of the settlers, he looked for a more suitable spot further south and sought a new royal charter to settle the region, which would become the state of Maryland. Calvert died five weeks before the new Charter was sealed, leaving the settlement of the Maryland colony to his son Cecil (1605–1675). His second son Leonard Calvert (1606–1647) was the first colonial governor of the Province of Maryland.

[ed.] Calvert, who had invested in the Newfoundland Company and the East India Company, acquired his Ferryland land tract from Vaughan in 1620 and the next year sent out teams to establish the plantation. Ferryland is mentioned three times by Vaughan including a description of Baltimore being busy supplying his colony; praise of Capt. Winne who had served Calvert for four years; and a note from Alexander that planting was sometimes hampered by dallying too long at St. John's and Ferryland.

The Discourses extol Newfoundland's vastness and potential in an idealistic way and offer practical approaches to its development. Where Mason said, *here is fish*, Whitbourne said *here is how to turn them into money*. Whitbourne and Mason both worked for, or were partners with, Vaughan and his cohort at one point or another. Unlike Vaughan, Whitbourne and Mason are plainly written, little other than spelling is needed to turn it into modern English prose.

Five or six years later we find Mason, and John Guy, supportive verses in Vaughan's *Golden Fleece*. Here is Mason's:

*O How my heart doth leap with Joy to hear,
Our Newfound Isle by Briton's prized dear!
That hopeful Land, which Winter six I tried,
And for our Profit meet, at full described.
If Hope of Fame, of quiet Life, or Gain
May kindle Flames within our minds again:
Then let us join to seek this Golden Fleece,
The like never came from Colchos into Greece.
Orpheus removes all Errors from the way,
And how this Land shall thrive, he does bewray*

*Thus ships and coin increase, where least we thought,
For Fish and Train Exchange, and all unbought.*

[ed.] Mason claimed in the last line that the fish and oil were *produced* by the planters, not bought or traded; an important distinction for profits. Whitbourne never turned his hand to fishing, at least his engagement in fishing is not evident in his Discourses, presumably he bought his fish and other commodities, a true *merchandizer*. Two centuries later, Napoleon Bonaparte reportedly under-estimated the English, "As a nations of shopkeepers". Whitbourne would have fit into the 19th century, easily.

http://www.biographi.ca/en/bio/mason_john_1E.html

Captain John Mason, sailor, explorer, cartographer, colonizer, second governor of the first English colony in Newfoundland and founder of New Hampshire; b. 1586 at King's Lynn, Norfolk, son of John and Isabella Mason; d. in London, 1635.

About this time [1612] Mason became governor of the colony at Cuper's Cove (now Cupids), Newfoundland, in succession to John Guy. There is no satisfactory explanation of his appointment; it has been thought that it was a reward for his service to the king in the Hebrides [James VI of Scotland, later James I of England tried *civilizing* by planting the Hebrides between 1598 and 1607; presumably this would be when Mason served], but it seems unlikely that anyone but the council of the Newfoundland company would make the appointment. No doubt Mason's naval experience did influence the company, which was perturbed by the frequent attacks made on the island by pirates. By June 1616 Mason was at Cuper's Cove and had already begun those explorations which enabled him to produce the first known English map of Newfoundland, based on personal survey.

[ed.] There is a probability Mason's 1615-1617 surveys and eventual map (which wasn't published until 1625) were commissioned by Vaughan as well; certainly the map used by Vaughan was based on Mason's information. Interesting that it took nearly 10 years for the map to be produced. Mason wasn't a cartographer but the map bearing his name was drawn by a cartographer using his survey and sailing information. Mason's Newfoundland bears similarities to European maps dating back into the mid-1500's; copying was a cartographic technique in widespread use.

[Marginal Note: The situation of the Country]

It is to be seen by the Cosmographers' Maps, and well approved, that the New-found-land is an Island, bordering upon the Continent of America, from which it is divided by the Sea; so far distant, as England is from the nearest part of France, and lies between 46 and 53 degrees North-latitude: It is as spacious as Ireland, and lies near the course that ships usually hold in their return from the West-Indies, and near half the way between Ireland and Virginia.

[ed.] Whitbourne's geography is sketchy compared to Mason. Containing only the Island's situation, so far from North America, as far as England is from France. His latitudes were inside acceptable limits as was the reference to being similarly sized to Ireland, but he left out the triangular shape.

I shall not much need to commend the wholesome temperature of that Country, seeing the greatest part thereof lies above 3 degrees nearer to the South, then any part of England dos.

[ed.] Central Newfoundland is about 48° 30' north, London is 51° 30' on modern maps. The lower latitude doesn't equate to more temperate climate, as we now know, the Labrador Current keeps the Island colder and wetter, particularly the northeast coast, English shore.

[Marginal Note: The temperature of the air.]

And it has been well approved by some of our Nation, who have lived there many years, that even in the winter season it is pleasant and healthful, as England is.

Yet most Early Modern visitors who overwintered over found the season barely tolerable. Calvert was to abandon a perfectly good, working Ferryland for Maryland, to escape the cold.

Winter was a reason used by the West Country fish merchants to not settle Newfoundland. Mason, Whitbourne, Vaughan attempted to argue it was patently not true despite all the evidence to the contrary.

Everyone proposed ways to ameliorate winter's effects as well as the persistent fogs which are still a curse of the English Shore.

Not much has changed in the past four centuries; Newfoundland weather is still a wonder of change.

[MARGINAL NOTE: The Inhabitants, with their nature and customs]

The natural Inhabitants of the Country, as they are but few in number; so are they something rude and Savage people; having neither knowledge of God, nor living under any kind of civil government. In their habits, customs and manners, they resemble the Indians of the Continent, from whence (I suppose) they come; they live altogether in the North and West part of the Country, which is seldom frequented by the English: But the French and Basques (who resort thither yearly for the Whale-fishing, and also for the Cod-fish) report them to be an ingenuous and tractable people (being well used;) they are ready to assist them with great labour and patience, in the killing, cutting, and boiling of Whales; and making the Train oil, without expectation of other reward, than a little bread, or some such small hire.

[ed.] This is repeated by the English in the Trinity area more than a century later when aboriginal captives were turned to labours in mercantile ventures, Tom June and John August, for example. The history of the Beothuk at English mercies is not a good one, with wholesale slaughter and deprivation of aboriginals the general rule. Two centuries after Whitbourne they were extinct.

[ed.] Whitbourne and his peers used the term *Biscaines* [later Biscayans] in referring to the Basque people of the French-Spanish border along the Iberian coast of Biscay Bay. They were noted by Romans as being an ancient people whom they called *Vascones*, or the *Aquitani*. Basques followed the Norse across the Atlantic and by the 17th century had operated whale oil and fish production in Newfoundland for nearly three centuries. Their names are still in use in Newfoundland and Labrador.

[Marginal Note: The convenience of the Bays in the Country]

All along the coast of this Country, there are many spacious & excellent Bays, some of them stretching into the land, one towards another, more than twenty leagues.

[ed.] This true of Trinity, Conception, Placentia, St. Mary's, and to a minor extent Trepassay.

On the East side of the land, are the Bays of Trinity and Conception; which stretch themselves towards the South-west; Tor Bay, and Capelin Bay, lying also on the East, stretch toward the West: The Bays of Trepassay, S. Mary, Borrell [Hermitage Bay?], and Placentia, on the South part of the land, extend their arms toward the North: The great Bay of S. Peters, lying on the Southwest side of the land, and East, Southerly from the great River of Canady, being about twenty leagues distant, the same stretches toward the East.

[ed.] Whitbourne's geography tends to the general, like he was using information gleaned from others, including Mason perhaps, rather than personal surveys.

St. Peter's Bay was the whole south coast stretching from Cabot Strait, where it is a little under 30 leagues distant to Cape Breton, about 30 leagues to the east to the Islands of St. Pierre and Miquelon. By today's terms this is not a bay, but Whitbourne obviously uses a term as it was applied to the Grand Bay, the north and east part of the Gulf of St. Lawrence, and it has several minor extensions inland (Bay de Vieux and LaPoile Bay), Bay D'Espoir being the biggest.

And here I pray you note, that the bottom of these Bays do meet together within the compass of a small circuit: by means whereof our men passing over land from Bay, to Bay, may with much facility discover the whole Country.

[ed.] There is a schoolboy adage that there is no place on the Island of Newfoundland more than 50 miles (15 leagues) from salt water. The overland method was used by Guy's team between Conception Bay and Trinity Bay.

From the Bay of S. Peter, round about the West-side of the land, till you come to the grand Bay, which lies on the North-side of the Country; and so from thence, till you come round, back to Trinity Bay, are abundance of large and excellent Bays; which are the less known, because not frequented by the English, who seldom fish to the Northward of Trinity Bay.

[ed.] Whitbourne completed his virtual circumnavigation glossing over the French part from the tip of the Great Northern Peninsula, past White Bay, Notre Dame Bay and Bonavista (Flowers) Bay, noting that Northeast Coast was not frequented by the English. He learned little useful of this area since his aborted 1580 Grand Bay expedition. Mason's map, which includes the northeast coast, albeit with many blank spots, was still five years into the future as Whitbourne was writing his *Discourse*.

[Marginal Note: Commodious Islands and worthy Harbours.]

And it is to be observed, that round about the Coast and in the Bays, there are many small Islands (none of them further off than a league from the land) both fair and fruitful: neither do any one part of the world afford greater store of good Harbours, more free from dangers, or more commodious, than are there built by the admirable workmanship of God; I will only instance two or three of the chiefest, for some special reasons.

[ed.] An abundance of bays and anchorages, passages between islands and the Island are all noted as commodious and worthy. Notre Dame Bay was called the Bay of Rocks and was avoided by English, Basque and French alike, it wouldn't open for another century. Bonavista Bay (which wasn't

explored then either) and Placentia Bay (under French use at the time) are both Island strewn.

[Marginal Note: Trinity Harbour affording diverse good commodities.]

Trinity Harbour lies near in 49 degrees North-latitude, being very commodiously seated to receive shipping in reasonable weather, both to anchor in, and from thence to sail towards either the East, West, or South: It has three Arms or Rivers, long and large enough for many hundred sail of Ships, to moor fast at Anchor near a mile from the Harbour's mouth; close adjoining to the River's side, and within the Harbour is much open land, well stored with grass sufficient, Winter and Summer, to maintain great store of ordinary cattle, besides Hogs and Goats, if such beasts were carried thither; and it stands North, most of any Harbour in the land, where our Nation practices fishing; It is near unto a great Bay lying on the North-side of it, called the Bay of Flowers [now Bonavista Bay]; to which place no Ships repair to fish; partly in regard of sundry Rocks and Ledges lying even with the water, and full of danger; but chiefly (as I conjecture) because the Savage people of that Country do there inhabit: many of them secretly every year, come into Trinity Bay and Harbour, in the night time, purposely to steal Sails, Lines, Hatchets, Hooks, Knives, and such like. And this Bay is not three English miles overland from Trinity Bay in many places; which people, if they might be reduced to the knowledge of the true Trinity indeed, no doubt but it would be a most sweet and acceptable sacrifice to God, an everlasting honour to your Majesty, and the heavenliest blessing to those poor Creatures, who are buried in their own superstitious ignorance. The task thereof would prove easy, if it were but well begun, and constantly seconded by industrious spirits: and no doubt but God himself would set his hand to rear up and advance so noble, so pious, and so Christian a building.

[ed.] The aboriginals of the eastern parts of the Island, it seems, were less *tractable* in English areas. Conversion would bring them into a greater glory and stop them from stealing was wishful thinking. Converting them to Christianity should be a priority for English settlement, he suggested.

[Marginal Note: The bottoms of diverse Bays meeting near together.]

The bottom of the Bay of Trinity lies within four leagues through the land Southwest, Southerly from Trinity, as by experience is found; and it comes near unto the Bay of Trepassey, and the bottom of some other Bays, as I have already touched before.

[ed.] The south bottom of Conception Bay is 15 leagues from Trepassey Bay; 12 to St. Mary's Bay. The southeast bottom of Trinity Bay to Placentia Bay and St. Mary's Bay is 8 leagues; to Trepassey Bay, 16 leagues, and the northwest bottom of Trinity Bay (at Bull Arm) is one league from Placentia Bay at the Isthmus of Avalon.

Whitbourne seems enthusiastic to show that the relative overland closeness of these locales was beneficial to settlement and good order.

And what commodities may thereby redound, if some of your Majesty's Subjects were also once settled to plant near unto the Harbour of Trepassey, being the South part of New-found-land, where some Ships use yearly to fish. If therefore near the Harbour of Trinity it were inhabited by some of your Majesty's Subjects, I see no reason to the contrary, but that a speedy and more certain knowledge might be had of the Country, by reason those Savage people are so near; who being politically and gently handled, much good might be wrought upon them: for I have had apparent proofs of their ingenuous and subtle dispositions, and that they are a people full of quick and lively apprehensions.

[ed.] Like Guy and Mason at Cupids, Whitbourne saw English settlements in Trinity and Conception Bay linked to Trepassey Bay overland, using aboriginal knowledge and pathways to connect. In the 19th century Howley and other explorers and surveyors used local, aboriginal guides to explore the interior of the Avalon Peninsula and the connections between Trinity, St. Mary's and Placentia bays.

[Marginal Note: The Harbour of Trepassey lying commodiously.]

Trepassey in like manner is as commodious a Harbour, lying in a more temperate climate, almost in 46 degrees the like Latitude, and is both fair and pleasant, and a wholesome Coast, free from Rocks and Shelves: so that of all other Harbors, it lies the Southmost of any Harbour in the land, and most conveniently to receive our shipping passing to & from Virginia, & the Bermuda Islands; & also any other shipping that shall pass to and from the River of Canada [St. Lawrence] and the coast thereof; because they usually pass, and so return in the sight of the land of Trepassey; and also for some other purposes, as shall be partly declared in the following Discourse.

[ed.] Trepassey Harbour he noted was extremely favourable both because of its geographic location and protected anchorages, not to mention the good ground that was to be found there. Cape Race was from earliest times the turning point for ships travelling east or west across the Atlantic, being near this traffic gave Trepassey an enhanced economic and military footprint.

But I will not insist upon further particulars of Harbours in this place, seeing our men that yearly trade to that Coast, know them to be as good and commodious Harbours, as any other whatsoever .

[ed.] Whitbourne begs off further geographic persuasions, as he noted, they were already well-known to English sailors.

.[Marginal Note: The fertility of the soil.]

The soil of this Country in the valleys and sides of the mountains, is so fruitful, as that in diverse places, there the Summer naturally produces out of the fruitful womb of the earth, without the labour of man's hand, great plenty of green Peas and Fitches, fair, round, full and wholesome as our Fitches are in England; of which I have there fed on many times: the hawmes of them are good fodder for cattle and other beasts in the winter, with the help of Hay; of which there may be made great store with little labour in diverse places of the Country.

[ed.] No agriculture required for crop production of *Peas and Fitches* and *hawmes* (straw) for cattle feed. We know now that Newfoundland agriculture is hindered by a short growing seasons and poor soil except for some small areas. Gardens would be successful, but large scale agriculture would be centuries in coming into its own.

<https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Vicia>

Vicia is a genus of about 140 species of flowering plants that are part of the legume family (*Fabaceae*), and which are commonly known as vetches. Member species are native to Europe, North America, South America, Asia and Africa. Some other genera of their subfamily Faboideae also have names containing "vetch", for example the vetchlings (*Lathyrus*) or the milk-vetches (*Astragalus*) The tribe *Vicieae* in which the vetches are placed is named after the genus' current name. Among the closest living relatives of vetches are the lentils (Lens) and the true peas (*Pisum*).

Peter J. Scott in *Edible Plants of Newfoundland and Labrador* Boulder Publications St. John's 2010 (p.99) mentions Beach Pea *Lathyrus japonicas* from Labrador but no peas or vetches other than those.

Michael Collins in *Plants and Wildflowers of Newfoundland* Jespersion Press St. John's 1994 (p. 123) mentions Cow Vetch *Vicia cracca* is found in grassy areas in the summer and fall; four other peas in his index lead to clovers.

Agriculture Canada in *Weeds of Canada* Minister of Supply and Services Canada Hull 1974 (pps. 110-111) notes Tufted Vetch *Vicia cracca* in the family *Leguminosae* – the Pulse family.

[Marginal Note: Several sorts of fruits there growing.]

[ed.] Again, Whitbourne's list of fruits is minimal and he seemed to be working from second hand information.

Strawberries red and white – Scott (ibid. p. 23) has Wild Strawberry *Fragaria virginiana*; as all Newfoundlanders know, ripened red strawberries are white when they are green. Collins (ibid. p. 46) has them as just strawberries.

Raspberries - Scott (ibid. p. 39) *Raspberry Rubis idaeus*; Collins (ibid. p.35) adds Wild red raspberry.

Goose berries – This reference is probably to the only native gooseberry, unless by 1615 English plantings had already gone wild.

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Ribes_oxycanthoides

Ribes oxycanthoides is a species of flowering plant in the gooseberry family known by the common name Canadian gooseberry. Its various subspecies have common names of their own. It is native to North America, where it occurs in Alaska through much of Canada and the western and north-central United States.

R. o. ssp. oxycanthoides (northern gooseberry) – grows from Alaska to Newfoundland.

There are also many other fruits, as small Pears, sour Cherries, Filberts, &c. And of these Berries and fruits the store is there so great, that the Mariner of my Ship and Bark's company, have often gathered at once, more than half a hogshead would hold; of which diverse times eating their fill, I never heard of any man, whose health was thereby anyway impaired.

[ed.] This is a prodigious amount of berries – 50 to 70 gallons!

<https://en.wiktionary.org/wiki/hogshead>

From Middle English hoggshed (literally, hog's head). More at hog, head. Often borrowed into other languages as "ox-head".

Noun

hogshead (plural hogsheads)

An English measure of capacity for liquids, containing 63 wine gallons, or about 52 1/2 imperial gallons; a half pipe.

A large cask or barrel, of indefinite contents; especially one containing from 100 to 140 gallons.

small Peares – Scott (ibid. p.25) has Chuckley Pear *Amelanchia bartramiana* and quotes Mason’s “small pleasant fruite, called a Peare”.
sowre Cherries - Scott (ibid. pps. 29 and 31) Pin Cherry *Prunus pennsylvanica* and Chokecherry *P. virginiana* as does Collins (pps. 51 and 52).

Filberds –

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Corylus_cornuta



Corylus cornuta (Beaked Hazel) is a deciduous shrubby hazel found in most of North America, from southern Canada south to Georgia and California. It grows in dry woodlands and forest edges The flowers are catkins that form in the fall and pollinate in the following spring.

Corylus cornuta is named from its fruit, which is a nut enclosed in a husk with a tubular extension 2–4 centimetres (0.79–1.57 in) long that resembles a beak. Tiny filaments protrude from the husk and may stick into, and irritate, skin that

contacts them. The spherical nuts, which are surrounded by a hard shell, are edible.

[ed.] Whitbourne’s boast of berry plentitude is reminiscent of Cabot’s baskets of fish.

[Marginal Note: Herbs and flowers both pleasant and medicinal]

There are also herbs for Salads and Broth; as Parsley, Alexander, Sorrell, &c. And also flowers, as the red and white Damask Rose, with other kinds; which are most beautiful and delightful, both to the sight and smell.

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Smyrnum_olusatrum

Smyrnum olusatrum, common name Alexanders, is a cultivated flowering plant, belonging to the family Apiaceae (or Umbelliferae). It is also known as alisanders, horse parsley, and smyrnum. It was known to Theophrastus and Pliny the Elder.

These stout plants grow to 150 centimetres (59 in) high, with a solid stem which becomes hollow and grooved with age. . . . Alexanders is native to the Mediterranean but is able to thrive farther north. The flowers are yellow-green in colour and arranged in umbels, and its fruits are black. Alexanders is intermediate in flavor between celery and parsley. It was once used in many dishes, either blanched, or not, but it has now been replaced by celery.

It is now almost forgotten as a food source, although it still grows wild in many parts of Europe, including Britain. . . . The Romans brought it with them to eat the leaves, the stems, the roots, and the buds. Alexanders is a feed source much appreciated by horses.



[ed.] *Smyrnum* wasn’t a native Newfoundland plant; likely it was confused with *Heracleum maximum* (Cow parsnip, Indian celery, Indian rhubarb or pushki) is the only

| member of the genus *Heracleum* native to North America).

<https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Sorrel>

Common sorrel or garden sorrel (*Rumex acetosa*), often simply called sorrel, is a perennial herb in the family *Polygonaceae*. Other names for sorrel include spinach dock and narrow-leaved dock. It is a common plant in grassland habitats and is cultivated as a garden herb or salad vegetable (pot herb).

[ed.] Damask roses are now a multi-petalled cultivars of Europe; Newfoundland has native *Rosa rugosa*, white and pink, which can substitute for damask roses in perfumes and rose hip tea. The War of the Roses emblems are simple five-petalled roses similar to *Rosa rugosa*.



And questionless the Country is stored with many Physical herbs and roots, albeit their virtues are not known, because not sought after; yet within these few years, many of our Nation finding themselves ill, have bruised some of the herbs and strained the juice into Beer, Wine of Aqua-vita; and so by Gods assistance, after a few drinking, it has restored them to their former health.

[ed.] This referred to *scurvy*, which was easily remedied with concoctions containing herbs and leaves, anything edible and green helped. And taken with alcohol.

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Aqua_vitae

Aqua vitae Water of Life or *aqua vita* is an archaic name for a concentrated aqueous solution of ethanol. The term was in wide use during the Middle Ages and the Renaissance, although its origin is likely much earlier. This Latin term appears in a wide array of dialectical forms throughout all lands and people conquered by ancient Rome. Generally, the term is a generic name for all types of distillates, and eventually came to refer specifically to distillates of alcoholic beverages (liquors).

Aqua vitae was typically prepared by distilling wine; it was sometimes called "spirits of wine" in English texts, a name for brandy that had been repeatedly distilled.

The like virtue it has to cure a wound, or any swelling, either by washing the grieved places with some of the herbs boiled, or by applying them so thereunto [plaster] which I have seen by often experience.

<http://medical-dictionary.thefreedictionary.com/plasters>

plasters,
n.pl cloth dressings saturated with medicinal substances, placed over skin for rubefacient or analgesic treatments.

This being the natural fruitfulness of the earth, producing such variety of things, fit for food, without the labour of man; I might in reason hence infer, that if the same were manured, and husbanded in some places, as our grounds are, it would be apt to bear Corn, and no less fertile than the English soil.

<http://www.etymonline.com/index.php?term=corn>

The sense of the Old English word was "grain with the seed still in" (as in barleycorn) rather than a particular plant.

[ed.] Newfoundland barley production was increasing with good yields he reported (barley is the prime ingredient in beer) and along with the barley, boiled dinner ingredients also did well.

[Marginal Note: Store of Deer and other beasts.]

In diverse parts of the Country, there is great store of Deer, and some Hares, many Foxes, Squirrels, Beavers, Wolves, and Bears, with other sorts of beasts, serving as well for necessities, as for profit and delight.

Whitbourne's list is fairly accurate with six indigenous mammals but it includes Squirrels. He mistook something for a squirrel. Weasels (ermine) are really small compared to English squirrels; the pine marten? Again the sense of second hand, incomplete information.

[ed.] There are now extant 13 native Newfoundland mammals; before, there were 14, including the wolf.

Neither let me seem ridiculous, to annex a matter of novelty, rather than weight, to this discourse.

[ed.] Now, he digressed into entertainment over mastiffs and wolves. An entertainment with a noble goal.

[Marginal Note: A rare example of the gentle nature of the beasts of that Country.]

In the year 1615. it was well known to 48. persons of my company, and diverse other men, that three several times, the Wolves and beasts of the Country came down near them to the Sea-side, where they were labouring about their Fish, howling and making a noise: so that at each time my Mastiff dog went unto them (as the like in that Country has not been seen:) the one began to fawn and play with the other, and so went together into the Woods, and continued with them, every of these times, nine or ten days, and did return unto us without any hurt. Hereof I am no way superstitious, yet it is something strange to me, that the wild beasts, being followed by a stern Mastiff dog, should grow to familiarity with him, seeing their natures are repugnant: surely much rather the people, by our discreet and gentle usage, may be brought to society, being already naturally inclined thereunto.

[ed.] This about face is an aside before he returns to natural history. The story of the dogs and wolves is euphemism for bringing the people ... to society. Interesting that after Calvert religion was all but banned in Newfoundland. Two centuries later Cormack took on Beothuk discovery out of practical Christian idealism and energy. All the Discourses used conversion of heathens and savages as a prime reason to settle; in New England, it worked.

[Marginal Note: Plenty of Land-fowl.]

But to return to our purpose, and to speak something of the great plenty of Fowl in that Country, as well as Land-fowl, as Water-fowl; the variety of both kinds is infinite.

[ed.] Back to natural history now. An infinite (baskets anyone?) variety of birds of all sorts.

[Marginal Note: Great store of Land-fowl.]

The Land-fowl (besides great number of small birds flying up and down, some without name that live by scraping their food from the earth in the hardest winter that is) there are also Hawks, great and small, Partridges, Thrush, and Thrussels abundance very fat. As also Filladies, Nightingales and such like small birds that sing most pleasantly.

[ed.] Small birds flying up and down might refer to migrating songbirds.

The birds that *live by scraping their food from the earth in the hardest winter* are harder to understand. The Northern flicker might be a candidate as they scratch bugs out from the gravel exposed by overhangs and fallen tree roots in the winter and nest in similar underground holes and under logs.

The Hawk, Partridge and Thrush are still around.

<http://www.heritage.nf.ca/dictionary/#1623>

filliday n also fillady, phillida OED fillady, filliday 'some bird in Nfld' obs (1622-1674). A small song-bird; cp the imitative name TICKLACE.

<http://www.heritage.nf.ca/dictionary/#3712>

robin redbreast n also robin Cp OED ~ 1 a 'European redbreast' (1450-1862); DAE 'thrush' (1761-). Red-breasted migrating thrush of North America (*Turdus migratorius nigrideus*)

[ed]. *Thrussle* is another name for a Thrush, while the difference isn't clear, there are several thrushes and sparrows which might fit the bill. The reference to them being *very fat* is also interesting; until modern times eating songbirds was a common practice, viz. four and 20 blackbirds baked in a pie, the French fondness for the roasted ortolan bunting, and the Cypriot dish *ambelopoulia*, a stew of songbirds. All birds are edible but many seabirds are traditionally not eaten, gulls and loons and cormorants among them, because their flesh is odiferous and oily. The auks and shearwaters were a delicacy. Gulls' and other birds' eggs were eaten regularly by aboriginals and settlers.

Nightingales are not native to North America; they resemble large sparrows and thrushes. If early modern visitors identified them as nightingales by their song they were probably listening to song sparrows or white throated sparrows both of which have complex, beautiful songs.

Terns were not mentioned by Whitbourne, although they and their eggs were, and still are, eaten regularly in some quarters. Icelanders still eat puffins.

[Marginal Note: Water-fowl.]

There are also birds that live by prey, as Ravens, Grippes, Crows, &c. For Water-fowl, there is certainly so good, and as much variety, as in any part of the world; as Geese, Ducks, Pigeons, Gulls, Penguins, and many other sorts.

[ed.] Grippes (Eagles) and Penguins (Great Auk). Gulls are not now eaten but maybe once were.

These Penguins are as big as Geese, and fly not, for they have but a little short wing, and they multiply so infinitely, upon a certain flat Island, that men drive them from thence upon a board; into their

boats by hundreds at a time; as if God had made the innocence of so poor a creature, to become such an admirable instrument for the sustentation of man.

[ed.] Auks couldn't fly and they were tasty. And abundant, like the fish and berries. The reference to *a certain flat island*, is probably Funk Island, indicated Whitbourne was relating a story and was not a participant in the auk harvesting.

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Great_auk

The great auk (*Pinguinus impennis*) is a flightless bird of the alcid family that became extinct in the mid-19th century. It was the only modern species in the genus *Pinguinus* (unrelated to penguins, although it was the first bird to be called penguin). It bred on rocky, isolated islands with easy access to the ocean and a plentiful food supply, a rarity in nature that provided only a few breeding sites for the auks. When not breeding, the auks spent their time foraging in the waters of the North Atlantic, ranging as far south as northern Spain and also around the coast of Canada, Greenland, Iceland, the Faroe Islands, Norway, Ireland, and Great Britain.

[ed.] There are claims that the word *penguin* comes from the Welsh language.

There are also Godwits, Curlews, and a certain kind of fowl that are called Oxen and Kine, with such like; which fowl do not only steed those that trade thither greatly for food, but also they are a great furthering to diverse Ships voyages, because the abundance of them is such, that the Fishermen do bait their hooks with the quarters of Sea-fowl on them; and therewith some ships do yearly take a great part of their fishing voyages, with such bait, before they can get others.

<https://birdtherock.com/checklist/>

Eskimo Curlew	<i>Numenius borealis</i>	Extinct
Whimbrel	<i>Numenius phaeopus</i>	Common in Migration
Eurasian Curlew	<i>Numenius arquata</i>	Very Rare
Black-tailed Godwit	<i>Limosa limosa</i>	Rare (Less than annual)
Hudsonian Godwit	<i>Limosa haemastica</i>	Uncommon
Bar-tailed Godwit	<i>Limosa lapponica</i>	Very Rare
Marbled Godwit	<i>Limosa fedoa</i>	Very Rare

<http://www.heritage.nf.ca/dictionary/#3235>

oxen Cp OED ox 6: ~ (1602 Co, 1623 Nfld). Phr oxen and kine: Atlantic fulmar; NODDY (*Fulmar glacialis glacialis*).

[ed.] The godwits and curlews were eaten but were more important as bait for the cod fishery.

[Marginal Note: Fresh water and Springs.]

The fresh Waters and Springs of that Country, are many in number, and withal very pleasant, delightful and wholesome, that no Country in the world has better. And Fuel for fire is so plentiful, that there is never like to be any want there of those Commodities.

[ed.] The waters were sweet, then as now, and it was scenic. Forest resources abounded. Whitbourne decried the wasting of wood and yet proposed extensive harvesting for fire and building.

[Marginal Note: Many sorts of Timber there growing.]

In like manner there is great abundance of Trees, fit to be employed in other serviceable uses: There are Fir and Spruce trees, sound, good, and fit to mast Ships withal; and as commodious for boards and buildings as the Spruce & Fir trees of Norway; and out of these came abundance of Turpentine. No Country can show Pine and Birch trees, of such height and greatness as those are there, & doubtless, if some store of your Majesty's subjects do once settle there to live, and would be industrious to search further, and more thoroughly into the Country, than as yet it has been, there might be found many other commodities of good worth. Amongst the which I may not omit, that there is much probability of finding Mines, and making of Iron and Pitch.

[ed.] With unlimited fuel mining ore, smelting metals, making things like tar and charcoal are possible. Norway as a handy comparison for Newfoundland economic and natural resources, apparently, has a long history.

Large trees for masts and keels; buildings, beams and boards, were growing within easy reach of the fishing beaches. The white spruce trees at the bottom of Trinity Bay were still unknown in 1620 but by 1800 were being cut for boat building including keels and masts; in the 20th century trees over 200 years old and 125 feet high were still being cut in and around Smith Sound.

[Marginal Note: Good hope of Mines, and making of Iron and Pitch.]

[Marginal Note: Fish in great abundance.]

The Rivers also and Harbours are generally stored with delicate Fish, as Salmon, Peals, Eels, Herrings, Mackerel, Flounders, Launce, Capelin, Cod, and Trout the fairest, fattest and sweetest, that I have seen in any part of the world. The like for Lobsters, Crawfish (shrimp?), Mussels, Hens, and other varieties of Shellfish great store.

[ed.] The fish list puts Cod second to last, just before Trout. Salmon were salt water salmon; peals young salmon in rivers; Lance and Capelin were important bait.

<http://www.heritage.nf.ca/dictionary/#2238>

hen n Cp OED ~ sb 4 'female fish or crustacean' (1855), EDD sb1 6 'a shell fish' (1888).

1 Bivalve shellfish; see COCK 1.

And also observe here, that in these places there is usually store of the spawn and fry of several sorts of fishes: whereby the Sea-fowl live so fat, as they are there in the winter: And likewise the Beavers, Otters and such like, that seek their food in the Ponds and fresh Rivers.

[ed.] Two more native mammals here; the beaver and the otter.

The Seas, likewise all along that Coast, do plentifully abound in other sorts of fish, as Whales, Spanish Mackerel, Dorrell, Pales, Herring, Hogs, Porpoises, Seals, and such like royal fish, &c.

[ed.] Spanish Mackerel is the Bluefin tuna, also called horse mackerel

<https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Zeidae>

The *Zeidae* (named after Zeus, the supreme god of Greek mythology) are a family of large, showy, deep-bodied zeiform marine fish—the "true dorids". Found in the Atlantic, Indian, and Pacific Oceans, the family contains just six species in two genera. All species are important and highly regarded food fish supporting commercial fisheries, and some—such as the john dory (*Zeus faber*)—are enjoyed in large public aquaria. These fish are caught primarily by deep-sea trawling.

Pales might refer to *slinks*, a thin cod caught early in the spring before summer feeding in coastal waters.

<http://www.heritage.nf.ca/dictionary/#3514>

puffing-pig n also puff-pig OED puff sb 9 b (Nfld: 1861); cp DAE ~ (1884). Name given to (a) harbour porpoise (*Phocaena phocaena*); (b) northern pilot whale (*Globicephala melaena*); HERRING HOG, PUFFIN Hogs (may also be pilot whales?) or porpoises which are sometimes called puffin pigs.

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Royal_fish

Under the law of the United Kingdom, whales and sturgeons are royal fish, and when taken become the personal property of the monarch of the United Kingdom as part of his or her royal prerogative.

According to William Blackstone's *Commentaries on the Laws of England*, the "superior excellence" of whale and sturgeon made them uniquely suited for the monarch's use. Sir Matthew Hale added porpoise as one of the royal fish. Near the English coast they belong to the monarch immediately upon being caught, while ownership is also transferred to the monarch when a catch from any location is cast up on the shores. The kings of Denmark and the dukes of Normandy enjoyed a similar prerogative.

The monarch's right to royal fish was recognized by a statute enacted during the reign of Edward II. According to Henry de Bracton, "the king owns the head of the whale, the queen owns the tail".

...

Under current law, the Receiver of Wreck is the official appointed to take possession of royal fish when they arrive on English shores. The law of royal fish continues to excite some notice and occasional controversy, as evidenced when a fisherman caught and sold a sturgeon in Swansea Bay in 2004

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Sturgeon#Range_and_habitat

Sturgeon range from subtropical to subarctic waters in North America and Eurasia. In North America, they range along the Atlantic Coast from the Gulf of Mexico to Newfoundland, including the Great Lakes and the St. Lawrence, Missouri, and Mississippi Rivers, as well as along the West Coast in major rivers from California and Idaho to British Columbia. They occur along the European Atlantic coast, including the Mediterranean basin, especially in the Adriatic Sea and the rivers of North Italy; in the rivers that flow into the Black, Azov, and Caspian Seas (Danube, Dnepr, Volga and Don); the north-flowing rivers of Russia that feed the Arctic Ocean (Ob, Yenisei, Lena, Kolyma); in the rivers of Central Asia (Amu Darya and Syr Darya)

and Lake Baikal. In the Pacific Ocean, they are found in the Amur River along the Russian-Chinese border, on Sakhalin Island, and in the Yangtze and other rivers in northeast China.

Throughout this extensive range, almost all species are highly threatened or vulnerable to extinction due to a combination of habitat destruction, overfishing, and pollution.



[ed.] *Acipenser oxyrinchus*, the Atlantic sturgeon, native to Canada and the United States, can be found in subtropical climates and in a marine, freshwater environment.

It was in great abundance when the first European settlers came to North America, but has since declined due to overfishing and water pollution. It is considered threatened, endangered, and even locally extinct in many of its original habitats.

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Atlantic_sturgeon

Economic history

Originally, the Atlantic sturgeon was considered a worthless fish. Its rough skin would often rip nets, keeping fishermen from catching more profitable fish. Sturgeon were one of the types of fish harvested at the first North American commercial fishery, and were the first cash "crop" harvested in Jamestown, Virginia. Other fisheries along the Atlantic coast harvested them for use as food, a leather material used in clothing and bookbinding, and isinglass, a gelatinous substance used in clarifying jellies, glues, wines and beer. However, the primary reason for catching sturgeon was the high-quality caviar that could be made cheaply from its eggs, called black gold by watermen. In the late 19th century, seven million pounds of sturgeon meat were exported from the US per year. Within years, however, that amount dropped to 22,000 pounds. The number later rose to about 200,000 pounds a year in the 1950s.

[ed.] Whitbourne probably knew of sturgeon catches from New England but there is no information suggesting it was a common Newfoundland fish product.

<https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Isinglass>

Isinglass is a substance obtained from the dried swim bladders of fish. It is a form of collagen used mainly for the clarification or fining of some beer and wine. It can also be cooked into a paste for specialised gluing purposes.

Its origin is from the obsolete Dutch *huizenblaas* – **huizen** is a kind of sturgeon, and *blaas* is a bladder. Isinglass is no longer sourced from sturgeon.

Although originally made exclusively from sturgeon, especially beluga, in 1795 an invention by William Murdoch facilitated a cheap substitute using cod. This was extensively used in Britain in place of Russian isinglass. The bladders, once removed from the fish, processed, and dried, are formed into various shapes for use.

[Marginal Note: Cod fishing a great hope of benefit there-from.]

But the chief commodities of New-found-land yet known, and which is grown to be a settled trade, and that which may be much bettered by an orderly Plantation there, (if the Traders thither will take some better course, than formerly they have done, as shall be declared) is the Codfishing upon that Coast, by which our Nation and many other Countries are enriched.

[ed.] The real reason to settle Newfoundland; the only reason. All the rest were just words to persuade people to buy-in.

[Marginal Note: The benefit arising to France, Spain, and Italy from fishing upon those coasts.]

And if I should here set down a valuation of that fish, which the French, Basques, and Portuguese fetch yearly from this Coast of New-found-land, and the Bank, which lies within 25 leagues [75 miles is in the center of the Tail of the Bank] from the South-cape of that Country, where the French use to fish Winter and Summer, usually making two voyages every year thither: (To which places, and to the Coast of Canady, which lies near unto it, are yearly sent from those Countries, more than 400 sail of ships:)

[ed.] The French, Basque and Portuguese fishery could be calculated; Whitbourne noted the Portuguese fished the banks year round.

It would seem incredible, yea some men are of opinion, that the people of France, Spain and Italy, could not so well live, if the benefit of the fishing upon that Coast, and your Majesty's other Dominions, were taken from them.

[ed.] Spain came into the picture along with all the Mediterranean's northern rim as benefiting from Newfoundland fish.

But I trust it will be sufficient, that I give an estimate of our own trading thither, and partly of the wealth and commodities we reap thereby, without any curious search into other men's profits.

[ed.] The estimate he gave was based on his own trading and common knowledge of prices, not meant to open anyone else's business to scrutiny, private or Royal.

[Marginal Note: 250 Sail of Ships lying upon that Coast, Anno 1615.]

In the year 1615, when I was at New-found-land, with the Commission before-mentioned, which was an occasion of my taking the more particular observations of that Country, there were then on that Coast, of your Majesty's subjects, 250 sail of Ships great and small. The burthens and Tonnage of them alone with another, so near as I could take notice, allowing every ship to be at least threescore tun (for as some of them contained less, so many of them held more) amounted to more than 15000 tuns. Now for every threescore tun burthen, according to the usual manning of Ships in those voyages, agreeing with the note I then took, there are to be set down twenty men and boys: by which computation in 250 sail, there were no less than five thousand persons. Now every one of these ships, so near as I could guess, had about 120000 fish, and five tun of Train oil one with another.

[Marginal Note: What the value of the fish contained in most ships did amount unto .]

So that the total of the fish in 250 sail of those ships, when it was brought into England, France, or Spain, (being sold after the rate of four pound, for every thousand of fish, six score fishes to the hundred, which is not a penny a fish, & if it yield less, it was ill sold) amounted in money to 120000 pound.

Now, as I have said before, allowing to every ship of 60 tun, at least five tun of Train oi;, the total of all that arises to 1250 tun; each tun, whether it be sold in England, or elsewhere, being under-valued at twelve pound. So as the whole value thereof in money, amounts to the sum of 15000 pound, which added to the fish, it will appear that the total value of the fish, and Train oil of those 250 sail of ships that year, might yield to your Majesty's subjects better than the sum of 135000 pound, omitting to reckon the over-prices which were made and gotten by the sale thereof in foreign Countries, being much more than what is usually made at home, and so the like in other years.

<http://www.heritage.nf.ca/dictionary/#5132>

train2 n also traine, trayne, train-oil OED ~ sb3 obs (1497-1802), ~ oil (c1553-1895), EDD 'fish-oil' Co, DAE ~ oil (1637-1866) for sense 1; OED ~ fat (Nfld: 1698-), ~ oil lamp (1865) for combs. in sense 2.

1 Oil rendered from the blubber of whales; oil from other marine creatures, esp fish; COD OIL, OIL. Attrib train-oil.[ed.] Train oil production was valued at £15,000 in 1620.

[ed.] Whitbourne explained the wealth generated by the cod fishery back home adequately covered the costs of setting up and fishing was a good business for the kingdom.

An outfitting included beer.

The converting of these commodities (gotten by fishing) into money, cannot choose but be a great benefit to all your Majesty's Kingdoms in many respects.

What the charge in setting forth of these 250 sail might amount unto (being only for victuals, which our Country yields) I hold it not fit here to set down, lest I should be accused by some therein for breaking a gap into other men's' grounds.

[ed.] He didn't talk about the cost of provisioning a fishing vessel as it was individual to each owner and his finances.

[Marginal Note: The relief that the trading there will afford to serve all sorts of people.]

And withal, it is to be considered, that the Trade thither (as now it is) dos yearly set on work, and relieve great numbers of people, as Bakers, Brewers, Coopers, Ship-Carpenters, Smiths, Net-makers, Rope-makers, Line-makers, Hook-makers, Pullymakers, and many other trades, which with their families have their best means of maintenance, from these New-found-land Voyages. Add unto them the families or servants of diverse Owners and Masters of such ships as go thither, and the Mariners with their families, hereby employed and maintained.

[ed.] All economic talk has to include indirect spin-offs back home; here they are listed.

[Marginal Note: Reasons inducing for a Plantation there.]

What the reasons, motives and inducements are, either of honour, profit, or advantage, which may justly invite your Majesty, & all your good subjects, to take some speedy and real course, for planting there, I will endeavour hereafter to show.

[ed.] Motivation and inducements to promote planting in Newfoundland. A summary extolling Newfoundland as a safe haven for industry and inhabitants with good prospects for success.

[Marginal Note: First reason, hope of converting the Inhabitants to Christianity.]

For it is most certain, that by a Plantation there, and by that means only, the poor mis-believing Inhabitants of that Country may be reduced from Barbarism, to the knowledge of God, and the light of his truth, and to a civil and regular kind of life and government.

| [ed.] Convert the native inhabitants to Christianity.

This is a thing so apparent, that I need not enforce it any further, or labour to stir up the charity of Christians therein, to give their furtherance towards a work so pious, every man knowing, that even we ourselves were once as blind as they in the knowledge and worship of our Creator, and as rude and Savage in our lives and manners.

Only thus much will I add, that it is not a thing impossible, but that by means of those slender beginnings which may be made in New-found-land, all the regions near adjoining thereunto, may in time be fitly converted to the true worship of God.

[Marginal Note: Second reason, the temporal benefits that may justly and easily arise from hence.]

Secondly, the uniting of a Country so beneficial already, and so promising unto your Majesty's Kingdoms, without either bloodshed, charge or usurpation, must needs be a perpetual honour to your Majesty in all succeeding ages; and not so only, but also a great benefit and advantage to the State, by a new access of Dominion. And what Prince or State can enlarge their territories, by a more easy, and more just means than this?

| [ed.] Ease of enlarging the dominions of the king. The land was fallow for someone to take it over.

[Marginal Note: Sir Hum. Gilbert long since took possession thereof to the use of this Crown.]

The English are reputed for the first Discoverers of this country: and a Subject of this State, one Sir Humphrey Gilbert (as is touched before) has long since taken possession thereof, the use of your Majesty's royal Crown; and that possession has been continued by several Patents and Commissions: so that of right, I do conceive, it appertains to your Majesty, although it be not yet peopled with your Majesty's Subjects, notwithstanding the said Patents.

| [ed.] And, of course, Newfoundland was owned by the Crown since 1583 when Gilbert laid claim 37 years before).

[Marginal Note: Hope of joining America, or some parts thereof to New-found-land.]

Neither seems it impossible to me, but that your Majesty, and your Royal Progeny, may in time annex unto your Royal Crown, a great part of the Continent of America, bordering upon New-found-land, the same lieing nearer to your Majesty's Kingdoms, than to any other Country of these our known parts of the World; and for the most part of it under the same Elevation of the Pole with us; and but little above six hundred leagues distance from hence.

| [ed.] North America also lay waiting for English annexation, especially those parts lying to the north in the same latitudes as the British Isles; cue the Hudson's Bay Company.

| And, it is fairly close, only 600 leagues (1800) miles. This would have been a small distance for Whitbourne who by the writing of the Discourse had sailed the North Atlantic for 40 years.

At least I cannot see, but that from hence further Discoveries may be made, and new trades found out, yea, peradventure the supposed North-west passage: For if it can be proved, or if there be any possibility or probability, that there is such a passage, on the North side of America towards Japan and China, which in the opinion of some men, is to lie near the height of 64. degrees: the fittest place from whence to proceed to that Discovery, is (in my opinion) the New-found-land. And for those that henceforth attempt to search that straight or passage, to set forth sooner and more early, than heretofore they have done, and to sail directly to some convenient Harbour in New-found-land, there to refresh themselves with such provision as shall be needful; and so put out from thence about the twentieth day of May (if it be once set in a faire Westerly wind) and to sail along the North part of New-found-land, and that coast which is called Cambaleu, continuing that Northerly course unto 64. which is but 15. degrees from Trinity Harbour; and it may be sailed in less than six days, with a fair Westerly wind, which commonly makes a clear coast all along to the North, both from fogs and Ice also; both which are violent hinderers to men that have undertaken these voyages; For coming to seek out those straights or passages, with a large Easterly, Southerly, or Northerly wind, which commonly bring on that Coast the fog and Ice; and coming so late in the Summer, they have thereby lost the advantage and benefit of time, for finding out so happy a business.

[ed.] The Northwest Passage, if it existed, was best searched for from Newfoundland. The voyage from England was plagued by ice and fog normally in early spring. Being provisioned in Newfoundland and setting out to go north in May was the best chance of discovering the passage.

But if this design of a Plantation should not be entertained, and thoroughly prosecuted; it may be justly doubted, that some other Prince will step in, and undertake the same; which if it shall so fall out, your Majesty shall not only lose all those advantages and benefits, which your Majesty, and your subjects might reap by this Plantation, but also the actual possession; and then those that should usurp your Majesty's right there, will be an hindrance to your Majesty, either to remove them, or to plant by them, without hazarding a breach of peace.

[ed.] If the English King wouldn't plant Newfoundland there was chance other nations would.

And it may be feared, that such a Plantation, growing to have strength, your subjects shall be (if not prohibited) yet at least hindered of their free trading and fishing there, or constrained to take their fish of the Planters, and at their prices; which may fall out to be a notable disservice to your Majesty, and the utter overthrow of your subjects trade thither.

[ed.] A foreign plantation would limit English trade and advancement; English merchants would have to buy the fish from the foreign plantation if it grew powerful enough.

But in setting down the advantages we shall have by a settled Plantation there, I have sufficiently discovered, what our loss will be, if we suffer ourselves to be prevented by others.

That Country may be made a place of great use and advantage for this State, in any action that may engage us by way of attempt or defence, in regard of those parts of the world.

[ed.] Newfoundland's location lent itself to military use and control of the trans-Atlantic shipping routes.

For the first, this Country lies so near the course which the Spanish ships, that come from Mexico, Havana, and other places of the West-Indies, hold in their return from thence, that they often sail within 150 leagues from the South part thereof.

[ed.] Richly laden Spanish ships passed by within 450 miles of the Island.

In the year 1615. while I was in that Country, three ships returning from the West-Indies, did arrive there, purposely to refresh themselves with water, wood, fish, and fowl, and so have diverse others done at other times.

[ed.] Newfoundland was a stopping for provisions and water location for foreign ships in 1615.

[Marginal Note: Much has been gotten by strangers coming thither.]

Sundry Portugal ships have also come thither purposely to load fish from the English, and have given them a good price for the same, and sailed from thence with it to Brazil, where that kind of fish is in great request, and they have made great profit thereby.

[ed.] Portuguese ships bought English fish for transport to Brazil.

Dutch and French ships bought fish for the Italian and Spanish markets.

The French and Portuguese fishing efforts were ongoing and adjoining English interests; plantations, of whatever nationality, would cause grief for the Crown if there were ever hostilities with France or Spain.

And certainly, as your Majesty's subjects sailing to and from Virginia, and the Bermuda Islands, might in any extremity (having spent a mast or yard, or when any leak is sprung) be relieved, & at other times refresh themselves in their voyages, if a Plantation were settled near about Trepassey; So upon occasion of any attempt, or other injuries which might be offered unto those more remote Plantations, they might from thence receive succour in shorter time than from England.

[ed.] English trade to New England and the Caribbean could use Newfoundland to advantage, a plantation at Trepassey, for example, could get relief voyages to the south in a timely manner; half or less time of having to go to England.

Besides all this, it would be a great ease to all the rest of your Majesty's subjects, if some part of our superabounding multitudes were transplanted into New-found-land; for besides the great number of idle persons that live here, spending their time in drinking, and other excesses; among which, many of your New-found-land men may be reckoned, during the winter season, while they are at home: There are many thousands of poor people of both sexes, which might be well spared out of all your Majesty's Dominions, who living penuriously, and in great want, would be persuaded to remove their dwelling into New-found-land, where they might not only free themselves of their present miseries, but also by their industry, in time enrich themselves, and deserve well of the State by their employments; for there is yearly great abundance of good fish lost for want of labourers, and diverse other good things also.

[ed.] Like Vaughan later, Whitbourne recognized the need to get unemployed and poverty-stricken multitudes meaningful work.

Englishmen were less industrious and diligent when it came to plantations, in Whitbourne's opinion. Such affairs had allowed other nations to outstrip England's reputation and pride.

Whitvourne then followed with a discussion of other nations' fishing economies and he urged English merchant to not buy from foreign sources thereby leaving more money in English hands. This bolstering of English fishing would also make more men available for naval purposes.

Fishing in Newfoundland was the best way to improve the lot of the English and the Kingdom. And the industry trained seamen, giving them valuable experience which might come to bear in naval development.

The convoluted argument here is difficult to understand. Apparently by limiting the sale of English fish to Englishmen and not buying fish from other nationalities would increase revenues by making foreign merchants come to England to buy fish, a win-win.

Now that which is like to be the present benefit, and which (in my opinion) will weigh most toward the furtherance of this Plantation in New-found-land, by reason of the many consequences thereof, is the bettering of our Trade there, which will fall out exceeding beneficial in diverse respects, if those who adventure thither, will follow some better course than formerly they have used: And in so doing, ships may then sail in much more safety thither, and return yearly from thence much more richer than now they do; For many disorderly courses are committed by some traders and adventurers thither, in setting forth to that Country, and practised by some of them when they arrive there. If these disorders were reformed, the great benefit expected will soon follow.

[ed.] A plantation in Newfoundland would help create order in what in Whitbourne's estimation was on a rough and disorderly course.

It is well known, that they which adventure to New-found-land a fishing, begin to dress and provide their ships ready commonly in the months of December, January, and February, and are ready to set forth at Sea in those voyages near the end of February, being commonly the foulest time in the year. And thus they do, striving to be there first in a Harbour, to obtain the name of Admiral that year; and so, to have the chieftest place to make their fish on, where they may do it with the greatest ease, and have the choice of diverse other necessaries in the Harbours, which do them little stead: but the taking of them, wrongs many others of your Majesty's subjects, which arrive there after the first.

[ed.] The enterprise schedule was explained; provisioning and getting ready in December; setting out the end of February; arriving mid-April and grabbing ground and water in a first-come system; the fishing Admiral system, and he hinted the first-arrived took what they wanted regardless of ownership.

The early start in February and March was inauspicious, according to Whitbourne. Ice, fog and storms took their toll of ships hastening to Newfoundland to grab the best berths, fishing grounds and harbour facilities.

And also this untimely setting forth, consumes a great quantity of victuals, that might be saved to better purpose, and it forces them to carry and recarry many more men in every ship, every voyage, than they need, if they once take a fitter course in these voyages. As well extra provisions were required by the early sailings which could be reduced if they left later and had an orderly system, including settlers waiting for them, once they arrived.

Such stages & houses that the first arrivers into an Harbour find standing; wherein men set diverse necessaries, and also salt their fish, some men have used to pull down, or taken their pleasures of them; by which unfit disorders of some first arrivers there yearly, those which arrive after them, are sometimes 20 days and more to provide boards and timber, to fit their boats for fishing; and other necessary rooms to salt and dry their fish on; whereby much time is lost, and victuals consumed to no good purpose; and thereby also the voyages of the after-comers there, are often greatly hindered and prolonged, to the great hurt of your Majesty, and many a good subject: and the Mariners themselves which trade to that Country, and commit those great abuses, are thereby also much wronged, as they have acknowledged by their own disorderly behaviours.

[ed.] Late arrivers often found any infrastructure they left behind destroyed or appropriated causing them up to 20 days delay in cutting and hauling and rebuilding stages, salt houses and small boats. This work required more provisions be available than necessary if the rebuilding didn't have to happen.

Wherefore if such which henceforth adventure to that Country, take some better course in that trade of fishing, than heretofore they have used, they shall find the greater safety of their adventures, and much good the more thereby. For whereas heretofore they have used to make ready their ships to sail in those voyages, in such unseasonable time of the year, whereby they often receive great hindrances and loss; they need not then go forth in the said voyage, until the five and twentieth day of March, which is a fit time of the year to put to Sea from our Coast to that Country; the winter storms beginning then to cease; And then any such ship which carries in her thirty men in every voyage, may well leave six men there behind them, or more, all the winter season, until the ships return to them again; And these six men's victuals will be saved, and serve to better use, and thereby also likewise cut off that months setting forth in those voyages so soon in the year, as now men use to do, and then the victuals for that month, which is so vainly, and with such great danger consumed, may well maintain those men, which are left in the Country all the winter season, till the ships return to them again, with a very small addition to it.

[ed.] The settlement scheme is unveiled. Each ship would leave later (end of March) and take extra hands that could leave behind men using the extra provisions, normally put aboard for the earlier voyage, to get them through the winter.

And if it may so please your Majesty, that any subject which will undertake to settle people in the New-found-land, shall have this privilege, that in case he leave there a fifth person of such which he carries thither in his fishing voyage to inhabit; whereby those men so left, might keep a certain place continually for their [sic] fishing, and drying thereof, whenever their ship arrives thither; then would all such which leave people there, build strong fitting necessary rooms for all purposes; and then in some of those necessary houses, or rooms, they may put their fish when it is dried; which fish now stands after such time it is dried, until it is shipped, which is commonly above two months, in great heaps packed up uncovered; in all the heat and rain that falls, whereby great abundance of good fish is there yearly spoiled, and cast away for want of such necessary rooms: And for the want of such fit houses in that Country, some men's voyages (to my knowledge) have been greatly overthrown; and then a mean place to make fish on, will be made much more commodious than the best place is now, that men so dangerously and desperately run for every year; And thus every mans' fishing Pinnaces may be preserved in such perfect readiness, against his ship shall yearly arrive there again; which Pinnaces are now often lost, and sometimes torn in pieces by the first arrivers there, very disorderly.

[ed.] Settlers left behind would be able to keep up premises, protect materials left behind and have everything ready for their ship's arrival in the spring.

And if such Pinnaces, and such Stages and Houses may be there maintained and kept in such readiness yearly, it would be the most pleasant, profitable, and commodious trade of fishing, and otherwise, unto your Majesty's subjects, that is at this time in any part of the world.

For then every ships company might yearly fall to fishing, the very next or second day after their arrival there; whereas now, it is above twenty days, until they are fitted: and then such ships should not so soon to haste away from England, by one month at least; means lives might be then thereby much the better saved, less victuals wasted, and many dangers prevented. And so then every ship in every such voyage, may gain quickly one hundred pound, that usually carry in her but twenty men more than now they do, by leaving of four men there of twenty; And as the proportion (before named) holds for leaving six men in New-found-land of thirty, so the allowing of men to be made proportionally from every ship will soon raise many people to be settled there in every Harbour where our Nation uses to fish, and in other Harbours there also in little time.

[ed.] Settlers would allow the fishing enterprise to begin in a day or so after arrival, instead of the 20 days spent at the time.

A ship of 20 men could leave four men; a 30-man ship could leave six.

Some ships by this course may then quickly gain two hundred pound, and some three hundred pound and more, according to their great, more than they do yearly now; And those men so left, will at times manure land for corn, saw boards, and fit Timber to be transported from thence, and search out for diverse commodities in the Country, which as yet lie undiscovered; and by such means the Land will be in little time fitly peopled with diverse poor handy-crafts men, that may be so commodiously carried thither to live with their wives.

[ed.] Leaving men behind meant more roomk for cargo on the return.

Those left behind would saw lumber and boards, manure the land, and search out opportunities for advancement.

Eventually men staying behind would be able to have wives and so the land would become fitly peopled.

And that no man else should appropriate to himself any such certain place, and commodity for his fishing voyage; except he will in such manner settle a fifth part of his company there to live : And then such Adventurers thither will carefully provide yearly for such as they leave there; not only for bread and victuals, but likewise for all necessary tools, fit for any kind of husbandry; The charge thereof will yearly repay itself, with the benefit of their labours that shall be so left there, with great advantage.

[ed.] A rule of thumb was that a ship would leave a fifth part of the crew behind with victuals and tools.

And for others which yearly adventure thither, and will not settle people there in such manner; they may hold on such unfit courses -- in setting on to that Country, and take their places, as it falls out, as formerly they have done; wherein I am persuaded they will soon grow weary, when they shall see the great commodity and benefit that other men will gain by settling of people there.

[ed.] Once the settlement scheme is rolling those who don't want to participate will slowly come on side.

By this means will the burdens and numbers of your Majesty's subjects shipping be greatly increased, and strengthened, and great numbers of Mariners yearly augmented; and then our shipping may well trade thither two voyages in every year, and more, whereas now they go but once.

| [ed.] Settlement in Newfoundland would allow twice yearly voyages.

...

The allowance of victual to maintain every six men only, to carry and recarry them outwards bound and homewards, is six hogsheads of beer, and six hundred weight of bread, besides beef and other provision; which men, when they sail to and fro (as now they use) do little good, or any service at all, but pester the ship in which they are, with their bread, beer, water, wood, victual, fish, chests, and diverse other trumperies, that every such six men do cumber the ship withal yearly from thence: which men, when the voyage is made, may be accounted unnecessary persons returning yearly from thence.

| [ed.] Beer, beef and bread figured greatly in the provisions to be left behind as well.

| The space saved by leaving men and provisions behind made some economic sense in that the return lading could be increased.

But being left in the Country in such manner, as aforesaid; those parts of these ships that leave those men there, that are so pestered now yearly with such unprofitable things, may be filled up yearly with good fish, and many beneficial commodities, for the good of those Adventurers that will so settle people there to plant.

These men that may be so fitly left in the Country, will not only be free from the perils of the Sea, by not returning yearly, as now they use to do, but will live there very pleasantly; and (if they be industrious people) gain twice as much in the absence of the ships that leave them there, more than twelve men shall be able to benefit their Masters, that are kept upon most Farms in England in a whole year.

| [ed.] Those who stayed behind would be able to double their yield (gross product) to the equivalent of 12 farm labourers in England for a year and by staying behind they would be safer than if they sailed back and forth every year.

For certainly I have already seen, and known by experience, that the desired Plantation can never be made beneficial by such idle persons, as I found there the year 1618 when I was there with power, by virtue of a grant from the Patentees, which people had remained there a whole year, before I came near, or knew any one of them; and never applied themselves to any commendable thing; no not so much as to make themselves an house to lodge in, but lay in such cold and simple rooms all the winter, as the Fishermen had formerly built there for their necessary occasions, the year before those men arrived there.

| [ed.] Vaughan's 1617 settlers were excoriated by Whitbourne for laziness.

Such persons are not fit to advance your Majesty's intended work, but rather disgrace and hinder the same.

Therefore seeing those people that were so formerly sent to plant in the South part of the Country, to be so unfit for that service, as it is well known, I grew out of heart to behold such abuse to be used by those that were so sent to plant.

Yet entering into consideration, how injurious I should be to God, and (as I did conceive in my conscience) treacherous to your Majesty, and my Country, having once as it were laid hold on the plough, I should take it off and look back; I did then encourage my retiring spirits: notwithstanding all my former wrongs then sustained. And although I found them that were so formerly sent to plant, so unfit for that service; I did not only consider of the fittest course whereby to advance that work, which was formerly so worthily intended; but also truly and plainly to write this Discovery, as now I have, how commodiously and beneficially it may be proceeded on; and so shipped some of them to return home again, and gave others leave to depart, all excepting six only; to whom I gave directions for building an house, and employing themselves, otherwise than formerly they had done, until they heard from the Gentleman that sent them thither: And so they lived there pleasantly all the next winter.

[ed.] Whitbourne organized the remains of Vaughan's settlers and was encouraged by their plight to write the discourse, showing how settlement should be undertaken.

He removed Vaughan's people and left behind six to build houses and get organized; those six stayed the next winter (1618-1619); the location was likely between Aquafort and Renewes, it is thought.

Now having laid open a commodious and beneficial course how that Land may be peopled, yet I suppose it may be questioned, that if a fifth man of some ships, or every ship were so left in the Country; that it will rather lessen the number of Mariners, that may be ready here at home to do your Majesty service, then to increase them; and so by misconceiving therein, your Majesty's intended Plantation may be hindered.

[ed.] Thinking that those left behind might reduce the numbers available to the navy was a misconception.

To which I answer, that most ships which trade thither yearly a fishing, do commonly carry in them every fifth person that was never at Sea before, or such as have but little understanding in their Compass; neither knowledge of Sea-terms, or what to do in a ship; and those men are yearly hired by the Owners, and Victuallers forth of ships in those voyages, and by the Master of the ship, and the better sort of men for small wages, who have the benefit of their shares; and they do serve even so fitly for some purposes in those New-land voyages the first year, as some of those men do that have been there often: So that by carrying thither yearly every fifth man, such as were never there before, there will be much above 1000 Sea-men increased every year by that trade; and they being left there the winter, will at times kill Deere and other beasts, and also take store of fish, and fowl for their provision; and it will harden them well to the Sea, and at other times they may employ themselves beneficially in Husbandry upon the land, as servants ought to do. So that whereas there go now yearly, as the trade is, above two hundred and fifty Sail of your Majesty's subjects ships, with above five thousand men in them, and being yearly carried thither the fifth persons that was never at Sea before, there will be by that course increased about five thousand Sea-men in every five years; and whereas now there is trading thither above two hundred and fifty Sail of ships, there will be then in little time (God blessing that trade) above four hundred Sail of your Majesty's subjects ships there employed,

which may be a greater increase of wealth, strength, and power to your Majesty and Kingdoms, than now it is.

[ed.] A new man, a fifth man, on every ship to be left behind will increase experienced hands, experienced at sea and fishing as well as in husbandry and farming.

He saw the 250 English ships could increase to 400 in short time.

And although it be well known, that the New-found-land yields such great blessings from God, to maintain Christians; yet many of our English Nation, who in great fullness taste of them, do there, as it were, tread them under their feet; as may partly appear by the following Discourse. For our Nation, upon their arrival yearly to that Country, do cut down many of the best trees they can find, to build their stages and rooms withal, for their than necessary occasions; hewing, rinding, and destroying many others, that grow within a mile of the Sea, where they use to fish.

[ed.] Cutting trees for use in stages and flakes and houses was one thing, Whitbourne stated, but rinding trees for flakes was killing the forests all around the fishing ports.

The rinds of these trees serve to cover their Stages, and necessary rooms, with turfs on them; so that in few years, I fear, that most of the good timber trees near the Sea-side, where men use to fish, will be either felled, spoiled or burned; yet at our peoples' departure from such Rooms and Stages, they will suffer but little thereof to stand, whereby to do any man service the year ensuing.

[ed.] Leaving infrastructure unattended over the winter meant most of it was destroyed by time or by the next spring's arrivals.

Such wanton forestry was soon to destroy all the trees near enough to use.

In the late 1600's Michael Richards building St. John's fortifications ran into a lack of suitable timber because all the woods around St. John's Harbour were depleted.

These are things lamentable to be suffered, and great pity that it is not redressed: for no Nation else does the like; neither do the Savage people, after such time as our Country-men come from thence, either hurt or burn anything of theirs, that they leave behind them; so that those trees, and that timber might be converted to many serviceable uses, for the good of your Majesty, and your subjects.

[ed.] No other nationalities, not even the Savages, treated infrastructure and forests resources as cavalierly as the English.

Now I think good to make known partly what abuses be also offered to the Harbours and Roads in New-found-land, that are so beautiful, & so excellent, ordained by God, for ships to ride safe in at anchor, as there are not better in any part of the world; yet for all this beauty of theirs, and the commodity that we receive by them; these disorders diverse men do there commit, viz.

[ed.] The harbours were good but being abused.

All ships, for every voyage they make there, take in many exceeding great stones, therewith to press their dry fish in their ships, which work being done, they cast many of these stones into the Harbours where they ride at Anchor, which are to be seen lying in great heaps in some places, within three fathoms of water, to the great endangering of ships and cables; to the peril also both of men's lives, and their goods, and likely in time to choke up or spoil many excellent Harbours in that Country, if provision be not by your Majesty's high authority made to the contrary.

[ed.] Ships carried large flat stones as ballast and to press the dried fish into the holds, compression also squeezed out the last drops of water from the salt fish. Once the holds were full the stones no longer needed they were thrown overboard, filling anchorages and causing navigation hazards.

All these abuses are confessed in the brief of the presentments, that follow in the latter part of this book, the which being made known to the subjects that adventure thither, I am confident (in my opinion) that they should all desire your Majesty, that there may be some better government established there, than now it is: and that such which yearly come thither a fishing, whereby they should have any just cause to complain the one against the other, as now they do.

[ed.] There was a need for government, regulation and order imposed. The ballast dumping would be solved by local administration.

And because my desire is, that not only Merchants, or such as live near the Sea-side, but also all others that shall give their furtherance to this Plantation, either by adventuring their moneys, or sending men thither (because it is to be undertaken by men of good ability) in such manner, as the wealthy men do in other Countries, joining their purses to further any such good work: I think it fit to shew how such persons may adventure to that Country, though they dwell far from the Sea-coast; and others likewise that dwell near, may do it with little trouble, but only by a trust servant, to give account yearly of his disbursing, and likewise of his receipts; which (I trust) will be very beneficial to all such as will adventure therein. Some, who dwell far from the Sea-coast, may say, they are so far off, that they should be but little the better for a Plantation to be made in New-found-land, and so may hold it a needless thing for them to know how beneficial that Country has long time been to these your Majesty's Kingdoms; and how it may in little time be worth double to your Majesty's subjects, in respect of what now it is, even in the only trade of fishing, besides the good that may come by other commodities.

[ed.] Planting should be undertaken by everyone, not just fish merchants and people connected with sea ports.

As the plantation develops there could be a doubling of the trade in fish alone, not to mention the other resources available.

To such therefore that should so object, that those that live far from the Sea, whether Gentlemen or others; and are not experienced in affaires of this nature, cannot so conveniently adventure thither: I answer, that none of your Majesty's Subjects dwell further than 100 miles from the Sea-side, which is no great journey; By the same reason, that Commodities brought from Foreign parts, and landed on our Sea-coasts, and Haven-towns, are dispersed through all places of your Majesty's Kingdoms, and so vented (our men living thus in any of these places) may with as little difficulty adventure into other Countries; For as we have the example of diverse, both Gentlemen and others of Italy, Spain, Germany, Savoy, the Low Countries, and other places that come yearly, some of them more than 200 miles to the City of Seville, purposely to sail from thence to the West-Indies, and these do yearly return rich; So it may be also well understood by the following Discourse, how commodiously there may be sent many people from any part of your Majesty's Kingdoms to be there employed, that have but small means to live, and be very beneficial to themselves, & will employ the there.

[ed.] Not being part of the sea life shouldn't preclude anyone with money from investing in a Newfoundland plantation for nowhere in England is

more than 100 miles from salt water; an interesting analogue to the statement of common knowledge that nowhere in Newfoundland is any more than 50 miles from salt water!

The first thing therefore that I will advise any subject that is but little acquainted with sea-affairs, and such as shall be willing to adventure in the desired Plantation, is, to acquaint himself with an approved understanding man in Sea-affaires, and also with a second; and then with both their opinions and his own judgement, he may set forward therein, with great hope of the better success; for to my knowledge, diverse worthy Gentlemen that have adventured to the Seas; partly through their own conceit, seeming to know that which they did not, have also oftentimes been animated on by some turbulent spirits that have outrun themselves, and so brought men in such minds, that on the coast of Guinea there, they might gather up gold along the Sea-shore, washed up with the Sea in great abundance; and likewise if they would adventure to the West-Indies, there they should load their ships with Gold-ore, and draw it aboard their ships with Wheelbarrows, and then share it by the pound; and such like projects.

[ed.] Other adventures, like seeking gold in the Caribbean and South America, are gold fever dreams with little prospect when compared to the Newfoundland fishery.

Get an experienced hand, Whitbourne was considered such by Vaughan, as an example.

Thus, by such means, diverse worthy Gentlemen have run so far at Sea, in some such unfit voyages, by ill directions, that they have quickly brought land to water, and never knew how to shape a course to recover unto their land again; God send all those that will henceforth adventure to the Seas in any Plantation, good Pilots, and it will be the greater hope of good success.

[ed.] Good captains and pilots were required so as to navigate successfully to the New World. Many unfit voyages failed for lack of navigating skills. Navigation was a new art for the British at the time.

Now for those that will put their hands to the furthering of a Plantation in New-found-land, my opinion is, they are best either to buy a Ship of 100 Tun, and a Pinnace of 40 Tun, or near such burthens, or else to hire the like Ship to serve for the passing of people, victuals, and provisions, in the Spring of the year, fit for such a purpose, and for the returning of such fish, and other commodities from thence, as those men to send and employed, may procure with their labours; and those Ships and men so sent, may be so fitted and provided with Salt, Nets, Hooks, Lines, and such like provisions, as those Ships and men are, which yearly sail thither a fishing.

[ed.] Two ships, of 100 tons and a pinnace of 40 tons were recommended as being fit for a plantation effort. The big ship carried provisions westward and fish and products eastward; the pinnace was for local fishing, transport, and use by the settlers.

The best course of the two, as I conceive, is for any such, to buy a Ship and a Pinnace to serve for that purpose, and then the Pinnace may be sent thither before the bigger Ship, whereby to settle and begin to such a convenient place for habitation, as God shall direct them; whither the greater ship may repair: and they may employ themselves all the time that there is good to be done in fishing, in that trade only, and between the sail of the Shoals of fish, they may build houses, and other necessary things in perfect readiness to be transported into Spain, Portugal, and other places beyond the Seas; much cheaper than the Hollanders do, seeing it is to be had there easily with man's labour only:

And therefore more commodiously from thence for us, from those parts, than the Hollanders are able to serve them, as now they do, who buy such commodities with their money in Spruce-land, Norway, and other places, and yet thereby gain much, and increase a number of Shipping and Mariners, and set them a work continually.

[ed.] The work flow of the two ship plantation effort is explained along with its benefits.

Now having shewed how men may undertake to further this Plantation, by providing ships for the fishing trade, as is formerly expressed: I suppose that some worthy men, that may be zealous and willing to further so pious, honourable, and beneficial a work, may be unwilling to trouble themselves with the fishing trade, and yet very willing to further the said Plantation, after some other manner that may be less troublesome to them, which they may very well perform in this manner:

[ed.] Fishing wasn't the only exercise of capital available; there were other occupations and production that could bring economic benefit.

Whitbourne follows with an economic argument based on his estimation s that merchandizing and fish selling was a complicated process. Whitbourne's speculations about values and processes was idealistic in many ways, but then all good prospecti are the same.

Eight shillings the hundredweight is the equivalent of 160 shillings (£8 per ton of 2000 pounds). The cost of a ton of fish (20 hundredweights) was £4, making a handsome profit of 100%!

Bringing provisions to Newfoundland for the settlers and bringing back fish and lumber three times a year was proposed with the fishing done by the settlers.

And withal it is to be considered, that whereas now there are yearly at New-found-land of your Majesty's Subjects ships in the fishing trade, at least 15000 Tun burthen of shipping, as is already expressed, and that these ships yearly carry thither, near half their lading of salt, to save their fish withal, which cannot be less than 7000 Tun, the which salt, whether it be bought in Spain, Portugal or France at a cheap rate, it cannot cost less than seven thousand pounds, which is but twenty shillings the Tun, adding the freight thereunto for bringing it from those parts, it cannot stand in less than twenty shillings a Tun more, which is seven thousand pounds more; so that the salt may stand those that trade thither, as the trade is now, with the waste and transportation of it thither, above fourteen thousand pounds; of which sum, there is above seven thousand pounds yearly bestowed in other Countries, which I should gladly shew some fit means that it may be henceforth saved and brought into your Majesty's Kingdoms in Coyne, or some other good commodities.

[ed.] Salt was expensive, a pound a ton in foreign markets and another pound a ton to transport it.

The which may be very fitly, commodiously, and beneficially done, if those which yearly adventure thither, will settle people there in such order as aforesaid, in every Harbour where they use to fish, and provide pans in every such Harbour to boil salt to preserve their fish withal; the which may be performed there very cheap; so in that manner one pan will make twenty bushels of good salt in every four and twenty hours for that purpose; only with man's labour and the salt water; and not as some do use, to make salt upon salt; and there it will be undertaken to be made with the wood-fire (which may be there had with little labour) without Charcoal or Sea-coals; and that salt so made

there, shall not stand in three pence the bushel, to those that will provide to make it there in that manner: and now salt stands those that adventure there, never less than twenty pence a bushel.

[ed.] Salt making was proposed. Boiling salt water under pans would make salt three pennies a bushel; 20 bushels per day; there was lots of wood for such salt making.

And it is well approved by all those that yearly fish for Ling, Cod, and Herrings upon all your Majesty's Sea-coasts, that salt orderly boiled in such manner, does much better preserve fish, and keep it more delighfuller in taste, and better for man's body, than that fish which is preserved with any other kind of salt; And I am well assured, that such fish as is salted with the finest white salt, will sell far better in Seville, and other places of Spain and Italy, than that which is preserved with any other kind of muddy salt; and thus by taking such a fit course for making thereof in New-found-land, it will not only save a great deal of coin yearly in your Majesty's Kingdoms, and greatly enrich your Majesty's Subjects thereby.

[ed.] Fish dried with locally made white (not muddy) salt was preferred by some markets.

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Common_ling

The common ling or simply the ling, *Molva molva*, is a large member of a family of cod-like fishes. An ocean fish whose habitat is in the Atlantic region and can be found around Iceland, Faroe Islands, British Isles, the Norse coast and occasionally around Newfoundland, the ling has a long slender body that can reach 2 metres in length; in adulthood, it is generally a deep-running fish, spending much of its life at depths of 100 m or more; younger fish are found at shallower depths.

The ling is edible; it can be considered interchangeable with cod in either its fresh, salted, or dried forms. The salted roe of the ling is considered a delicacy in Spain and is known as *huevas de maruca*. Ling can be made into *lutefisk*.

[ed.] Lutefisk is dried whitefish (normally cod, but ling and burbot is also used) treated with lye. The dried stockfish is soaked in cold water for five or six days, changing the water daily. The saturated stockfish is then soaked in cold water and lye for an additional two days without changing the solution. The fish swells producing a jelly-like consistency.

When this treatment is finished, the fish is caustic and requires a final treatment of four to six days in cold water (also changed daily) before it is ready to be cooked.

There is no question to be made, but that those ships which may be so procured to carry people thither, will yearly return from thence deep laden with good fish to diverse places beyond the Seas, and make good profit with the employments thereof, (if fit provision be made to take fish withal as it ought to be: for every man, the better he does provide himself for that purpose, shall reap the greater benefit thereby at the first) and not be able to return from thence, Deal-boards, Masts, and such like, until such time as shipping be built much greater, and fitter for that service than now they are.

[ed.] The best trade required bigger ships carrying more products.

The trade to the New-found-land being thus followed, as it may well be, your Majesty's Subjects may then have there yearly, above 400 sail of good ships from all your Majesty's other Kingdoms ready to be called home from thence, without impairment of any foreign Prince, upon less than fourteen days warning, if the wind serve, with above eight thousand of lusty, strong and serviceable Sea-men in them, upon any occasion of service, when some other ships and Mariners that are then abroad in voyages, to the East, or West-Indies, and diverse other places, will not be so speedily called home; neither (when they come) so lusty and strong, as those which use to the New-found-land are, if your Majesty and Kingdoms have never so great need of their service.

[ed.] The return trip to England took about two weeks by following the Gulf Stream and the westerly trade winds.

The settlers and ships' crews would be a form of naval reserve available on short notice. Eight thousand men could be available in 400 ships.

Which being considered, must needs be also a great terror to any foreign Prince that shall proffer to quarrel with your Majesty, when he shall consider that your Majesty may so speedily be furnished with so many serviceable ships of your subjects, and so many Sailors, and that but from that only place of trading.

[ed.] Security was considered by the employment of the fishing fleet in military matters.

So, again it is to be considered, that yearly from the New-found-land, as the trade is now, the Subjects bring from thence to the value much above the sum of 135000 pounds: what the benefit and employment thereof, and the employments of ships and Mariners are thereby, may be well considered; and that trade carries not away any coin out of the Land, as some others do; neither any other commodities: and therefore it may be well understood what a great benefit shall arise to all your Majesty's Kingdoms, if the trade be once orderly settled and increased as aforesaid; and then your Majesty's Subjects ships will be much bigger built for that trade, and better furnished with good Ordnance, fit for any defence; & likewise then Ordnance will not be so much sold into other Countries (as there has been great abundance in my time) which Ordnance so sold (I fear) if occasion should be offered, may shoot their bullets at our own bosoms, as it is already too much seen.

[ed.] The annual Newfoundland trade estimated at more than £135,000 pounds included lumber and other commodities.

The arms trade was mainly to other countries and could be turned against Englishmen, Whitbourne reasoned, when it could be used to arm even larger English ships.

And whereas my opinion is, that it is better to buy ships for that trade, then to take them to hire (as some do) which yearly send ships thither, to load either fish or Traim and transport it into France, Spain, and other places; those which hire ships, are bound by conditions under hand and Seale, which we call Charter parties; wherein it is expressed, in how many days the owners of the ships are to make them ready, and how many days they must stay there, to attend the Marchant, and such like conditions: And although the place where they arrive, be never so much overlaid with the like commodity that they bring; yet there must they discharge and also reload; though such Commodities, which they are to reload, be there much dearer, then at some other place not far from it; which has been a great loss to many Merchants; yea, diverse cavils have risen thereby between them that have taken and let Ships in that manner.

[ed.] It is better to own ships than to rent them. The contract for renting was complex.

Therefore I hold, that the buying of Ships to follow that service, is the best & most profitable course that may be taken therein; for then they may send them to New-found-land, or where they think good at all times of the year, and to any place, or so many places as may please God to direct them, to make their sales and employments; and likewise to vent the same, where they may be best advised.

[ed.] Owning ships made greater profits.

Such as will undertake to send people to that land, as aforesaid, I would also advise them to acquaint themselves with a fit man to be Master in each Ship, that understands the order of a fishing voyage to that Country ; and he will procure fit Fisher-men, to go with him for that purpose, and likewise acquaint them with every particular thing that is fit for such a voyage.

[ed.] An experienced captain was necessary.

And withal it is to be observed, that for every such servant that any Master will send thither to plant, and live there all the year, he is to have a single share allowed unto every man alike of such fish as is taken, while they labour together in the Summer time with the ships company with whom they are, though afterwards they stay in the land, and follow some other service for their Masters, whiles the ships are employed abroad in venting their commodities, and until they return to them again, to the New-found-land; which single share of fish so taken, may well defray all the charge and hire that any man shall have of his Master, who does stay there all the winter, with good advantage.

[ed.] A single share of fish made in the summer to settlers would be economically feasible

Note also I pray, that any ship which shall be so employed to fish only, as now men use to do, if she be 100 Tun does commonly carry in her 36 men and boys; and that ship will sail well to the New-found-land, and from thence to the Straits of Gibraltar, or any other part of Christendom, with 20. of the former 36. men: so that 16 of the said company may very well remain there, till the said ships return to them again, and do good service to your Majesty and themselves, but most of all to those who shall send so great a number thither to live all the year; whereas now these 16 men lie still in the ship at great charge every voyage, much pestering the ships with their persons, victuals, chests, and diverse unprofitable things to no good purpose, as is touched before; which places in the ship may be filled with good fish and other profitable things, if those 16 men were left behind in the Country, where they may be well employed, which is almost the one half part of such a ship's company.

[ed.] A second man-leaving scheme was to have 16 men left behind out of 36 for a 200 ton ship creating savings in space and wages.

These arguments built on Mason's suggestion that leaving settlers behind in the fall would increase laded commodities on the return.

By this it may plainly be understood, that the victual which those 16 men spend sailing thither, and returning homeward, and a month's victual at least, for all those 36 men, will yearly be saved to maintain them there all the winter season, with the help of very little victuals to it: and also it will be a great good ease to the Common-wealth, to leave so many there all the Winter; and after this rate proportionally from diverse ships, great companies may commodiously and beneficially remain there

to plant, may be, some handicraftsmen with their wives, and some such other people as your Majesty's Kingdoms may very well spare, doing good to themselves, their masters and Commonwealth, learning experience, and to be fit for service.

| [ed.] Those left behind would increase and develop a local society.

[Marginal Note: Mariners to be increased.]

I am also confident in my opinion (wherein I submit to deeper judgements), that if New-found-land may be thus planted, our Shipping and Mariners will be so increased, that we may hereafter furnish France, Spain, Portugal, and other Countries, with such kind of fish as those Seas do yield; and so by this means the whole fishing trade on that coast, may be drawn into the hands of your Majesty's subjects only; and whether then, it will be better for your Majesty's Kingdoms, let each man judge.

| [ed.] Settlement would be good overall.

[Marginal Note: No Nation to be forbidden fishing.]

I do not intend that other Nations should be prohibited the free privilege of fishing, which for many years they have enjoyed there with us; or that we should assume it unto ourselves by strong hand, or constrain those that come thither, to take their fish of us, and at our prices: but this is my only meaning: That whereas at this present, the French, Basques, and Portuguese send yearly to that Country many sail of ships, as I have already declared, our men by sailing thither with fewer persons, and in less danger in every ship than now we do, by multiplying their voyages, & spending less time and victuals in the same, and by carrying more and better fish in every ship than now they use to do, may be able not only to furnish France, Spain, and Italy, with those commodities, but also to sell far better cheap, than any of these nations can possibly fetch the same from thence with their own shipping and labours. And which of these nations will then adventure thither, when he knows that his return will be a certain loss.

| [ed.] Settlement would increase markets and, without limiting foreign fishers, would eventually stop foreign fishing efforts and increased production and increased voyages would supply the foreign markets better than they could satisfy it themselves.

| This thinking was a little idealistic.

[Marginal Note: Furs of diverse sorts.]

Moreover, our men wintering there, might take of the beasts of the Country yielding Furs, when they are in season, and in their perfection; So that in process of time, they may also settle a traffic with the Savages for their Furs of Beaver, Martens, Seal, Otters, and what else is of worth amongst them.

| [ed.] Furs held great potential; Beaver, Marten (that answers the Squirrel question earlier) Seal and Otter and fur trading with the natives would be advantageous.

[Marginal Note: Shipping maintained.]

Shipping also (the walls and Bulwarks of your Majesty's Kingdoms) will be here by not only maintained; but also greatly increased, both in number and burden, which would be a great advantage to your Majesty, and a notable defence and addition of strength unto your Majesty's Kingdoms.

[ed.] Plantations in Newfoundland would strengthen the kingdom's reliance on shipping.

[Marginal Note: Artificers set on work.]

Many more poor Artificers and others will be then in great numbers here by set a-work, what now there are; and by the increase and bettering of this Trade, a great augmentation of your Majesty's Revenues in your Customs must of necessity follow.

[ed.] Workers in general would improve their lots with increased trade.

[Marginal Note: Wealth brought in, none carried away.]

And certainly, if this trade and Plantation were once settled in such manner, it would prove more commodious and beneficial than any other Plantation your Majesty has elsewhere; for, as I have said, it brings in great wealth by men's labours, and carries away nothing but a little victuals, which would be consumed by so many idle persons in less than half the time, which have no employments, and yet the Kingdoms receive no benefit by such Drones neither.

[ed.] Settlement would improve the lots of poor people by creating an imbalance of trade, wealth in - a few victuals out.

[Marginal Note: Fishing on the coast of New-found-land, great security to great Britain.]

Much more might be said to the purpose: but I desire not to invent, or enlarge matters beyond my observations; yet thus much also may I truly say, that the fishing on the coast of New-found-land, is a sure and good trade to great Britain, and therefore deserves to be cherished; for trading thither and returning from thence, we little fear the Turks bondage and circumcision, nor any outlandish Inquisition, nor the embankments of any Prince, nor such contagious heats, as those find that trade near the Line, neither the danger and hurt of Art-worms, where-with ships that trade to most parts Southward, are sometimes much spoiled; nor many other hazards and inconveniences, to which some of our other trading are subjects.

[ed.] Newfoundland trade offered benefits such as freedom from the Turks bondage and the threat of circumcision, the embarkements of foreign princes; *contagious heats* (infections?) of equatorial climes, and *Art-worms*.

<https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Shipworms>

shipworms are marine bivalve molluscs in the family *Teredinidae*: a group of saltwater clams with long, soft, naked bodies. They are notorious for boring into (and commonly eventually destroying) wood that is immersed in sea water, including such structures as wooden piers, docks and ships; they drill passages by means of a pair of very small shells borne at one end, with which they rasp their way through. Sometimes called "termites of the sea", they also are known as "Teredo worms" or simply Teredo ...

And as this Plantation will be in all respects so beneficial, as any of those your Majesty holds abroad elsewhere: so may the same be effectually proceeded on in much more safety, and with a great deal less charge.

[ed.] Newfoundland plantation would enable other plantations to flourish effectually.

[Marginal Note: Transporting of men, victuals.]

For first of all, touching the transportation of men, victuals and other necessaries from hence into New-found-land, it will be by the cheapest and easiest way that can be possibly be; for there will be no occasion to hire any ships expressly for that voyage, as is usually done to other of your Majesty's Plantations, from whence having unloaded, ships do return sometimes with few commodities.

[ed.] Other plantations were net importers of British goods; ships expressly devoted to the outgoing trade often returned lightly laden with goods from other plantations, unlike Newfoundland trade which brought fish back every trip.

[Marginal Note: and other necessaries from hence at an easy rate.]

[ed.] He estimated 40 ships annually went empty to Newfoundland and returned with fish and oil. Savinhs could be realized were these used to carry victuals to the plantation along with fruits and meats from the Islands of Flowers (Canary?) and the Azores an easy sail in summer and fall. Wheat and other grains would be needed to import until the plantation was able to grow its own grain.

[Marginal Note: Islands abounding with great store of beasts for provision of victuals.]

For the settling of people there, I have sufficiently declared, it being that they, who shall either alone or with their family voluntarily go thither, have good conditions, both for allowing them land, and other convenient privileges.

[ed.] Settlers should be allowed land and other privileges.

[Marginal Note: Employment for all in the absence of our men.]

For the employment of men in the absence of the shipping, it will be very beneficial in many respects; so that although thousands of your Majesty's people should at once go thither, and, yet there would be present employment for them all: no man shall need to live idly for want of work.

[ed.] Plantation life would be busy with no idleness.

[Marginal Note: The quick return of our people, a comfort to their Countrymen.]

And as New-found-land is nearer to us by more than 400 leagues than Virginia; and far from any of the Plantations of the King of Spain which peradventure might make this business the more difficult; so those of this Plantation will have a great comfort and encouragement above all others, in that they shall not be left desolate in a remote Country, to shift for themselves, as some have been, but that after five months past, they shall again see great numbers of their Countrymen, and have their company the rest of the year.

[ed.] Loneliness would be assuaged by the return in the spring; a five month season of little contact would be tolerated.

[Marginal Note: No Savages in that part where our Nation trades.]

Neither are there in that part of the Country any Savages, to oppose and resist our men's' planting, as it falls out in many other places; Those that are there, live in the North and West parts of the Country (as has been said) where our Nation trades not; But on the East and South side of the Land, where the English do fish, and which is the fittest place for a Plantation, there is not the least sign or appearance, that ever there was any habitation of the Savages, or that they ever came into those parts, to

the Southward of Trinity Bay; of which I could also give some reasons, if it were not a thing needless to trouble this discourse withal.

[ed.] The aboriginals were not in any of the English Shore, ever. None south of Trinity Bay for sure.

[Marginal Note: Security from Pirates, and the Savages.]

And as they shall stand in no fear to receive hurt from the Savages, so may they be easily secured against the injury of Pirates, who sometimes come thither, and not only take from the fishermen, victuals and other provision and munition, and have thereby strengthened themselves, but also have carried away from them many serviceable mariners into Barbary and other parts, and thereby made many a poor widow and fatherless child; and it is to be feared, that those men so carried from the New-found-land, who seeing their estates and their families so overthrown, may be provoked to animate the Turks men of war, to sail thither to take the spoil of our Nation, and others that are yearly a fishing on that Coast (which God defend) whereby to hinder that Trade, or the desired Plantation.

[ed.] Pirates were a concern but should be easily defended against. A plantation of 5000 to 8000 people as proposed would be strong and self-reliant.

The which inconvenience that is so to be feared, may be easily prevented by maintaining two good ships of war, of 200 tun apiece, and two Pinnaces of 40 tun apiece well provided, to be there maintained all the Summer time, and that the Commanders of them may have power, that if any great force of the Turks, or any others should at any time come thither, whereby to disturb your Majesty's Subjects in their trade of fishing, or attempt to hinder the Plantation; that then to raise a greater force from the Fishermen and Planters to defend any such attempt.

[ed.] Two 200-ton ships of war and two 40-ton pinnaces stationed in Newfoundland would suffice for the defence of the plantation.

[Marginal Note: An easy contribution for maintenance of their security from Pirates.]

The charge of which ships & Pinnaces of war, so to be yearly maintained there for that service, may be easily and commendably defrayed, with your Majesty's allowance therein, if every Ship and Vessel of your Majesty's subjects, fishing on that Coast, will voluntarily contribute thereunto the value of half a good day's fishing in the whole voyage, which will abundantly recompense unto them, in regard that they may then fish continually and securely many a day's fishing the more in every voyage, which now oftentimes they dare not do; And then these two Ships of war, and two Pinnaces so to be maintained, by such a small contribution to be paid for their service at New-found-land in dry fish, they will so scour the Seas every year going forth thitherward bound, and likewise in their return, that no Pirate of any nation durst come near the Southern parts of your Majesty's Kingdoms; neither to lie in weight in the course sailing to and from the New-found-land, for those that trade thither, as yearly heretofore they have done, and overthrown many a man's voyage.

[ed.] The naval presence would be paid for by a stipend from all fishing enterprises of a half a day's fishing contribution, the security would allow greater fishing effort and better production.

[Marginal Note: Hollanders attended with men of war.]

For which course, we have the example of our neighbours the Hollanders, who generally in all their trades, but most specially in their fishing upon your Majesty's Sea-coasts, are attended with men of

war, which are defrayed by a certain contribution from those men, in whose defence they are employed. And by this means the Merchants and Traders of Holland, receive far greater assurance and benefit, than if every Merchants ship should set themselves forth in warlike manner in their own defence. For besides the security they have, and saving the charge which such provisions would require, they have also much the more room in their Merchants ships for their Commodities.

[ed.] The Dutch model, accompanying the fishing fleets with war ships allowed for more cargo instead of guns.

[Marginal Note: Many serviceable men and Mariners bred thus.]

And these ships thus sent to guard their Fleets, which are called Wafters, do continually breed many serviceable Sea-men, not only Mariners, but also good soldiers, and fit Commanders, that are well experienced how to command in Ships upon all occasions; for without such fit Commanders in good Ships, there is but small hope of good service to be performed by them; and if the New-found-land men may be thus guarded with two such Ships, and two Pinnaces, it would not only in little time breed many a Gentleman and others in them to be well experienced how to command in ships, upon any occasion of service, but also it will make your Majesty's subjects Ships that trade thither, so strong, that they need not fear the greatest force, that any Prince should at any time send thither to disturb or hinder them, neither in returning from thence upon any occasion to do your Majesty's service.

[ed.] War ships attending the plantation would be a great training ground for naval men and officers.

If after all this, I should be demanded by those which know not the Country, what other places in the Land are also fit to be peopled at first, so well as the Harbours of Trepassey, and Trinity (of which I have already spoken) whereby those which will adventure thither, may not be doubtful to plant in other Harbours, although I have first expressed them for some special reasons, as it may be well understood, the one of them lying North-most, where our Nation uses to fish near the Savages, and the other lying in the South-most part of the Land, and near unto the passages of diverse ships that sail yearly to and from other places of the world, as is already plainly shown; yet there are many other excellent good Harbours where our nation uses to fish, lying between them both, which are very good for ships to moor fast at anchor, and easily to be defended from enemies, that shall at any time attempt to molest such as shall plant in them: and better for fishing, than either of the foresaid two Harbours are, of which I will particularly express some of their names.

[ed.] Whitbourne's *plantation* seems to be inclusive of the whole English Shore, bounded by the harbours of Trinity and Trepassey. He didn't suggest amalgamation of the existing plantations, but a universal and cooperative business is suggested on a larger scale than previously used.

[Marginal Note: Good Harbours, Bays and Roads for Ships and Fishing]

First, the Harbour of Saint John's: Ferryland: Fermeuse: Aquafort Harbour Grace: Renewes: and diverse other good Harbours, Bays and Roads, where there is good fishing, and are fit places for ships to ride in the Summer time: and as it is already shown, that the bottoms of diverse Bays, that are expressed to be in this South part of the Land, do even meet together, within the compass of a small circuit, near unto the Bay of Trepassey; So likewise not far from Trepassey, which lies six leagues to the West, from the South cape of the Land, which is called Cape Race, and six leagues to the North-ward of the said Cape, lies the Harbour of Renewes, which is a place easily to be defended, there being at a low

ebb not 18. foot water fine sand: yet in danger to be spoiled by the stones and ballast that are thrown into the same, which are to be seen in great heaps when the water is clear, as commonly it is in a fair Sun-shining day anchor. These stones and ballast, so thrown into the Harbours by Christians (if there be not some better course taken therein) it is to be sorrowed, that the offenders are not severely punished.

[ed.] Harbours were good even though suffering from ballast dumping.

Again Whitbourne illustrated the close circle of influence of the English Shore; he saw overland routes a connectors; but ship travel was the primary means of communications of settled Newfoundland until the mid-1800's.

Guy's crowd at Cupids were exploring inland and overland routes between the bottoms of Conception, Trinity and Placentia bays by 1612, ostensibly to trade with the aboriginals, but commerce was surely a priority in such explorations as well.

[Marginal Note: Stones and Ballast thrown in the said Roads, dangerous for ships.]

/52/[Marginal Note: Good land for Tillage.]

Close adjoining to the Harbour of Renewes, are above 200 Acres of good land, that is clear without Woods or Rocks, and lies commodiously to be overflown with fresh Rivers in the Summer time, with very little labour, as I have well observe d: and within a mile further off from the said Harbours, lie many hundred acres more of very good open land, that are able to receive and relieve many hundreds of Cattel, and fit, with little labour, to be manured for Tillage.

[ed.] Renewes had great potential as a plantation site. With more than 200 acres of tillable land and pasturage for cattle.

[Marginal Note: Great store of Deer.]

There are yearly near unto the said Harbour of Renewes, great store of Deer seen; and sometimes diverse of them have been taken. There is a man yet living, that was once at New-found-land in a ship with me; and he in one voyage did there, near unto the Harbour of Renewes, kill 18. very large and fat Deere, as it is well known, yet he went with his Piece but seldom for that purpose, & would then have killed many more, if he might have been spared from other labour to attend thereon: whereby it may be well understood, that there is great store of Deer's' flesh in that Country, and no want of good fish, good fowl, good fresh water, and store of wood, &c.

[ed.] Caribou were fat and plentiful; as were fowls; the water was fresh and there was lots of wood.

From the said Harbour of Renewes, it is not above ten miles over land to the Harbour of Trepassey, and not far from thence to the bottom of Trinity bay, and within three leagues unto the Harbour of Renewes, are three very good Harbours, where our Nation uses to fish, which lie to the Northward of it.

[ed.] Renewes was near to Trepassey and the Trinity bay bottom (modern maps show 20 miles to Trepassey and 50 to Trepassey).

Three harbours north of Renewes within 10 miles were Fermeuse, Aquafort and Ferryland-Caplin Bay (Calvert).

Now whereas there have been reports made of great cold in that Country , by people that have traded thither, who (I suppose) never saw any other Country, but only that, and their own native soil; and such when they have returned from thence one voyage, though they never understood, or felt the nature and temperature of other Climates, neither consider the goodness of New-found-land, as it is now partly made known, have given a great deal worse report of that Country , than in reason they should; and if such were but a little acquainted, or would understand of the great cold that is at times in Muscovy, Sweden, Norway, Spruce-land, Poland, Denmark and other Eastern and Northern parts of the World, where the people live well and grow rich; such ill reporters of New-found-land would alter their opinions; And although the Ice is so great in those other parts the Winter season, commonly four months together, that neither Ship nor Boat can pass in all that time, from one place to another, but lie still fast frozen, yet in that season, where Ships use to sail the Summer time from one place to another, Carts and Coaches do pass upon the Ice.

[ed.] The reported cold of Newfoundland was overstressed said Whitbourne.
The sea ice was a nuisance to navigation but it was used by carts and coaches.

Ships also in Holland and in those near places, in some Winters do lie there fast frozen a long time together: and likewise it has been in some Winters so hard frozen in the River of Thames, above London-bridge near the Court, that the tenderest fair Ladies and Gentlewomen that are in any part of the world, who have beheld it, and great numbers of people, have there sported on the Ice many days together, and have felt it cold r there, than men do that live in New-found-land.

[ed.] Occasional freeze-ups in Holland and even on the Thames were colder than Newfoundland in winter.

Now if such men, when they come from thence, that have but little experience of the cold in other Countries; neither take due observation of the cold that is sometime in England, would listen to men that have traded in the Summer time to Greenland, for the killing of Whales, and making of that Train oil (which is a good trade found out) and consider well of the abundance of great Islands of Ice, that those Ships and men are there troubled withal at times, they would thereby be persuaded to speak but little of the cold in New-found-land: yet praised be God, seldom any of those Ships and men that trade to Greenland, have taken any hurt thereby.

[ed.] Men have voyaged to Greenland without harm and so Newfoundland would be as easy to work and survive.

Wherefore I desire to satisfy any that shall be willing to further this Plantation, and clear those reports and doubts that are feared by some people of the cold there; and also to let them know, endure it so well, that they live there naked Winter and Summer. And also myself, and most our Nation, and others that have traded there, endure the greatest cold we have met withal there at any time, in our faces, necks, and ears, as well as any Gentlewomen in England do the cold in their naked bosoms, necks and faces in the Winter time, when they go so uncovered; and therefore I do conceive, that it is but a little needless charieniceness used by some that trade there, that complain anything of the cold in that Country , by keeping themselves too warm: which cold (I suppose) some that have been there, may feel the more, if they have been much accustomed to drink Tobacco [sic], strong Ale, double Beer, or have been accustomed to sit by a Tavern fire, or touched with the French disease, such per-adventure may, when they come to a little cold, wheresoever they be, feel it the more extremely than otherwise they would.

[ed.] More anti-cold references; most people would find it tolerable unless they are accustomed to fireside, alcohol or had syphilis in which case they might be affected by the cold. English Gentlewomen in winter suffered no more the cold than people in Newfoundland.

Furthermore they may be also more fully satisfied of the cold in that Country by a Gentleman, one Master John Guy, late Mayor of the City of Bristol, that lived there two years together, and diverse others also of sort & quality, many years so pleasantly, and healthful with their wives and families, as if they had lived in England.

[ed.] Previous planters, Guy among them, lived overwinter in Newfoundland to no ill effect to them or to their wives and families.

And whereas there come some years upon that Coast great Islands of Ice, which are congealed in the North, far from thence, as it may be well understood, and that the Coast of New-found-land lies in longitude from the South Cape thereof to the grand Bay, which is the North-most part of the Country, North, North-East, and South, South-west, above five degrees; and that from thence, any ship being off from that Coast twelve Leagues, and sailing North, North-East, may run on, till they come to the North-ward of 70 degrees, and no land to hinder him, neither from thence any land found, in that altitude, directly East unto Greenland, where the trade is for killing of Whales, which is above 400 leagues distance from that Course.

[ed.] Icebergs were avoidable.

Therefore it may be well understood, as it has been approved by diverse men that have attempted to seek out some new Discoveries, in those North parts of the world, that there is always abundance of great Islands of Ice, which the current setting very strongly from thence, by reason of (I conceive of) some Strait and passage that the Sea has from those large Seas that lie on the North side of Tartary, and those other unknown parts of the World, and sets towards the Coast of New-found-land, with the said Current and North winds, & do there in little time dissolve, and thereby they make the air and water something the colder there. Those Islands of Ice are not dangerous unto Ships being once descried, as by their whiteness they may in a dark night when men look out for them; for they will drive along so fast with the wind, as I have often proved, that if a Ship be under the Lee of an Island of Ice, and there strike down his sails, the Ice will drive faster with the wind, then the ship will drive before it, so that a ship may turn from it when there is cause.

[Marginal Note: Islands of Ice there speedily melt.]

Thus having shown (as I conceive) the reasons that such Islands of Ice are seen some years on the Coast of New-found-land; I will also show my opinion partly, why there are such Fogs there also sometimes.

[Marginal Note: The cause of the Fogs .]

It is well known unto all those that have seen the Country and observed it, how the Land is over-grown with Woods and Bushes that have grown, and so rotted into the ground again (in my opinion ever since the flood) the rottenness thereof has so covered the earth, and Rocks in diverse places of the Country in great thickness, and by reason thereof, the open land and woods do a long time in the Summer contain a great moisture under the same, so that a man may observe, when the heat of the year comes on, a kind of Fog arising continually from it.

[ed.] Like his knowledge of Newfoundland's pack ice and bergs his knowledge of fog is based on the wrong ideas. We know now that the Labrador Current and the Gulf Stream currents meet on the Grand Banks, and in so doing generate fog.

[Marginal Note: How to abate the Fogs, and to make the Country better.]

Therefore, in my opinion, which I submit to deeper judgements, if those unnecessary bushes, and such unserviceable woods were in some places burned, so as the hot beams of the Sun might pierce into the earth and stones there, so speedily as it does in some other Countries, that lie under the same elevation of the Pole, it would then there make such a reflection of heat, that it would much lessen these Fogs, and also make the Country much the hotter Winter and Summer, and thereby the earth will bud forth her blossoms and fruits more timely in the year, than now it does, and so bring the Land more familiar to us, and fitter for Tillage, and for Beasts, and also for Land-fowl, than now it is; and thereby those Islands of Ice that come on that coast at any time, will the sooner dissolve, which do speedily melt, when they come near the South part of that Land, &c.

[ed.] Whitbourne suggested to burn the unserviceable woods thereby allowing the sun to heat up the environment causing a better growth season and to melt the ice islands faster. Terraforming and global warming were still a long way in the future in the 1600's. And somehow, his idea of what would be burnable woods us. what was useable woods isn't clear. He decried the wanton burning of forests and yet here promoted burning the forests for fog control. As we now know that would have been an unscientific folly.

And the question arises, Better than what?

Also, it may be objected by some, that the Country is rocky, and mountainous, and so overgrown with trees & bushes, in such a Wilderness, that it will be an endless trouble to bring it to good perfection: and such like objections are often used, as if they would have such a Land cleansed to them without labour. Yet my hope is, when any such shall read over this Discourse, and consider well of the particular motives herein expressed, whereby a Plantation there should be embraced, they will be well satisfied therein, and I suppose, forbear to say it is such a rocky, and cold Country as is unfit to be planted.

[ed.] The rocky, overgrown land can't be cleared easily, some reported.

I have been several times in Norway, where the Country is in most places more rocky, and mountainous than the New-found-land, and lies above six degrees more to the North, and yet very beneficial to the King of Denmark, where many of his Majesty's Subjects live pleasantly; but the New-found-land is much more pleasant to live in.

[ed.] Norway was thought similar, even more mountainous and rocky, yet it prospered. Newfoundland was preferred over Norway. The effect of the Gulf Stream on northwest Europe wasn't part of his knowledge.

[Marginal Note: Rocks and Mountains good for Seeds, Roots and Vines.]

I have often seen the Coast of Biscay and Portugal all along the Sea-Coast, how rocky, barren and mountainous these Countries be in most places, although they lie in a pleasant and temperate Climate; if such which should dispraise the New-found-land, had seen it, as I have, they would not only like well, and be in love to further the desired Plantation, but also admire how the people in those other Countries do live by their good industry, and seek out little places amongst the Rocks, and in the sides of the Hills and Mountains, to set and sow their seeds for Roots, Cabbage, Onions, and such like,

whereby they receive great comforts: for all along those parts on the Sea-coast, their best means of living is by fishing, and other trades by Sea. The like benefit may all such have, that will plant at New-found-land, and much better in many other things, as is already sufficiently touched.

[ed.] A mix of farming and fishing worked in other nations afflicted with rocks and mountains; but, industriousness wins every time.

Likewise it is well known to all those that have travelled from thence all along the Coast of Spain, even to Granada, how barren and rocky those parts of Spain are also in most places; and yet the people by their good industry, plant many of their Vines and other fruits, on the sides of some steep Hills amongst the Rocks, where men are fain in diverse places, even to creep on their hands and knees to prune the said Vines, and gather the Grapes of them, to make their strong wines, and sweete Raisins withal, which we so much delight to taste. In those toothsome, and delightful Commodities, our Merchants bestow much money, which the New-found-land trade and Commodities had from thence, will be able in little time, if it be peopled as aforesaid, to supply all your Majesty's Kingdoms withal, with the sales of such commodities had from thence, to be employed therein.

[ed.] Spain used its barren, rocky spots for grape growing.

Likewise from Granada to Cartagena, Allegant, Denia, and from thence even to the City of Valencia, which is a large circuit, the most parts all along, as I have travelled by land, are very barren, rocky and mountainous; that very few Cattle, Sheep, Goats, or any other beasts are able to live there; and yet do the people in those parts use great industry, to plant their Vines and other fruits, whereby they seek out their best means they have to live : and likewise also in diverse other places near the Mediterranean Sea, from thence to Bassalonia, Marseilles, Savoy, and Genoa, and in diverse other places in Italy, these Countries are very Rocky and Mountainous: & yet those places do abound with many other rich blessings, by means of the peoples good industry there; and so by reason thereof, the people in all those parts from the Coast of Biscay, unto Italy; & also the most parts of France, Gascoyne, Brittany, Normandy and Picardy, are by the New-found-land fish greatly relieved: which fish is in all those parts in that request, & steeds them greatly, and does sell very well there most commonly, and so likewise in England great abundance thereof is spent; which being well considered, I know no reason to the contrary, but that the Subjects of all your Majesty's Kingdoms should be most willing to further that Plantation, and shew their good industry to cleanse Land there for Corn & Woad, and plant diverse kinds of fruits, which questionless will also prove very well there; and then will it be to all your Majesty's Kingdoms such a nursery to get wealth, and to increase and maintain Shipping, and beget serviceable Sea-men, as great Britain had never the like.

[ed.] A reiteration of the benefits of plantation couched in the wonder of how industriousness can overcome hardships caused by geography.

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Isatis_tinctoria



Isatis tinctoria, also called woad (/ˈwoʊd/), dyer's woad, or glastum, is a flowering plant in the family *Brassicaceae*. It is occasionally known as Asp of Jerusalem. Woad is also the name of a blue dye produced from the leaves of the plant.

...

Due to this and other Roman accounts of them painting or tattooing

their bodies, northern inhabitants of Britain came to be known as Picts (*Picti*), meaning "painted ones" in Latin. People with modern experiences with woad as a tattoo pigment have claimed that it does not work well, and is actually caustic and causes scarring when put into the skin.

[ed.] Another iteration of how trained manpower for the navy results from plantation.

With these good blessings which are before recited, being followed by industrious spirits, there is a great hope of a plentiful harvest unto your Majesty & Kingdoms thereby; God send good Seedsmen and Planters to set it forward, as I trust in God it will have, seeing it has already had many right Honourable and worthy Fathers to commend it.

| [ed.] Conclusion: plantation is good.

And although that since I presumed to write this Discourse, I have been often disheartened from proceeding herein; Yet, when I did remember Columbus his good endeavours, that first & patient Discoverer of the West Indies, whom, if God had not heartened him on with a worthy mind, & a bosom armed for all the storms of cross fortunes, he had never finished that Honourable attempt for finding such an happy business out: the which Discovery of his, has ever since filled the Spanish coffers with gold and silver, and made that Nation Lords of the greatest riches under the Sun: and although that attempt of his, was held at first impossible to come unto any good effect, and Columbus laughed at by some: yet ever since, by his attempt, I may say, that Spain has had from thence to help furnish other Christian Kingdoms with gold, silver and diverse other great riches; and also now to that Country so discovered, those commodities that great Britain may yearly well spare, and other Countries also, are the better vented: and so likewise, may the New-found-land and the parts of America, near thereunto, prove also beneficial for diverse trades in little time.

| [ed.] Like the Spanish experience in the south, Newfoundland plantation would have great benefits to the kingdom.

These good motives considered, what great good comes unto Christian Kingdoms, by Foreign Plantations, and what infinite wealth is yearly brought from the West Indies into Spain, as I have there seen landed; do put me in great hope, that if there be an orderly Plantation settled in New-found-land, the trade to that Country by your Majesty's Subjects, and other places thereby, may yearly be so beneficial to your Majesty and your Highness' other Kingdoms, as the West Indies are now yearly worth to the King of Spain.

| [ed.] Newfoundland planted would be a financial equivalent to the Spanish Caribbean in opportunity and wealth.

Now having thus commended the Country of New-found-land, in my opinion, it ought not to be one of the least motives, whereby to further this Plantation, the setting of some better order and government amongst the Fishermen, and all other of our Nation that yearly trade there, than now there is; so that there may be a reformation of such abuses as are there yearly committed; wherein it is well known, that I have already used my best endeavors, when in the year 1615, at which time I had a Commission with me for the purpose under the broad Seal of the Admiralty, and did therewith set forth, to follow that service from the Port of Exeter, in the County of Devon, on the 11 day of May 1615, in a Bark victualed and manned with 11 men and boys at my own charge, and I did then arrive at the Coast of New-found-land, in the Bay of Trinity; upon Trinities Sunday, being the 4. of June, and anchored the same day in the said Harbour of Trinity; and there, in the name of the holy and individual Trinity, began to the use of your most Sacred Majesty, by virtue of that Commission, to send forth a Precept, to call the Masters of those English ships, that were then riding at Anchor, and also the Masters of some other English ships that were near thereunto, and so began to hold the first Court of Admiralty in your Majesty's name, that ever was (as I believe) held in that Country, to the use of any Christian Prince, and proceeded therein according to course of Law, as the tenor of my Commission did warrant me therein; and also in other Harbours of the said Coast I did the like; Part of which abuses there committed, I have already touched: so likewise I will briefly insert a part of the several presentments of such injuries, that were then delivered unto me, as aforesaid, under the hands and seals of those 170 Masters of English Ships, to the use of your Majesty: which presentments were, upon my return from the said voyage, delivered by me into your Majesty's high Court of the Admiralty, and then by those Masters of ships there impanelled, such abuses as follow, they did acknowledge, and order, that henceforth with your Majesty's allowance might be redressed, &c.

[ed.] He reviewed his 1615 voyage again as introduction to his inquiry findings and his list of abuses. It is interesting to think the list is in order of priority or enormity of the abuse as fishing on Sunday is followed by ballast dumping.

Eleven men and boys was not a fishing trip, which means he was buying fish for his return cargo. With only 11 he had lots of room for fish, his settlement scheme proposed leaving men and gear behind in the fall thereby creating more room for fish.

During his extensive travels, no one was sick or died in any nation's fleet. Interesting also is his travel distance, 100 leagues is 300 nautical miles, the approximate distance covered in coastal sailing from Cape Bonavista to Cape Race.

1. First, they did all acknowledge, that there is but little difference of days observed amongst the Fishermen; some men presuming to go to Sea, and to fish with hook and line, upon the Sabbath day, as usually as upon the week days.

[ed.] Fishing on Sunday

2. Secondly, that diverse of our Nation do take into their ships very great stones, to press their dry fish withal; which work being done, they cast those stones into the Harbours where their ships use to ride at anchor; which will utterly spoil the Roads and Harbours in that Country, and be to the endangering of Ships and Cables, yea and men's lives also, if it be not reformed in time.

[ed.] Ballast dumping.

3. There are many men yearly, who unlawfully convey away other men's fishing boats, from the Harbour and place where they were left the year before in that Country ; and some cut out the marks of them; and some others rip and carry away the pieces of them, to the great prejudice and hindrance of the voyages of such ships that depend on such fishing boats, and also to the true Owners of such boats.

| [ed.] Stealing boats

4. There are some men, who arriving there first into a Harbour, do rip and pull down Stages, that were left standing for the splitting and salting of fish the year before; and other Stages some men have set on fire: which is a great hindrance to the voyages of such men as are not there with the first in the Harbour, for that they must then spend 20 day's time, for preparing new Stages, and fitting new Pinnaces, and other necessary things, in every voyage before they be settled to fish.

| [ed.] Destroying stages and rooms

5. There are also some, who arriving first in Harbor, take away other men's Salt that they had left there the year before, and also rip and spoil the Vats wherein they make their Train oil, and some tear down Flakes, whereon men yearly dry their fish, to the great hurt and hindrance of many other that come after them.

| [ed.] Stealing salt and oil; destroying flakes

6. Some men likewise steal away the bait out of other men's Nets by night, and also out of their fishing boats by their ships side, whereby their fishing, from whom it is so taken, is overthrown for the next day.

| [ed.] Stealing bait

7. They did acknowledge, that some men take up more room than they need, or is fitting to dry their fish on, whereby other men's voyages are oftentimes greatly hindered.

| [ed.] Stealing shore space

8. They also found, that diverse of your Majesty's subjects have come to that Coast, in fishing voyages in ships not appertaining to any of your Majesty's subjects, which they conceived worthy of punishment, and reformation.

| [ed.] Employment on non-English ships

9. They did acknowledge, that some men rip, and take away Timber and Rails from Stages, and other necessary rooms, that are fastened with nails, Spike or Trey nails; and some men take away the Rinds & Turf wherewith diverse necessary rooms are fitly covered from ground with Rails on them, whereupon men use to dry their fish; and that some set the standing Woods in the Country on fire, which have in little time burned many thousand acres; and that there are some which yearly take away other men's Train oil there by night; which they conceived worthy of reformation.

| [ed.] Burning the woods; stealing train oil

10. They found, that diverse idle persons, which were hired for those voyages, when they come thither, notwithstanding that they were still in health, would not work, and were so lazy and idle, that their work was to little purpose: which was worthy of punishment.

| [ed.] Laziness

11. Against all these great abuses, and diverse others committed in the said New-found-land (which they did set down in their severall presentments, as by them it may at large appear, they did all condescend, and order from that time thenceforth, that no subject to your Majesty should commit any more such abuses in that Country : which may be very well remedied, seeing they tend to the advancement of the Trade, and quietness amongst the Fishermen, and to the glory of God, the honour and good of your Majesty, and the general benefit of the Common-wealth.

| [ed.] Abuses required correction to improve trade and prosperity in general

12. They did further present to the use of the Lord Admiral of England, two small Boats, Anchors, and a small Grapple, that were found in the Sea upon that Coast, which were there prized to be worth two shilling sixpence apiece, amounting to seven shillings sixpence.

| [ed.] Gifts to the Lord Admiral; things of uncertain use but with particular value.

Now having laid open how commodious and beneficial it will be to your Majesty and Kingdoms, to settle a Plantation in the New-found-land, and also made known some unfit courses that are yearly used by some Fisher-men that adventure there: and likewise showed a part of some great wrongs that have been committed there by Pirates and some erring subjects; and also touched a little, that there have not been such fit courses taken by some of those that have been employed to that Country in the Plantation already there begun, as they should have done, by reason whereof it is to be feared, that some of those Honourable and other right Worshipful persons that undertake the same, and that have been at some great charge therein, seeing their good endeavours and charge take no better success, they may wax cold and weary in disbursing more thereunto, and so by their remissness the Plantation might be given over, and the Country left to the spoil and usurpation of some other Prince that may undertake the same, and then reap the harvest of your Majesty's Subjects labours, that shall then trade to that Country , &c. And therefore showing how it may be provided for by your Majesty, and all those wrongs henceforth remedied. Now I suppose, that some, who may find themselves a little touched here in, may not only envy me, for laying open that which I have; whereby to prevent such further dangers and inconveniences in that Country , and to further such a worthy work: and therefore I may be unjustly taxed, as many worthy men have been, for well doing: For although I have by Pirates, and other crosses received great loss, yet do I acknowledge myself much bound to God my Creator, who has preserved me from many dangers in my time, safely to return with my ship, wherein I was; I do also most humbly give God the praise, that I am now so happily arrived with this my plain and true Discovery, unto the view of your most Sacred Majesty, and the right Honourable Lords of your Majesty's most Honourable Privy Council, and my Country , whereby to shew what in all likelihood the effect of a Plantation will there produce; using also many arguments, motives and inducements to persuade a general willingness thereunto.

| [ed.] Conclusion: investors already in the plantation business might be weary of the lack of success to date (in reality there was only one *failure* – Vaughan; otherside, *planting* is good if the abuses were corrected and pirates defended against.

And these excellent benefits distribute themselves, between your Majesty and your Subjects: your Highness part will be the Honour of the Action; the access of Territory, increase of strength and

power, advantage against other Princes, augmentation of Revenue, and ease of your Majesty's Kingdoms, &c. The Subjects part will be the bettering and securing of their Trade; enriching of themselves; relief of other Trades; and a means of further Discoveries.

| [ed.] Planting meant more money for the Crown.

But these two have a relation and dependency the one on the other, that neither can subsist without the other; I will not therefore divide your Majesty from your Subjects; your Highness prosperity being their happiness; and their wealth, your Majesty's riches.

The next is, the uniting of a Country so beneficial already, and so promising unto your Majesty's Crown, without bloodshed, charge, or usurpation, which must needs be a perpetual Honour to your Majesty, in all succeeding ages; neither will it be an Honour only to your Highness, but a benefit to the State, by a new access of Dominion; And what Prince can enlarge his Territories by a more easy and more just means than this, seeing that of right it appertains unto your Majesty, and therefore deserves to be embraced?

...

And so I rest, and ever will remain a faithful and loyal Subject to your Majesty, an hearty and true lover of my Country, and a zealous well-wisher to this intended Plantation.

Richard Whitbourne.

A Conclusion to the former Discourse, containing a particular Description and relation of some things omitted in my former Discourse.

Gentle Reader, seeing my former Discovery received such good approbation and allowance before it was printed, it puts me in some hope, it will also receive good acceptance from all his Majesty's well-affected Subjects, now that it is published; the which when I shall understand, by their thankful acceptance, I shall be encouraged the more willingly, to set forth what I have observed touching the Altitude of some head-lands of that Coast, on the East side of the New-found-land, and also the Deeps, and several soundings, that I have taken notice of in my travels to that Country; which I conceive to be necessary for those that shall henceforth trade thither; which as yet no man, to my knowledge, has undertaken; and also be ready with my life and means whatsoever I have, or may have in this World, to discover other Bays and Harbours round about that land, which are yet undiscovered, whereby to find out some other new Trades with the Natives of the Country; for they have great store of red Ochre, wherewith they use to colour their bodies, Bows, Arrows and Canoes withal, which Canoes are built in shape, like the Wherries on the River of Thames; but they are much longer, made with the rinds of Birch trees, which they sew very artificially and close together, and then overlay the seams with Turpentine; and in like manner they use to sew the barks of Spruce trees, round and deep in proportion, like a Brass Kettle, to boil their meat in, which has been well proved by three Mariners of a Ship, in the Country of Devon; which Ship, riding there at Anchor nearby me, and being robbed in the night, by the Savages, of their apparel, and diverse other provisions, did the next day seek after them, and happened to come suddenly where they had set up three Tents, and were feasting, having three such Canoes by the, and three Pots made of such rinds of trees, standing each of them on three stones, boiling, with twelve Fowls in each of them, every Fowl as big as a Widgeon, and some so big as a Duck: they had also many such Pots so sewed, and fashioned like leather Buckets, that are used for quenching of fire, and those were full of the yolks of Eggs, that they had taken

and boiled hard, and so dried small, which the Savages used in their Broth, as Sugar is often used in some meats. They had great store of the skins of Deere Beavers, Bears, Seals, Otters, and diverse other fine skins, which were well dressed; as also great store of several sorts of flesh dried, and by shooting off a Musket towards them, they all ran away naked, without any apparel, but only their hats on their heads, which were made of Seal skins, in fashions like our hats, sewed handsomely, with narrow bands about them, set round with fine white shells. All their three Canoes, their flesh, skins, yolks of Eggs, Targets, Bows and Arrows, and much fine Ochre, and diverse other things they took and brought away, and shared it among those three that took it; and they brought to me the best Canoe, Bows and Arrows, and diverse of their skins, and many other things worth the noting, which may seem much to invite us to endeavour to find out some other trades with them.

[ed.] The aboriginals revealed. Much of Whitbourne's description was proven true by the Cormack effort to spare the *Beothuck* from extinction. The very abuses perpetrated by English fishers on the Beothuck was recorded by Whitbourne when seamen raided an encampment driving them off and stealing everything they had.

Now also I will not omit to relate something of a strange Creature, which I first saw there in the year 1610, in a morning early, as I was standing by the water side, in the Harbour of Saint John's, which very swiftly came swimming towards me, looking cheerfully, as it had been a woman: by the face, eyes, nose, mouth, chin, ears, neck, and forehead, it seemed to be so beautiful, and in those parts so well proportioned, having round about upon the head, all blue streaks, resembling hair, down to the Neck, (but certainly it was no hair), yet I beheld it long, and another of my company also yet living, that was not then far from me, saw the same coming so swiftly towards me: at which I stepped back; for it was come within the length of a long Pike. Which when this strange Creature saw, that I went from it, it presently thereupon dived a little under water, and did swim towards the place before I landed; whereby I beheld the shoulders & back down to the middle, to be so square, white and smooth as the back of a man; and from the middle to the hinder part, it was pointing in proportion something like a broad hooked Arrow: how it was proportioned in the forepart from the neck and shoulders, I could not well discern; but it came shortly after, to a Boat in the same Harbour (wherein one William Hawkrige then my servant was,) that has been since a Captain in a Ship to the East Indies, and is lately there so employed again by Sir Thomas Smith, in the like voyage; and the same Creature did put both his hands upon the side of the Boat, and did strive much to come in to him, and diverse then in the same Boat; whereat they were afraid, and one of them struck it a full blow on the head, whereby it fell off from them: and afterwards it came to two other Boat in the said Harbour, where they lay by the shore: the men in them, for fear fled to land. This (I suppose) was a Mermaid. Now because diverse have writ much of Mermaids, I have presumed to relate what is most certain, of such a strange Creature that was thus then seen at New-found-land, whether it were a Mermaid or no, I know not; I leave it for others to judge, &c.

R.W.

[ed.] The mermaid. Interesting is the story of trying to kill it with a blow to the head; *if it moves, shoot it if it doesn't move, paint it* seems to have a long Newfoundland history.

Taken from an online version posted by Dr. Hans Rollmann at hrollman@morgan.ucs.mun.ca
The pages were constructed by Duleepa Wijayawardhana

William Vaughan

THE GOLDEN FLEECE Divided into three Parts, Under which are discovered the Errors of Religion, the Vices and Decays of the Kingdom, and lastly the ways to get wealth, and to restore Trading so much complained of. TRANSPORTED FROM Cambrioll Colchos, out of the Southernmost Part of the Island, commonly called the NEWFOUNDLAND, By Orpheus Junior, For the general and perpetual Good of Great BRITAIN. LONDON, Printed for Francis Williams, and are to be sold at his Shop at the sign of the Globe, over against the Royall Exchange, 1626.

<https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Colchis>



Colchis was an ancient kingdom and region on the coast of the Black Sea, centered in present-day western Georgia. It has been described in modern scholarship as "the earliest Georgian formation" which, along with the Kingdom of Iberia, would later contribute significantly to the development of the medieval Georgian statehood and the Georgian nation. Internationally, Colchis is perhaps best known for its role in Greek mythology, most notably as the destination of the Argonauts, as well as the home to Medea and the Golden fleece. It was also described as a land rich with gold, iron, timber and honey that would export its resources mostly to ancient Greece

thology, most notably as the destination of the Argonauts, as well as the home to Medea and the Golden fleece. It was also described as a land rich with gold, iron, timber and honey that would export its resources mostly to ancient Greece

[ed.] William Vaughan's *Golden Fleece* followed Whitbourne and Mason in 1626; it is not exclusively about Newfoundland, but more about the malaise of the English nation and its economy, one remedy for which is overseas plantations, including fishing plantations in Newfoundland. He couches his arguments in his expertise and experiences, just like Whitbourne. He was 53 and nearing the end of his career. He wondered if books were so poorly read in the climate of the times what happened to his own works and of *Golden Fleece* which he was about to write. In an attempt to make the work lighter he stated that he would intermix humourous material with the serious. Maybe Whitbourne's mastiff running loose with wolves and the mermaid are also a method to introduce levity into serious work.

Vaughan's Newfoundland references are much the same as Whitbourne's, it is not inconceivable they are copies in different words, at least when it comes to the hindrances and abuses detailed by Whitbourne. Vaughan adds nothing new to the pro-plantation argument other than it is a panacea for the whole English nation and economy, not just a single enterprise.

Vaughan used euphemisms, which he explains; Parnassus, the Greek mythological mountain of Apollo, he uses for the Power of the State, the monarch and his Privy Council; characters are assigned euphemistic names of Greek and Roman heroes and mythological characters. Apollo is the Royal Court, not just the King. By raising his analyses up to general terms he avoids naming names. Important euphemistic names are annotated.

Golden Fleece consists of a general introduction which explained why he undertook the writing, it is presented below transcribed into modern English with annotations explaining some of the literary and metaphorical allusions; the body of the work was then presented in three parts, each with a specific remedy to cure the Trade (the national economy); errors of religion, societal ills, and a cure-all for both, New World opportunities and other more orthodox remedies as proposed by various characters. The reports of the work seem to have taken place between the spring equinox and the late summer of 1626; apparently a series of meetings on the decay and restoration of trade, a form of think-tank assembled by Charles, or his Councillors at Charles' behest; actual or in Vaughan's mind remains unknown.

The occasion of this Treatise, called the *Golden Fleece* and the Reasons which moved the Author to intermingle merry and light conceits among matters of Consequence.

In the Month when the Celestial Ram famous for the Grecian's Golden Fleece had renewed the last Spring 1626 with an equal Proportion of Days and Nights [March 21, the Vernal Equinox]; the one prefiguring Joy for the Second Years Reign of our Rising Sun [Charles I was crowned 27 March 1625], and the other Sorrow for our crying and presumptuous sins; while I attended at Court to know his Royal Pleasure about our Fishing Fleets and Plantations of the Island commonly called the Newfoundland, in the latter whereof, I have for these ten years together, engaged both myself and a great part of my fortunes: [Vaughan sent his first colony to Newfoundland in 1616, it is interesting to see he is still involved in Newfoundland affairs a decade later] it was my good hap among other Noble Courtiers, to become acquainted with Sir William Alexander Master of the Requests, and Secretary for Scotland

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/William_Alexander,_1st_Earl_of_Stirling



William Alexander, 1st Earl of Stirling (c. 1567 in Menstrie, Clackmannanshire – 12 September 1640) was a Scottish courtier and poet who was involved in the Scottish colonisation of Habitation at Port-Royal, Nova Scotia and Long Island, New York. In 1621, King James I granted William a royal charter appointing him mayor of a vast territory which was enlarged into a lordship and barony of Nova Scotia (New Scotland); the area now known as Nova Scotia, New Brunswick, and part of the northern United States. The creation of Baronets of Nova Scotia was used to settle the plantation of the new province.

He was appointed Secretary for Scotland in 1626 and held that office for the rest of his life.

Lord Stirling's efforts at colonisation were less successful, at least in monetary terms. He briefly established a Scottish settlement at Port Royal, Nova Scotia, led by his son William Alexander (the younger). However the effort cost him most of his fortune, and when the region—now Canada's three Maritime Provinces and the state of Maine—was returned to France in 1632, it was lost. He spent his later years with limited means, and died in London on 12 September 1640. However Alexander's settlement provided the basis

for British claims to Nova Scotia and his baronets provided the Coat of arms of Nova Scotia and Flag of Nova Scotia which are still in use today.

Long Island

In 1630, King Charles rewarded his service by creating him Viscount of Stirling and in 1633 he became Earl of Stirling.

On 22 April 1636, Charles told the Plymouth Colony, which had laid claim to Long Island but had not settled it, to give the island to Alexander. Through his agent James Farret (who personally received Shelter Island and Robins Island), Alexander in turn sold most of the eastern island to the New Haven Colony and Connecticut Colony.

Farret arrived in New Amsterdam in 1637 to present his claim of English sovereignty but was arrested and sent to prison in Holland where he escaped. English colonists attempted to settle at Cow Bay at what today is Port Washington, New York, in 1640, but were arrested and released after saying they were mistaken about the title. Following Alexander's death in 1640, eastern Long Island was quickly settled by the English while the western portion remained under Dutch rule until 1674.

[ed.] Alexander was 10 years Vaughan's senior.

After some formal Compliments, it pleased him and my ancient Friend Master William Elveston, sometimes Secretary

<http://www.westminster-abbey.org/our-history/people/sir-william-elphinstone>

Sir William Elphinstone (Elphinstoun or Elveston) was buried in the east cloister of Westminster Abbey, near the Library door, on 10 December 1645 but his grave is not marked. He was the youngest son of George Elphinstone of Blythswood and brother of Sir George, Justice-clerk. He was sometime Lord Chief Justice of Scotland and one of the cup bearers to Charles I.

Knighted at Whitehall in 1637 he seems to have been displaced from office in 1641. The Elphinstone Baronetcy, of Elphinstone in the County of Lanark, was created in the Baronetage of Nova Scotia on 20 June 1628 for William Elphinstone. On his death in 1645 the title became dormant.

to the most Excellent Princess Elizabeth, and now Cupbearer to his Majesty, to appoint a Meeting at the Chamber of

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Elizabeth_Stuart,_Queen_of_Bohemia



Elizabeth Stuart (19 August 1596 – 13 February 1662) was, as the wife of Frederick V, Elector Palatine, Electress Palatine, and briefly, Queen of Bohemia. Due to her husband's reign in Bohemia lasting for just one winter, Elizabeth is often referred to as The Winter Queen. She was the second child and eldest daughter of James VI and I, King of Scots, England, and Ireland, and his wife, Anne of Denmark. She was also the granddaughter of Mary, Queen of Scots. She was four years older than her brother Charles, who became Charles I of England, Scotland, and Ireland.

With the demise of the Stuart dynasty in 1714, her grandson succeeded to the British throne as George I of Great Britain, initiating the Hanover line of succession.

<https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Cup-bearer>

A cup-bearer was an officer of high rank in royal courts whose duty it was to serve the drinks at the royal table. On account of the constant fear of plots and intrigues, a person must be regarded as thoroughly trustworthy to hold the position. He must guard against poison in the king's cup and was sometimes required to swallow some of the wine before serving it. His confidential relations with the king often gave him a position of great influence. The position of cup-bearer is greatly valued and given only to a select few throughout history.

Qualifications for the job were not held lightly but of high esteem valued for their beauty and even more for their modesty, industriousness and courage.

Sir William Alexander; where all three of us being met together, this learned Knight with a joyful countenance and alacrity of mind, taking me by the hand thus began: I have oftentimes wished to confer with you, but until this present, I could not find the opportunity. It is necessary, and this necessity jumps with the sympathy of our constellations (for I think we were born both under the same Horoscope [Vaughan 1575; Alexander in 1567]) that we advise and devise some Project for the proceedings and successful managing of our Plantations. As you obtained a Patent of the Southernmost part of Newfoundland, and transplanted thither some of your countrymen of Wales, baptizing the same by the name of Cambriol; so have I got a Patent of the neighbouring Country unto yours Westward beyond Cape Breton, Christening it New Scotland. You have spent much, and so have I in advancing these hopeful Adventures. But as yet neither of us arrived at the Haven of our expectations. Only, like a wary Politician, you suspend your breath for a time, until you can repair your losses sustained by some of Sir Walter Raleigh's company in their return from Guiana while your Neighbours [this happened 10 years earlier], the Right Honourable the Lord Viscount Falkland, and my Lord Baltimore, to whom you assigned the Northerly part of your Grant, do undergo the whole burthen, supporting it with a brave resolution, and a great deal of expense, which otherwise you were obliged to perform.

[ed.] Vaughan doesn't seem to have failed, in point of fact, his holdings were assigned to Calvert and Falkland just a few years before; Vaughan may

still have been in the mix, like Mason in Maryland, and Gorges in New England, he probably was still an active supporter and promoter.

Vaughan doesn't state his efforts were over or doomed. Alexander apparently greatly admired Vaughan and his plantation and begs leave to use Vaughan's model for his own. Alexander noted that Vaughan's losses were a lesson learned for everyone else who paid their own way in establishing plantations; he suggested that Calvert and Carey had undertaken Vaughan's expenses.

The like inconveniences I have felt, even in the infancy of my Attempt, whether the defects proceeded through the late season of the year, when we set out the Colony, or by the slowness of our People, who wearied in their passage at Sea, by reason of contrary winds rested themselves too long at Saint John's Harbour, and at my Lord of Baltimore's Plantation, I know not; but sure I am, it cost me and my friends very dear, and brought us into much decrements; and hath well-nigh disheartened my poor countrymen,

[ed.] Are these the words of Alexander? His New Scotland plantation was in its planning stage in 1626, not to get going until 1628. The *defects* are lesson learned from Vaughan, having already noted the pirate action by Raleigh's men returning from Guyana. The defects appear to be Vaughan's summary of his expeditions.

if at my humble Suit, our most Noble and Generous King Charles had not out of his Royal magnificence and respective care to us and our Posterities restored and revived our courages by conferring such monies as might arise by the creation of Knight Baronets in Scotland, towards the erecting of this new fabric and heroic Action. And yet I fear all this will not suffice and defray the charge. In such abundance doth my native Country of Scotland, over swarm with people, that if new habitations be not suddenly provided for them, as Hives for Bees, they must either miscarry of want, or turn Drones unprofitable to the Owner, as you well remembered in your Poetical works, which you termed *Cam-brensium Caroleia* [Charles' Wales].

[ed.] Charles I ascended is a whirl of rank bestowals, knighthoods, baronets, etc. that almost rivalled those of his father. Over-population at home, at least over-population of poor people at home, was the chief reason to plant the new world according to Alexander, an idea perpetuated in all the Discourses.

We need not complain with our Saviour in the Gospel, that the Harvest is great, and the Labourers few; for we many Labourers, which would willingly manure this maiden Soil, and with the painful sweat of their brows reap what they sow. But the charge of transporting them with such implements and domestic cattle, as must be had now at the first, cannot but grow to an excessive cost. To expect more help than it pleased our most bountiful King already to bestow upon us will be in vain, I doubt, considering the scarcity of money in these days, which not only Scotland, but likewise all his Majesty's Dominions do affirm to be true.

[ed.] Alexander didn't think any further resources would be available from the Crown, especially given the poor state of the economy. The simple cost of providing settlers with animals and materiel was a hindrance to progress.

The native and genuine salt of the earth, which fructified our Corn fields with so many infinite ploughings of our Ancestors and ours is spent; nor will Lime or Marl ever recover them to the pristine and ancient vigour and fertility. English Cloth, [the kingdom, the nation] which heretofore was dignified

with the Title of the Golden Fleece, grows out of request, yea (and with inward grief I speak it) in contempt also among the Owners and Inhabitants themselves. Our Tin, Lead, and Coal-mines begin to fail. Our Woods, which Nature produced, and our Fathers left us for firing, for reparations of decayed Houses, Ploughs, and Shipping, is lately wasted by the Covetousness of a few Ironmasters. What then remains in this famous Isle? Except we relieve our wants by Navigation, and these must be by Fishing, by hook or by crook, by Letters of Mark,

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Letter_of_marque

In the days of fighting sail, a *letter of marque and reprisal* was a government license authorizing a person (known as a privateer) to attack and capture enemy vessels and bring them before admiralty courts for condemnation and sale. Cruising for prizes with a letter of marque was considered an honorable calling combining patriotism and profit, in contrast to unlicensed piracy, which was universally reviled. In addition to the term *lettre de marque*, the French sometimes used the term *lettre de course* for their letters of marque. "Letter of marque" was sometimes used to describe the vessel used: a "letter of marque" generally refers to a lumbering square-rigged cargo carrier that might pick up a prize if the opportunity arose. A "privateer" was a fast and weatherly fore-and-aft-rigged vessel heavily armed and heavily crewed, intended exclusively for fighting.

A "letter of marque and reprisal" would include permission to cross an international border to effect a reprisal (take some action against an attack or injury) authorized by an issuing jurisdiction to conduct reprisal operations outside its borders.

by way of reprisals or revenge, or else by Traffic and Commerce with other Nations besides Spaniards. I would we could invent and hit upon some profitable mean for the settling of these glorious works, whereto it seems the divine Providence hath elected us as instruments under our Earthly Sovereign.

Here Sir William Alexander stopped. To whom I returned this answer:

Much honoured Sir, I grant the setting forwards of Plantations, with all needful appurtenances, requires the purse of rich Spencer, or of wealthy Sutton, in regard of the many difficulties and disturbances, which either Malice, Envy, causeless distrust, casualties unlooked for, or the carelessness of inexpert Agents may procure now at the beginning to blast our hopes in the blossom. Nevertheless, *inuitâ Inuidiâ*, in despite of Envy, and of all malicious Angels, which by their invisible wheeling about the brains of Castaways, do use to seduce their phantasies to cross the very best Designs, whereof no man living hath more cause then myself to complain: we ought to persevere in constancy, and to outdare Fortune under the Almighty's Banner. What encumbrances did the Israelites feel, before they conquered the Land of Canaan? How many Persecutions did the Church endure, before the true Christian Faith was planted? None enters into Heaven without Crosses and fiery trials composed of briars and brambles, which the Romans termed the unlucky Woods.

[ed.] Constancy of spirit and rigorous outlook were required to gain a success at the end. Vaughan knew how chance could ruin an enterprise.

Therefore let us lay aside all scrupulous doubts. Let us cut our Coats according to the cloth, taking care thriftily to husband the means allotted to our Plantations; which we shall the more easily accomplish, if we have not passionate Superiors to control us, nor Coadjutors in counsel to condemn us. Commonly where many Directors are, the Directions prove confused: which is the cause, that private

houses be better built, & with lesser charge than public edifices of the like proportion. Yea and we shall do more in these places, where we have elevated our cogitations, and levelled our ends for a thousand pounds, than others have in Virginia or the Summer Islands for forty thousand, so that we transport for the space of the first two or three years none but Fishermen and Labourers. By these we shall perform miracles, and return yearly into Great Britain a surer Gain, then Jason's Golden Fleece from Colchos; even with six months provision and Nets, three men in one Boat shall reap a Golden Harvest, and get worth ten pound a week in Fish being brought into Europe or exchanged there in the Country; which besides the increase of Shipping and Mariners will propagate our Plantations in a short time.

[ed.] Keep it simple, said Vaughan, be frugal; he estimated that he could get the same profits with £1,000 as the other planters did with £40,000 in the Bahamas and Virginia where the emphasis was on agriculture and terrestrial exploitation. Cod was king to Vaughan and all the other Newfoundland-based plantations.

Only here lies the Gordian knot to undo, a Rich man will not forgo his native smoke, nor are poor men of ability now at first to get thither. For although we have his Majesty's countenance propitious unto these profitable Enterprises, specially you of New Scotland, yet all our wits cannot work that impression in Miser's heads to lend their helping hands to this goodly Project. We sue for no Lotteries, we beg for no Benevolences, as others in the like cases have done. And if we should, men are nowadays so Penny-wise and Pound foolish, they will sooner bestow forty pounds upon a glorious suit of apparel, than forty shillings to better their brethren. Although these Golden hopes do shine as clear as the noontide Sun, yet will not they enlighten muddy apprehensions, nor quicken earth-creeeping wits, unless we could more firmly build up and restore the Office of Assurance, which the Moorish Pirates have lately damaged.

[ed.] People were greedy and spent their money foolishly, according to Vaughan. The Turkish pirates of the Mediterranean and the eastern Atlantic ruined the insurance business, plantations couldn't get coverage.

No lotteries. The spirit of charity was not evident to Vaughan, apparently, although he does give a nod to Alexander and New Scotland as being in receipt of some Royal support, something he was unable to get.

After I had ended my Answer, Master Elveston thus addressed his speech unto us: In my judgement you are both too suspicious and distrustful of our noble Countrymen. For some particulars you must not tax the general. Although some rake to themselves, neglecting the fruits of their Christian Faith: yet many love their Neighbours as themselves, and will strain the uttermost of their powers to succour the poor members of Christ. There be Heavenly bodies as well as Earthly Bodies. Methinks, you being both judicious and Publishers of Books might so combine and contrive your studies together, that the World, were it as blind as Beetles, might see with Lynceus eyes the certainty of the Commodities, the

<https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Lynceus>

Lynceus was named as a descendant of Belus through his father Aegyptus, who was the twin brother of Danaus. Danaus had fifty daughters, the Danaides, while Aegyptus had fifty sons including Lynceus, whose name means "lynx-eyed" (from Latin).

convenience of the Trade, and the infinite benefits which may arise by these heroic enterprises, which you Sir William Alexander for your part have already chalked out, and delineated in Print. And I doubt not but this Gentleman even by a virtuous emulation, may if he please, second you with some pleasing Motives of substance and spirit able to insinuate into the minds of the dullest Creatures, the sweet fruition of the Golden Fleece, and like another Jason with a brave Company of Argonauts, stir up the most stony-hearted to relent and relieve their distressed Brethren, which now groan, and in a manner faint under their penurious state. What will not pathetic persuasions work? Orpheus, as Poets feigned, with his harmonious Harp, drew a fare more hard-hearted Nation to follow his tune, and to dance after his motions.

To this Sir William Alexander replied, we live not now, Master Elveston, in such simplicity and candour of mind, as those people of the Golden Age. Men for the most part are now become perverse Pigmies in respect of their generous Ancestors. They are better fed than taught, fair without, and foul within, if not rotten like that Spaniard's apple: *Como la Mancana, De dentro podrida, y de fuera gallena*; [like the apple, rotten on the inside and gallant (good-looking) on the outside].

They are more heavy-spirited, dull-headed, and almost grown out of kind. He had need of a choice conceit, of a quaint and transcendent wit, which will attract the minds of Earthlings to these brave Flames. An Ape will be an Ape though you clothe him in purple; and a Hog will wallow in mire, though you feed him never so daintily. Do not we find by experience that the Books of many rare Divines lie on the Stationers hands, as it were moth-eaten, or inverted to base Offices, and sold for waste leaves to Apothecaries, to Glovers, Cooks, and Bakers?

[ed.] Elphinstone suggested books as a good way to raise awareness and money; Alexander complained that books weren't always sold and pages often went into second level uses, wrapping pills among them.

Nay said Master Elveston, I dare assume, Sir William Alexander, that your Books shall never be put to such vile and servile uses; nor any lively monument which issues from a well-tempered brain, like an old bough full ripe with bark, *ut ramale vetus* (the old branches or offshoots). No Work lights on that fatal period, but some frothy and abortive Birth, which the Muses disdained to inspire; or some melancholy gross burthen, which Lucina that skilful Midwife condemned for a Monster; or else some Book which wants the true symmetry and proportion of Seasoning, it being not composed according to the capacity of the Reader. Here consists the magisterial secret, the mystery discovered and practised by few Writers in our days. And I pray what mystical Receipt might that be, quoth Sir William Alexander, which may heal the Lethargy of our modern Readers, or inflame the slow Spirits of the multitude? Have not Books their Destinies as well as Commonwealths? Must not all things under the Sun wax old, frail, and fail at last? *Senescente mundo consenescent omnia* [all the world growing stale; in modern terms, entropy]. The nearer we are to the end of the world, the more childish and doting is the judgement of the wisest man. How much more then must we bear with the Common sort, whose wills change with the weather-cock? If great Scholars, whose lives Learning ought to purify, do feel their fancies tossed with strange Chimeras (items costructed from two normally distinct parts), with many capricious temptations; why apply we not ourselves a little to temporize with them who are yet children in wit? *Stultitiam simulare loco Prudentia summa est* (prudence is the sum of that folly to feign stupidity).

[ed.] Elphinstone replies that a well written book, composed according to the capacity of the Reader, would sell.

It is no less Prudence to dally and put on the Fool's coat sometimes, as to seem an austere Cato at some other times, Doe not we see Pamphlets, Ballads, and Play-books sooner sold, than elegant Sermons and Books of Piety? The most part are disposed to fopperies and worldly vanities, insomuch, that many worthy Preachers are fain to conceal their talent, and to cover their admonitions under a cunning method, according to the time's importunity, and to the nature of their Chameleon Flocks. Yea, and these profound Teachers doe oftentimes curtail their sacred Lessons, or else their Auditors our-cloyed with grave Doctrine will either despise them, or fall asleep during their Sermons. Therefore unless a Book contain light matters as well as serious, it cannot flourish nor live Jovially, but like leaden Saturn stand still in the stall, or languish like a bed ridden Creature.

| [ed.] Books that entertained sold; lighten up the texts, he said.

At this discourse of Sir William Alexander's, Master Elveston as a man ravished with admiration, went forward in the like Proposition. Now, quoth he, indeed you have traced my meaning, and happily conjectured at that, which renders grace to the wise and eternal Muses. Whosoever will commit to *Per se* (in itself) that mixture, which favours of some trifling fragments and historical figments interlaced among weighty and serious matters shall please the Judicious and the Simple. Nowadays it is wisdom for a Writer to produce wisdom under a disguised style, and so to wean the nurselings of his brain, that the Common People may be edified by a discreet kind of Folly. Let us follow the example of Saint Paul, who ministered milk only unto Babes, and not meat of too solid and hard digestion. The Bible comprehends pleasing Relations, as well as profound mysteries, jellies for the Sick, and venison for the strong; where likewise a Lamb may wade and an Elephant swim. To this end do we use Olives, Capers, Oranges, and Lemons for sauce to tender stomachs, when as men of abler Constitutions can feed on meat without such provocations. Excellent in this Art of Cookery were those Spaniards, which wrought the life of Guzman the Rogue, and the Adventures of Don Quixote de la Mancha, the former serving to withdraw a licentious young man from Prodigality, Whoredom, and Deceit, and the latter to reclaim a riotous running wit from taking delight in those prodigious, idle, and time-wasting Books, called the Mirror of Knighthood, the Knights of the Round Table, Palmerin de Oliva [all three romantic history novels, quite popular in their time and highly criticized by Elphinstone], and the like rabblement, devised no doubt by the Devil to confirm souls in the knowledge of evil, Honest Mirth I like, but if it be accompanied with Scurrility, Bawdy, notorious lies, or with profane and too frivolous fopperies, I utterly dislike all such pretended recreations. As the former is necessary for the prolonging of health and life: so likewise it is for the sale and approbation of a Book, wherein trivial toys and tales shall be intermixed among matters of importance, that they may breed a longing desire in the Hearers to have such novelties repeated again and again. For as Marsilius Ficinus writes concerning a Heavenly body here on earth What Old man soever will renew his age, and reduce his body to a youthful temper, he must lay aside his gravity, and be a child in mind. *Oportet prius, ut repuerascat animo* (It is necessary, first, in order that the mind of the young? return?).

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Guzm%C3%A1n_de_Alfarache

Guzmán de Alfarache is a picaresque novel written by Mateo Alemán and published in two parts: the first in Madrid in 1599 with the title *Primera parte de Guzmán de Alfarache*, and the second in 1604, titled *Segunda parte de la vida de Guzmán de Alfarache, atalaya de la vida humana*. The work tells the first person adventures of a picaro, a young street urchin, as he matures into adulthood. It thus ultimately both recounts adventures and moralizes on those childish excesses. Guzmán de Alfarache, by this means, is conceived as an extensive doctrinal sermon about the sins of society, and was so

received by the author's contemporaries, despite the hybrid qualities between an engaging novel and a moralizing discourse.

The novel was highly popular in its time. Many editions were published, not only in Spanish, but in French, German, English, Italian, and Latin. The English translation, by James Mabbe, was published in 1622, under alternative titles *The Rogue* and *The Life of Guzman de Alfarache*.

[ed.] The first English translation of Cervante's great novel, *Don Quixote de la Mancha*, was released in 1620.

This Discourse of Master Elveston did highly satisfy Sir William Alexander, and confirm him in his resolution of applauding Books of this stamp and miscellaneous humour: so that converting his speech to me who attentively listened to their communication, he said: Noble Friend, by our caveats you may observe what course you must take to win the good will of our Islanders; for except you season your Avisoes [advisories] with some light passages with wits, fits, & fancies, like ballads & babbles to refresh the capacities of your Auditors, as Aesop the Phrygian under Fables couched and shadowed Policies of great moment, they will hardly yield due attention to your Counsels, be they never so important, and consequently never assist us for the getting of the Golden Fleece, so requisite for the supplies of this Monarchy, that in all likelihood it cannot long subsist without this main and special Trade, which rightly may be termed the Nursery of Mariners, the propagation of shipping, Great Britain's Indies, *Cornucopia Amalthea*. You shall do a work of Charity, yea and of Liberality, for this free-hearted virtue consists in distributing good Counsel as well as of money, to animate our careless Countrymen. The Planets delight in motion; and by so much the nearer do our Spirits approach to these superior bodies, when with a resolution undaunted, we undertake noble enterprises, tending to the public good as to our own particular. Go on then, dear Friend, having virtue for thy Guide. What will it avail a Scholar to reserve his knowledge to himself, to hide his Candle under a bushel, or to vaunt: We write to ourselves and to the Sons of Art? Who will take notice of such a Mystery?

<http://www.mythphile.com/2010/11/the-cornucopia-horn-of-plenty-in-greek-myth/>

The Cornucopia, or Horn of Plenty, is actually the horn of the goat Amalthea, the nurse of baby Zeus in Greek mythology.

Scire tuum nihil est nisi te scire hoc sciat alter [Knowledge is nothing unless you know it].

After these and the like Discourses were ended, we departed, they to the Court, and I to my study; where I began to rouse up my thoughts, and thoroughly to ruminate on some Plot, which might invite our Worldlings for their present and future Good to embrace those fortunes, which with open arms this Sister-land offers unto us. For the accomplishing whereof, under a Poetical style not too much degenerating from the Evangelical gravity, I have resolved to use the name of the great Apollo, not Heathenish, but Christian, after the example of Traiano Boccalini, who under that Title brought forth most plausible *Raggualioes* [informations], and by me now of late communicated (translated) to our English Readers: or rather in imitation of the ancient Romish Church, which beautified their Temples with painted Babies, as baits in worldly policy to allure the barbarous Goths, and the wavering-minded Romans of those times to repair thither from their more Superstitious Idols, left otherwise the Religion, which they had planted, might have fallen to contempt, like the Sanctum Sanctorum of the Jews Temple, which when the omens under Titus at the destruction of Jerusalem had observed to be bare without any graven Images, or other outward garnishing, they despised the same as a Monument of no value, and at length consumed it with fire. For the like cause Apothecaries do sometimes gild over their ugly and bitter Pills to please the Sick man's view, which to other Patients for want of

such deceitful daubing, have been so fastidious and loathsome, that even at the very sight of the Pills, their Imaginations prevailing so powerfully over their bodies, their stomachs warbled, and they have fallen into as violent a Purge, as if they had already swallowed them down. So nice and tender is many a man's nature, whereof we cannot ascribe any other reason, than the depraved Fantasy, and the sundry mixtures of the Spirit's partaking of the Elemental Qualities corrupted, which cause us to delight in fair outward shows and varieties, but commonly of the daintiest taste, of the newest Cooking.

To which I add this one Accident more, as a special motive to my Apologia, for inserting vulgar Toys among matters of Consequence,

Interpone tuis interdum gaudia curis (sometimes joys mix into your cares).

As Ausonius writes in his Cato's Morals. Since the Conference I had with those judicious Gentlemen aforespecified, it was my chance to be present at a Booksellers shop, where I saw the Writings of the learned Bullinger, one of the chief Pillars of our Reformed Religion,

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Heinrich_Bullinger



Heinrich Bullinger (18 July 1504 – 17 September 1575) was a Swiss reformer, the successor of Huldrych Zwingli as head of the Zurich church and pastor at Grossmünster. A much less controversial figure than John Calvin or Martin Luther, his importance has long been underestimated; recent research shows that he was one of the most influential theologians of the Protestant Reformation in the 16th century.

and the Works of that curious Schoolman, whom the Romists term the Angelical Doctor, sold for waste Paper, even for

two pence a quire. Which when I beheld to my great wonder, I thus expostulated with myself: what then shall become of my Books, which I have already published to the World with so many hours pains and vigilant cares? Or of those, which hereafter upon urgent occasions I may wrest from my indulgent Minerva

<https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Minerva>

Minerva (/mɪˈnɜːr.və/; Latin: [mɪˈner.wa]; Etruscan: Menrva) was the Roman goddess of wisdom and sponsor of arts, trade, and strategy. She was born with weapons from the head of Jupiter. After impregnating the titaness Metis, Jupiter recalled a prophecy that his own child would overthrow him.

Fearing that their child would grow stronger than he and rule the Heavens in his place, Jupiter swallowed Metis whole. The titaness forged weapons and armor for her child while within the father-god, and the constant pounding and ringing gave him a headache. To relieve the pain, Vulcan used a hammer to split Jupiter's head and, from the cleft, Minerva emerged, whole, adult, and bearing her mother's weapons and armor.

From the 2nd century BC onwards, the Romans equated her with the Greek goddess Athena. She was the virgin goddess of music, poetry, medicine, wisdom, commerce, weaving, and the crafts. She is often depicted with her sacred creature, an owl usually named as the "owl of Minerva", which symbolised her association with wisdom and knowledge.

seeking that Books of a higher Genius, of a more sublime nature prove thus unfortunate, and vilified? Shall I write or betake my Muse to Melancholy? On the one side the Iniquity of the times terrifies me from further writing. On the other side, the care of my Country's welfare solicits, nay, exacts my present help, at the least some [t]enitive Medicines towards her recovery, which now pants with a difficult breathing, whether the Infirmitie proceeds *ex angustia praecordiorum* [heart trouble], from some straightness in the midrif; or of a bastard Pleurisy, which requires blood-letting; or of some abstruse and secret cause in the lungs; or of some superfluous humour engendered in the brain, where the Intellectual Faculties ought to reside, and to direct the inferior Functions. Howsoever, the Cure is not impossible: yet perhaps a thankless Office for a man uncalled to take in hand. This last is the cause, and none but this, which makes me the more sparing of my remedies. In this confusion of thoughts fearing to play with Jupiter's beard, or to dally with Saints and higher Powers, who might misconstrue my Goodwill, I thought once to be silent, lest in lending my hand to save others, of tender charity and compassion, I might fall myself into the Whirlpool, and there sink or swim, I should rather be laughed at than pitied.

[ed.] Vaughan's *panting* symptoms of the English *welfare* ran the full range of causes for breathing difficulties but he seemed to settle finally on a *superfluous humor* of the brain; i.e. bad attitude. In any case, Vaughan begged off actually taking a hand in the cure, except to produce the *Golden Fleece*

Sic aliquis nanti dextram dum porrigit, ipse Incidit in liquidas non bene cautus aquas. (He stretches out his right hand while he swam just like that, he cautiously fell into muddy waters).

...

[ed.] By such arguments Vaughan committed to write *Golden Fleece*, he missed the part about simple and basic. Was Elphinstone behind the earlier *Discourses* as well, Whitbourne's backer in the Privy Council, perhaps?

Part I – The Errors of Religion

[ed.] Vaughan started Chapter 1 by recounting his involvement with John Florio in the capture of a Jesuit named Mariana and the Jesuit leader *Claudius Aquavivaes*. The Reformed Church was the only church and Vaughan laid many societal ills at the doors of the *Romish* in general and the Jesuits in particular. He had people looking for the Jesuits, it seems, and his spies were instrumental in their capture. In Chapter 2 the Jesuits are tried and condemned to the stake, which Vaughan alludes to as being *perpetually* tortured in *Plalaris his Brazen Bull* along with all their books and all the ashes scattered in the *river Lethé*.

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/John_Florio



John Florio (1553–1625), known in Italian as Giovanni Florio [dʒoˈvanni ˈfloːrjo], was a linguist and lexicographer, a royal language tutor at the Court of James I, and a possible friend and influence on William Shakespeare. He was also the first translator of Montaigne into English. He was born in London, and in 1580 he married Aline, the sister of poet Samuel Daniel. The couple had three children, Joane Florio, baptised in Oxford in 1585; Edward, in 1588 and Elizabeth, in 1589. He died in Fulham, London in 1625

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Juan_de_Mariana



Juan de Mariana, also known as Father Mariana (1536 – 17 February 1624), was a Spanish Jesuit priest, Scholastic, historian, and member of the Monarchomachs.

Juan de Mariana was born in Talavera, Kingdom of Toledo. He studied at the Complutense University of Alcalá de Henares and was admitted at 17 into the Society of Jesus.

In 1561, he went to teach theology in Rome, reckoning among his pupils Robert Bellarmine, afterwards cardinal; then passed into Sicily; and in 1569 he was sent to Paris, where his expositions of the writings of Thomas Aquinas attracted large audiences. In 1574, owing to ill health, he obtained permission to return to Spain; the rest of his life being passed at the Jesuits' house in Toledo in vigorous literary activity. He died in Madrid.

[ed.] Fairly obvious that Vaughan was involved in the capture of a Jesuit, but not Mariana; Vaughan's Jesuit was a stand-in for Mariana, whose works were available in English at the time; his most notable work was a History of Spain but he treated on things like the Alteration of Money which touched on national economies and royal riches. Knowing of Mariana and his work would have made any Spanish Jesuit a *Mariana* in Vaughan's eyes.

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Claudio_Acquaviva



Claudio Acquaviva, S.J. (14 September 1543 – 31 January 1615) was an Italian Jesuit priest elected in 1581 the fifth Superior General of the Society of Jesus. He is often referred to as the second founder of the Jesuit order. Some older texts spell his name Aquaviva.

Claudio Acquaviva was born in Atri, Abruzzo, the son of Giovanni Antonio Acquaviva d'Aragona, 9th Duke of Atri, descended from a noble family illustrious at the court of Naples for its patronage of humanist culture. His grandfather, Andrea Matteo Acquaviva (1456–1528), was a condottiere and humanist whose brother Belisario Acquaviva (1464–1528), Duke of Nardo, was also a noted man of letters.[3]

After initial studies of humanities (Latin, Greek and Hebrew) and Mathematics, he studied Jurisprudence in Perugia, and then he was appointed as Papal Chamberlain by Pope Pius IV.

First contacts with Jesuits

He had heard of the Society of Jesus through his friendship with Francis Borgia and Juan de Polanco. He was particularly impressed by the works of the Early Companions during the Plague in 1566 and decided to join the Order in 1567. With the blessing of Pius V he asked the then Superior General, Francis Borgia, to be admitted to the noviceship. After completing his studies, he was very soon given positions of important responsibility, his administrative gifts marking him out for the highest posts. He soon became the Provincial superior of Naples and then of Rome; and during this office he offered to join the Jesuit mission to England that set out under Robert Parsons in the spring of 1580.

[ed.] Earlier in Golden Fleece Vaughan noted Robert Parsons as a living person at the time of the Jesuit capture. Obviously, the reference to Claudius Acquaviva is a lend name for Mariana the Jesuit's superior. And Parsons was already dead 16 years before, another name lend.

The timing of Florio and Vaughan's capture escapade isn't clear from the text. but was before 1625 when Florio passed.

<https://www.britannica.com/biography/Robert-Parsons>



Robert Parsons, also spelled Persons (born June 24, 1546, Nether Stowey, Somerset, Eng.—died April 15, 1610, Rome), Jesuit who, with Cardinal William Allen, organized Roman Catholic resistance in England to the Protestant regime of Queen Elizabeth I. He favoured armed intervention by the continental Catholic powers as a means of restoring Catholicism in England, and he probably encouraged the numerous plots against the Queen's life.

Early in 1575 Parsons was forced to resign his teaching position at the University of

Oxford because his sympathies lay with the proscribed Roman Catholic religion. He went to Rome and there, on July 4, 1575, entered the Society of Jesus. In 1580 Parsons and his colleague Edmund Campion reentered England to minister to English Catholics. In a year of clandestine activity he did much to bolster their morale; he preached, wrote religious books and pamphlets, and set up a secret printing press.

After Campion's arrest in July 1581, Parsons returned to the Continent and was assigned by William Allen—an influential English Catholic living abroad—the task of directing from abroad the Jesuit mission to England. In 1588 he was sent to Spain, where he spent nearly nine years establishing seminaries for English priests at Valladolid, Sevilla, and Madrid. He died at the English College in Rome.

Parsons wrote many incisive works. His *Christian Directorie* (1585) became a devotional classic for Protestants as well as for Catholics.

<https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Phalaris>

Phalaris was the tyrant of Akragas (now Agrigento) in Sicily, from approximately 570 to 554 BC. Phalaris was entrusted with the building of the temple of Zeus Atabyrius in the citadel and took advantage of his position to make himself despot. Under his rule, Agrigentum seemed to have attained considerable prosperity. He supplied the city with water, adorned it with fine buildings, and strengthened it with walls. On the northern coast of the island, the people of Himera elected him general with absolute power, in spite of the warnings of the poet Stesichorus. According to the Suda he succeeded in making himself master of the whole of the island. He was at last overthrown in a general uprising headed by Telemachus, the ancestor of Theron of Acragas (tyrant c. 488–472 BC), and burned in his own brazen bull. Phalaris was renowned for his excessive cruelty. Among his alleged atrocities is cannibalism: he was said to have eaten suckling babies.

In his Brazen bull, said to have been invented by Perillos of Athens, the tyrant's victims were shut in and roasted alive by a fire kindled beneath while their shrieks represented the bellowing of the bull.

<https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Lethe>

In Greek mythology, Lethe was one of the five rivers of the underworld of Hades. Also known as the *Ameles potamos* (river of unmindfulness), the Lethe flowed around the cave of Hypnos and through the Underworld, where

all those who drank from it experienced complete forgetfulness. Lethe was also the name of the Greek spirit of forgetfulness and oblivion, with whom the river was often identified.

In Classical Greek, the word *lethe* literally means "oblivion", "forgetfulness", or "concealment". It is related to the Greek word for "truth", *altheia* which through the privative alpha literally means "un-forgetfulness" or "un-concealment".

Goddess

Lethe was also the name of the personification of forgetfulness and oblivion, with whom the river was often associated. Hesiod's Theogony identifies her as the daughter of Eris ("strife"), and the sister of Ponos ("Hardship"), Limos ("Starvation"), Algea ("Pains"), Hysminai ("Battles"), Makhai ("Wars"), Phonoi ("Murders"), Androktasiai ("Manslaughters"), Neikea ("Quarrels"), Pseudea ("Lies"), Logoi ("Stories"), Amphillogiai ("Disputes"), Dysnomia ("Anarchy"), Ate ("Ruin"), and Horkos ("Oath").

[ed.] Chapters 3 and 4 have Doctor Wicliffe of Oxford catching a Franciscan kissing a maid in the service of Princess Thalia and a long hearing about what constitutes kissing and what exactly the good doctor saw. The defence was led by Saint Francis, obviously a pseudonym for the head of the Franciscans. Seven kinds of kisses are detailed in the friar's defense:

the kiss of charity – which the patriarchs and saints of yore used on one another
the kiss of compliment – by way of compliment and friendly ceremony to salute their friends' wives and other women, one at meeting and one at parting – harmless if held at two per meeting
the kiss as token of love – between married people
the lecherous kiss – used unlawfully among those who shun the light, or in the Stewes
the unnatural kiss – of a man with a man, a minion kiss
the Judas kiss – bearing honey in the mouth and gall in the heart – being compared to the salutation of the ancient Irish, who when they purposed to do an ill turn, laughed and smiled, thereby to make the innocent stranger secure and careless of his safety
the kiss of grace – or Honour, which Potentates and great princes have used to confer on inferior persons by reaching their hands or feet to be kissed

[ed]. The friar was sentenced to hard labour in the House of Correction.

John Wycliffe flourished in the mid 1300's. He was an advanced critic of the Catholic Church and was one founder of the Reformation. Whoever Vaughan referred to here, it is certainly not the original Wycliffe.

Chapter 5 turns attention to the maid who was kissed and her lady, Thalia. The upshot was that lewd behaviour was not to be tolerated and society was warned *not to suffer your giddie-headed Girdles to gad abroad without some staid person to oversee and curb their natural disposition.*

Thalis was the muse of idyllic poetry and comedy, a reference to a feminine lightness of being, the subject Princess chose not to curb her servant, perhaps not to curb herself.

Chapters 6, 7 and 8 deal; with clerical sexual misconducts and clerical marriage.

Chapter 9 deals with eastern orthodox heresies.

Chapter 10 deals with Martin Luther.

Chapter 11 deals with the Albigensians.

Chapter 12 deals with Berengarius and Christian communion.

Chapters 13 and 14 deal with the Pope and the Churches of Rome and Egypt (Coptic).

Chapters 15 and 16 deal with Geoffrey Chaucer's announcement of the Pope as AntiChrist.

Chapters 17 and 18 deal with Puritans and other separatists, urging them to return to the Reform Church.

These 17 chapters purport to solve the state's problems by correcting the religious practices of Protestantism and further ridding the country of Roman Catholicism.

Vaughn concludes: *if notwithstanding all my allegations, these Busie-bodies will play the clamorous Stentors, and refuse to allow, either the forme, matter, or Decrees set out in this Treatise, let them lay them by, as unripe fruit, or Orders fitter for me to divulge in the Newfoundland, and there to see them executed among my owne Tenants.*

The ills of the nation were easily laid at the feet of religious errors; so also the lack of support for a plantation seemed to result from religious errors, in his opinion.

[ed.] Part 2 is a treatise on economics and trade imbalance.

Chapter 6 provides Vaughan's answers to Apollo's question as to the reasons for Wales impoverishment; too many taxes, too many courts and litigations, too much governance, he suggested. Apollo suggested that by removing the onerous law courts and fees more money might be available for agriculture and trade, domestic and foreign, although this seems to be more Vaughan putting words into the mouth of authority.

Chapter 7 details a number of proposed reforms of the Law Courts, numbers six and seven specifically deal with Newfoundland:

Sixthly, that no man presume to become a judge in the Newfoundland, which ever received a Bribe; or which took a Fee within the space of seven years, before he enter there; for that Country being as yet pure, we will suffer no impure hands to touch her, nor impure lips to Court her. Seventhly, that whosoever takes a Bribe in the Newfoundland directly or indirectly, or tolerates with any Gehezi to receive it, he shall be convicted of Rape, for polluting that blessed Nymph, with adulterous injustice, & to be punished more Majorum, as the Senate of Rome had adjudged Nero, or to be used as a Blasphemer against Saint Mark at Venice.

<https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Gehazi>

Gehazi is a figure found in the Books of Kings in the Hebrew Bible. As a servant of Elisha he was in a position of power but he was corrupt, and misused his authority and cheated Naaman the Syrian, a leper. As a punishment,

Elisha cursed him, transferring Naaman's leprosy to him and his descendants for ever. In Rabbinic literature, Gehazi is identified as one of four commoners who forfeited his share in the afterlife because of his wickedness.

[ed.] Chapters 8, 9 and 10 deal with the Jesuit's complaint against Vaughan in regard to his participation in the capture of Mariana. Vaughan seems to come out unscathed, probably as a result of the intense feeling against Jesuits by the Royal Court.

Chapters 11, 12 and 13 are a polemic against sexuality and licentiousness among married couples. More anti-femism in today's view.

Chapter 14 rails against drinking; Chapter 15 against tobacco smoking.

Chapters 16 and 17 are a conclusion, mostly in a light poetic style; as Vaughan promised to mix levity with serious matters.

Chapter 18 comes to matters of the Western Trade.

Orpheus Junior shows that one of the chiefest causes of the Decay of Trading in Great Britain proceeded by the rash Adventures of the Western Merchants in passing the Straits of Gibraltar, and in fishing on the Coast of Newfoundland, without *wasting* ships to defend them from Pirates.

The next day after this memorable Procession of the famous Fraternity, Apollo caused a public Proclamation to be set up on the great Porch of Neptune's Royal Exchange, willing and requiring all such as wished well to Great Britain to repair with their grievances before him into the Hall of the said Exchange, where he had appointed a particular meeting for the affairs of that Commonwealth in the afternoon of the said day. Orpheus Junior finding by experience, that one of the late causes of the Decay of Trade arose by the misgoverned and straggling courses of the Western Merchants, which either of fool-hardiness, carelessness, or of a griping humour to save a little charge, adventured in their return from Newfoundland, without Fleets, or *Wafters* to guard them, or any politic Order to pass through the Straits of Gibraltar, to the Dominions of the King of Spain, to Marseilles, or Italy, where yearly they met with the Moorish Pirates, who by the connivance of the Great Turk, were suffered to prey upon all Christians, which they encountered. With these inconveniences Orpheus Junior being grieved to see his Country suffer through these Merchants' sides, he exhibited a Petition to his Imperial Majesty Showing these irregular courses, as also how that the Golden Fleece which now became rife in all men's mouths might be quickly surprized and annihilated, if his Providence did not betimes take some safe course to secure the labours of those new Argonauts, which spared no shipping to sail into those Coasts, where this precious Fleece flourished on the backs of Neptune's Sheep.

[ed.] The Barbary coast pirates were a greater threat to Newfoundland enterprise, on their return laden with fish and passing through the Straits of Gibraltar, than pirates in the west Atlantic. Even so, Vaughn's 1618 efforts was overthrown by one or more *rogue captains* who abandoned Raleigh in Guyana. Since Villiers took over as Lord Admiral, anti-piracy was concentrated on the Straits region, obviously it was rife with pirates and they were costing tremendous losses annually. Compared to Newfoundland where a handful of pirates had off an on been active over 20 years.

<http://dictionary.sensagent.com/wafter/en-en/>

Merriam Webster
Wafer, n.

1. One who, or that which, wafts.
2. A boat for passage. *Ainsworth*

<http://www.thefreedictionary.com/wafter>

Back-formation from *wafter*, convoy ship, alteration of Middle English *waughter*, from Middle Dutch or Middle Low German *wachter*, a guard, from *wachten*, to guard.

[ed.] *Wafter* is no longer used, apparently it referred to armed ship escorts; wasting might result from a confusion of the printed *s* and *f* of the times. Nothing else new here, however, as Whitbourne was specific in the size and number of ships required to adequately protect the Newfoundland fleets both in Newfoundland and across the Atlantic. It is probable the petition was that presented by Whitbourne in his *Discourse*, now published and distributed throughout all England for six years in more than one edition.

Part 3

[ed.] Now, finally, Vaughan got to Newfoundland and the fishery and the benefits of plantation; like all his writing, it is elusive and elliptical. Passages specific to his planting efforts and to Newfoundland are extracted below.

By which meditations of mine, I perceived, that nothing but gain could move the careless minds of our Islanders to seek abroad for new habitations. I looked into the Plantations at the Summer-Iles [Somers Islands; later Bermuda], Virginia, yea into Africa, as far as the Cape of good hope, where for the ease of our East Indian Fleets, I conceived at Saint Helena, or Soldana, a fit Plantation might be erected. But after that I had considered the many difficulties by reason of the tediousness of the voyage, the charge, and above all, the malice of the Spaniards, who being like to the Dog in the Manger, do want people to plant, and yet they will not permit others to plant. I saw that God had reserved the Newfoundland for us Britains, as the next land beyond Ireland, and not above nine or ten days sail from thence. I saw that he had bestowed a large portion for this Country's marriage with our Kingdoms, even this great Fishing, that by this means it might be frequented and inhabited the sooner by us. And I verily thine, that his Heavenly providence ordained this Island not without a Mystery for us of Great Britain, that Islanders should dwell in islands; and that we should ponder on this ensuing Moral:

[ed.] Nine or tens days sail *from thence* is right, using the prevailing easterlies and the Gulf Stream, outbound from England the trip could take four to six weeks, battling the winds and currents.

Then follows a moral lesson about the importance of fishermen, as an example, Jesus favored fishers in his following, Andrew, Thomas and Peter were all fishermen. In answer to *Apollo's* question about why a man in late middle age would promote relocation to a new land, Vaughan said:

sometimes I feel my Pillow uneven, my head tossed and turmoiled with many a nettled thought, and my mind playing loath to depart from my native soil. One while the conceit of my supposed worth, reputation, kindred, acquaintance, ease, convenience of means at home, and other symbolized ornaments of this present world, do recall me back, like another Demas, from this charitable work in the Newfoundland. But instantly I blush for shame, when I think on the magnanimity of Heathenish men, who may rise against us at the iudgement day, and plead their good deserts before our frozen zeal; That a Citizen of Rome, for the safety of his City of Rome, sacrificed his life in that horrible gulf; That

Codrus of Athens, though a King, did disguise himself as a private Soldier, of set purpose to die for the saving of his people; That the chiefest Nobility among the Goths and Vandals, forsooke their own habitations, to accompany the meaner sort of people, and to lead them into foreign Countries, who without their personal presence, would have staid at home like Drones, and pined for want of living.

<https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Codrus>

Codrus (Greek: Κόδρος) was the last of the semi-mythical Kings of Athens (r. ca 1089–1068 BC). He was an ancient exemplar of patriotism and self-sacrifice. He was succeeded by his son Medon, who it is claimed ruled not as king but as the first Archon of Athens.

<https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Demas>

Demas or Demos is a man mentioned by the Apostle Paul in the New Testament of the Bible, and appears to have been involved for a time in his ministry.

Demas is mentioned in three of the canonical Pauline epistles:

In Philemon he is mentioned as a "fellow worker". [Philemon 1:24]

In Colossians he is mentioned along with Luke (the physician and writer of the Gospel of Luke and Acts). [Colossians 4:14]

In Second Timothy, a letter traditionally ascribed to Paul, where it is mentioned that "...for Demas, because he loved this world, he has deserted me and has gone to Thessalonica." [2Timothy 4:10a]

Demas is also mentioned in the non-canonical Acts of Paul and Thecla, where he is described as holding views similar to the author of Second Peter. Based on this, Dale Martin speculates that whichever one of the Acts of Paul and Thecla and the Pastoral Epistles (including Second Timothy) was written later may have been arguing against the other.

He continued:

That's my Country [Newfoundland] which gives me my wellbeing. Every place agrees with an honest mind, and that as naturally, as the Sea with the Fish, as the Air with the Fowl. ... Whereby the care of my Wife and Children, kindling an indulgent love within me, revokes my resolution from this enterprise. But presently after I see the same God overlooking Newfoundland, which overlooks Europe, and all the world over, sounding out this Proclamation: He that loves his Father and Mother above me, is not worthy of me: which the Jesuits embracing somewhat too meritoriously, do to our shame, put in practice, abandoning all the pleasures of their native Country, and betaking themselves to the uttermost parts of the earth, so that China and Japan do ring out the name of our Saviour Christ by their means and travels.

[ed.] Here Vaughan *revokes his resolution* about settling Newfoundland, even though he is so enamoured of it, in favour of family obligations. After 10 years he might well have been about to give up; or did he do so when he sold parts of his grant to Falkland and Calvert? Was *Golden Fleece* his last stand for a plantation in Newfoundland or an assist to those still making plans? No sources ever say he gave up, surrendered, or buckled, although many say he failed.

Sometimes I suspect the Action, because I see men of my rank so much given to laziness, and the love of their dunghills at home, that they will endure any smart of oppression or crack of credit, rather

than they will depart into a remoter place to live in perpetual plenty. But this cogitation quickly vanishes, when I consider the estates of our rich and poor, how the one will not, the other cannot. The one lies besotted with the lullabies of carnal ease, caring more for this worlds vanity, than for heavenly Bliss purchased by works of charity, which as S. James wrote, will help to cover multitudes of sins. And the other for want of means, cannot get thither without some good people's devotions. In which latter discommodity I am sorry to find so many helpless in my Country of Wales. Whereas close by us, I see our neighbours of Devonshire scorning to become Gossips to poverty, yearly to send above 150 ships to salute the Newfoundland, transporting there hence those Commodities, without which, Spain and Italy can hardly live.

This is our Colchos, where the Golden Fleece flourishes on the backs of Neptune's sheep, continually to be shorn. This is Great Britain's Indies, never to be exhausted dry. This precious Treasure surmounts the Duke of Burgundy's Golden Fleece, which he called after that name by reason of his large customs which he received from our English Wools and Cloth in the Low Countries. From this Island, our English transport worth 20,000 pounds; and might yearly treble this sum, if the Plantations go forward as happily as they do, and may with the tenth part of the charge, which hath been defrayed about other Plantations. So many men, so many minds. Every man hath his peculiar fancy, either by the motions of good Angels, or by the instigation of the Spiritual Tempter, or by the constitution of the brain, hot cold, or depravedly mixed. But let men in cold blood lay aside their crotchets, and the sparkling flames of imagination, and judiciously weigh the utility of this business, comparing the dangers, the remoteness, and charge of other voyages, and no doubt but God will give them a new heart, to embrace this project, which experience for these 80 years space hath confirmed unto us to be more beneficial, than any other whatsoever.

[ed.] Vaughan's 20,000 pounds isn't clear. In reference, Whitbourne. six years before, suggested the Newfoundland trade, was worth 135,000 pounds. Other plantations cost as much as ten times more than Newfoundland.

Here Orpheus Junior suspended his speech; when as all the Auditors and standers by shouted for joy, to hear that a new Colchos was found out for the restoring of Trading, which lately began to fail in the North-west parts of Europe. There were many Ladies which purposed out of hand to imitate Isabella Queen of Castile, in selling their Jewels, Rings, and Bracelets, for the furthering of this Plantation and Fishing, as the other had done to furnish out Columbus for the first discovery of the West-Indies. Great was the zeal, & most hopeful the Charity like to spring from this zeal, (for every man prepared an auspicious offering for the gratulation of these joyful news) when they also understood that all the profits of this Golden Fleece were to be distributed among the Professors of the Gospel, & that Great Britain's Monarchy might in a short time arrive to as great riches as the Spanish.

[ed.] Were the profits from *Golden Fleece* sales assigned to the clergy? Or did Vaughan say only that the increase in trade would also benefit the church as well as the state. Whitbourne in 1620 had struck a deal whereby sales of his Discourse were handled through English parishes. Eburne, two years before, based his whole premise on the increase of adherents to Christianity and how the church could be an ardent supporter of settlement.

After these applauses, his Majesty beckoned to Orpheus Junior, that he should proceed in his discourse. But suddenly the Lady Pallas interrupted him, saying, that it were requisite, all his Nobles and Governors of Provinces should be present at the discovery of the Golden Fleece, whereby some timely order might be taken for the guarding of the Coast, which produced this precious increase of Trade. Apollo liked very well of this wise admonition, & against that day seven night, required his

Pegasean Postmasters to summon his Provincial Governors, all other businesses set aside, that they should appear before him in the great Hall of the Court of Audience at Parnassus.

[ed.] There appears hereto be a one week break in the proceedings, *Lady Pallas* suggested that more people, in particular governors and previous governors of Newfoundland plantations should attend the discussions so as to ground truth the schemes put forward by Vaughan.

Apollo upon this Information examined the proceedings of the English, and comparing them with the Hollanders, as also with those of other Companies established with Privileges and Civil Order; found more confusion among the Fishermen of Newfoundland, than in any other. For wheresoever the Hollanders either fished or traded, they went strongly guarded with wafting Ships to prevent all casualties: The Spaniards likewise being taught in Queen Elizabeth's time by the English, & since by the Moorish Pirates to go well provided with some ships of Defence. Yea, and all those Companies in London, which the King of Great Britain had graced with Charters and Freedoms prospered, and never went abroad without sufficient strength. Only, those petty Merchants, which were led with desire of Gain, not willing to enrank themselves into an orderly Society, but as it were in despite of Government singled and severed from Fleets, these became continually a spoil to the Pirates.

[ed.] The complaint was all English planting expeditions and trade routes were protected, except the Newfoundland trade, because the merchants engaged in it were too greedy to outlay for protection. Other nations protected their plantations and overseas colonies, but Newfoundland was a site of *confusion*, much of which was Whitbourne's assessment of the situation as well, namely, a lack of *Privileges and Civil Order*.

His Majesty viewed the East India Company, and found them Rich with many brave serviceable Ships.

He searched into the strength of the Turkish Merchants, and saw them stored with warlike Munition and abounding in wealth; yea, and by their painful Trading getting the start of the Italians, which heretofore in Argosies gained and exported great treasure out of this Kingdom.

He pried into the state of the Moscovy Company, and found them very able subsisting of themselves, and ready to supply their Country with many rich Commodities.

He entered into the Mystery of the French Society, and also into the Eastern Merchants, and beheld them winning the Trade from the Baltic Sea, and the Hans Town in Germany.

Only the Western Trading he saw out of square, and all for want of settled Fleets.

[ed.] The conclusion stayed the same, without wafters the Newfoundland trade couldn't progress.

At last it came into his Majesty's mind, that the Noble King James of happy memory did about three years past (1623) see into these discommodities, and thereupon directed out a Commission at the suite of the Corporation for the Plantation of the Newfoundland, to provide a couple of good Ships on the charge of the Fishermen, which yearly frequented that Coast, continually to assist them against the invasions of Pirates, who had in a few years before pillaged them to the damage of forty thousand pounds, besides a hundred Pieces of Ordnance, and had taken away above fifteen hundred Mariners to the great hindrance of Navigation and terror of the Planters.

[ed.] Three years before, maybe, four to the event and one to report it and make the request, puts it back to 1622 or 1623. There is no record of anyone

acceding to Whitbourne's recommendations. It looked like Vaughan was referring to the Newfoundland Company in Cuper's Cove.

Upon mature consideration of this Royal Commission Apollo pronounced, that it was necessary to keep this Commission still afoot, as well in time of peace as of War, both for the rearing of expert Commanders at Sea, as for the securing of that most hopeful Country. And to this purpose he commanded Orpheus Junior to attend at his Majesty's Court of Great Britain, and to solicit his Sovereign to conclude that Noble Design, which his Royal Father upon most weightier deliberation had formerly granted.

[ed.] Vaughan is asked to present a plan to Charles for the protection of the fishing fleets in Newfoundland.

Chapter 2

Orpheus Junior particularized the manifold benefits of the Golden Fleece, which might serve to repair the decay of Trade, lately complained of in Great Britain, and to restore that Monarchy to all earthly happiness.

Just on the prefixed day, the afore-mentioned Governors appeared before his Majesty, at the place appointed, where Apollo, the Lady Pallas, the Muses, the Graces, the Nymphs of Great Britain and Ireland, and all the wise Councillors of State, with the choice spirits of his Empire attending on his Majesty, he commanded Orpheus Junior particularly to certify unto them the necessity and commodity of the Golden Fleece, which might supply the defects of Great Britain, and restore it to the most flourishing estate, wherein it ever stood in former times. Orpheus Junior after some few excuses of his disability, proceeded to epitomize the singular properties of the Golden Fleece so much expected in this wise:

Most redoubted Emperor, and next to our great Creator, the prime Author of our worldly happiness, I am glad after the manifold crosses, which I have sustained by sundry accidents, that God hath reserved me an Instrument this day to discover that gain, which helps our Commerce personal betwixt party and party, and the Provincial betwixt our Kingdoms and the foreign, and both in the scale and balance of Trade. But before I declare the Commodities of this Trade, I will first show the Necessity wherein we stand, if it be not suddenly advanced forwards.

To begin with my Native Country Wales; Although many strange sicknesses have diverse times of late years afflicted us, yet notwithstanding the multitudes of people are here so great, that thousands yearly do perish for want of relief. Yea, I have known in these last dear years, that 100 persons have yearly died in a parish, where the Tithes amounted not to fourscore pounds a year, the most part for lack of food, fire and raiment, the which the poorer sort of that Country stand in greater need of, than the Inhabitants of the Champion Countries, by reason of their Mountains and hills, which cause the winter there to be most bitter with stormy winds, rain, or snow, and that for the space of eight months. As also experience teaches that Mountainous people require more store of nourishment for their bodies, than they which dwell in the plains or vallies: which was the reason, that in the North parts of England, Servants used to covenant heretofore with their Masters to feed them with bread made with Beans, and not of Barley from Allhalontide [31 October is All Hallows Eve] until May.

Another point of Necessity to procure us to set forwards this most hopeful Plantation, and consequently the Fishing, proceeds of the want of woods. For the Ironmongers upon what warrant I cannot learn, have lately consumed our woods, and those fit for timber, within less three 6 miles to the Sea,

so that we must shortly repair to other Countries for woods to be employed towards shipping, building, husbandry, &c. which poor men are not able to do. The decay of these woods also will cause our breed of Cattle to decrease, which heretofore stood as a shelter unto them against tempestuous blasts.

Thirdly, this main business is to be promoted in regard of the General Population of Great Britain, which is the chief cause, that Charity waxes cold. Every man hath enough to do, to shift for his own maintenance, so that the greatest part are driven to extremities, and many to get their living by other men's losses; witness our Extortioners, Perjurers, Pettifoggers at Law, Conycatchers, Thieves, Cottagers, Inmates, unnecessary Ale sellers, Beggars, burners of hedges, to the hindrance of Husbandry, and such like, which might perhaps prove profitable members in the Newfoundland. But above all, the state of younger Brothers is to the [sic MW] pitied, who by the rigour of our Norman Laws being left vnprovided of maintenance are oftentimes constrained to turn Pirates, Papists, fugitives, or to take some other violent course to the prejudice of the Common-wealth.

For these important reasons arising out of mere necessity, Plantations ought suddenly to be erected. And where with lesser charge than in the Newfoundland? Where can they live to help themselves, and benefit their Country better, than in joining to increase the revenues of the Crown of Great Britain by the rich trade of Fishing? The Commodities whereof, I will here cursorily repeat.

[ed.] Vaughan reiterated his reasons and logic in using plantations in Newfoundland to save the English economy. His 10 items *cursorily repeated* are very familiar.

[Marginal Note: 1] First, this Trade of Fishing multiplies shipping and Mariners, the principal props of this Kingdom. It yearly maintains 8000 persons for 6 months in the Newfoundland, which were they at home would consume in Tobacco and the Alehouse twice as much as they spend abroad. It relieves after their return home with the labour of their hands yearly their wives and children, and many thousand families within this Kingdome besides, which adventured with them, or were employed in preparing of nets, casks, victuals, &c. or in repairing of ships for that voyage.

Vaughan has 8000 men (in 1615 Mason had 5,000 in 200 ships; Whitbourne in 1620 claimed 250 ships *not less than five thousand* men and another 400 non-English ships.

[Marginal Note: 2] Secondly, It is near unto Great Britain, the next Land beyond Ireland, in a temperate Air, the south part thereof being of equal Climate with Little Britaine (Brittany) in France, where the Sun shines almost half an hour longer in the shortest day in the year, than it does in England.

[Marginal Note: 3] Thirdly, it will be a means for us to reap the rest of the commodities of that Country, which now we cannot enjoy for want of people to look after them, and also for want of leisure, our men there being busied in the Summer about the fishing, or in preparing of their stages and boats, and afterward returning home against winter. The commodities of the Land are Furs of Beaver, Sables, Black Foxes, Martens, Musk-rats, Otters, and such like skins, as also of greater beasts; as Deer, and other wild creatures. To this I adjoin the benefit, which may be made by woods, being pine, birch, spruce, Fir, &c. fit for boards, Masts, bark for tanning, and dyeing, Charcoals for making of Iron. Out of these woods we may have pitch, Tar, Rosin, Turpentine, Frankincense, and honey out of the hollow trees, as in Muscovy, and heretofore in our own woods before they were converted to the Iron Mills. There is great store of Metals, if they be looked after.

[Marginal Note: 4] The Plantations well and orderly there once erected, will help us to settle our Fishing Trade far more commodiously, than now it is. For whereas our Fisher-men set out at the end of February, they may choose to set out before the end March, if every man has his stages there ready against their coming, and not by the first comers destroyed most barbarously & maliciously, because their countrymen which come next after them may be behind them a fortnight in building of others. And likewise the Planters themselves may fish for Cod there a month before our English men can arrive thither, and also after they are gone they may fish almost all the year after.

[Marginal Note: 5] They may fish there for other kinds of fish besides Cod, as Mackerels, Salmons, Herrings, and Eels, salting them and barrelling them up: which will much advantage this Kingdom being hither transported.

[Marginal Note: 6] They may erect salt houses there, having woods sufficient for that purpose, which may save this Kingdom much money, which now goes out to other Countries for the same.

[Marginal Note: 7] The Plantations may in a short time supply us with Corn here in England, when the same grows dear, as commonly it doth within the space of every five years, whereby we are fain to be beholding to Danzk, and Poland, expending that way much of our Treasure. That Land having the vegetative salt and virtue of it unwearied, entire, and fresh, cannot but bear a world of corn, considering also the gums and liquors which from time to time since the Flood or the Creation have with the heat of the Sun distilled out of the trees into the earth, which renders it most fruitful. The which may be likewise gathered by observing the commodities and fruits, which now the earth produces without the industry of man.

No place of the world brings naturally more store of Gooseberries, and those bigger than our Garden ones, Raspberries, Mulberries, Filberts, Strawberries, Hurtle, Cherries, wild Peas, and abundance of Roses.

[Marginal Note: 8] By this Trading into Newfoundland, no commodity is carried out of the Kingdom, as in other voyages, which is a matter of great consequence. But by the labour of their hands they bring home Fish wet and dry, and Train Oil; Or else they bring home Salt, Wines, Spice, Sugar, &c. in exchange of their Fish out of France and Spain, a special enriching of this Realm, and an augmenting of the King's Customs and Imposts.

[Marginal Note: 9] The Plantations there will save many a poor man's life, who falling sick, as among so great a number some may chance to be, may quickly recover their health by fresh victuals and good lodging.

[Marginal Note: 10] This Plantation will prevent other Nations from engrossing the Country and the Fishing to themselves, as perhaps hereafter some may go about such a Plot. It will reduce such as resort thither, to acknowledge our King's sovereignty over that Land. It will serve to bridle their outrages, and also the abuses committed by our own Countrymen about the taking away with strong hand one another's stages and boats. It will serve to restrain their insolences, who now bragging, that they are there West and by Law, do wilfully set fire on the woods. It will bridle their thefts, which filch at their departure all the rails of other men's stages, together with their salt, which being full laden with fish, they are forced oftentimes to leave behind them. It will serve likewise to hinder their barbarous casting of their ballast into the harbours, which in a short time will overthrow both the havens and the Fishing.

[ed.] Iterations of Whitbourne. Nothing new here from Vaughan, the same old, same old.

To these motives I could join others; But because I think here are sufficient to lead men of understanding to see into their profit, & what may most easily be performed, I will leave off to trouble your patient ears any longer with a more tedious discourse, hoping that these will suffice as restoratives to repair the languishing humours of our Country. To the furtherance of which worthy work I invite the Inhabitants of Great Britain, like true Christian Patriots, to put to their helping hands. What for mine own particulars I have done, our Newland Merchants know. And more as yet I would do, were my means answerable to my mind; Howsoever, during my life I shall rejoice that in this vale of misery I have set out my talent to some good behoof. And in the hour of death it shall be my comfort, that I have laboured to keep the Faith not altogether fruitless and imaginary, but accompanied with some actual deeds of Charity.

[ed.] Chapter 3 gives the minutes of a meeting between *Apollo*, the Slany brothers and John Guy and John Mason of the Newfoundland Company. The boys were gathered to give their support to the reasons for planting in Newfoundland.

Apollo calls an Assembly of the Company, for the Plantation of Newfoundland, where Mr. Slany, Mr. Guy, and others, meeting by his Majesty's Command, Captain John Mason is willed to disclose, whether the Golden Fleece be there, where Orpheus Junior alleged it to be. Captain Mason avers it to be in the same Island more abundantly than in any other place.

Apollo having with acute judgment, and mature deliberation resolved to countenance and continue the Plantation of the Island commonly called the Newfoundland, afer his Majesty had by public proclamation commanded the same to be hereafter called Britanniol, & to be divided into three parts, as Great-Britain was at the first planting by the Trojans, or as others affirm by the valiant Cimbrians, he assembled all those expert gentlemen, which had either adventured their fortunes or persons in that hopeful Country. And in the magnificent Hall of the Delphic Palace, there appeared the noble minded John Slany Treasurer of the society for that Plantation, Humphrey Slany his brother, & others of the Corporation out of London and Bristol; Then entered John Guy Alderman of Bristol, who was the first Christian, that planted and wintered in that Island, establishing an English Colony at Cuperts Cove within the Bay of Conception, about 13. years past. After him, came Captain John Mason, who dwelt in that Country six years. Next to these, many others out of Bristol and Wales succeeded, who had spent some few years in that Land. And particularly, one Captain Winne a Cambro-Britan was much noted in this Assembly for his personal abode and painful care in settling the Plantation at Ferryland in the South part of this Coast, where for the space of 4 years he did more good for my Lord Baltimore, than others had done in double the time.

<https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Cimbri>

The Cimbri were an ancient people, either Germanic or Celtic who, together with the Teutones and the Ambrones, fought the Roman Republic between 113 and 101 BC.[1] The Cimbri were initially successful, particularly at the Battle of Arausio, in which a large Roman army was routed, after which they raided large areas in Gaul and Hispania. In 101 BC, during an attempted invasion of Italy, the Cimbri were decisively defeated by Gaius Marius, and their king, Boiorix, was killed. Some of the surviving captives are reported to have been among the rebelling gladiators in the Third Servile War.

Roman sources such as Strabo and Tacitus identify these Cimbri with a group living in Jutland, but strong evidence for this connection is lacking.

[ed.] Vaughan equates them with the Jutes, early settlers of England after the Roman withdrawal, a Danish tribe equal in power to the Angles and Saxons. The northern part of the Danish Peninsula is still called Jutland.

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/John_Slany

John Slany (died 1632), merchant, ship builder, born in Shropshire, England, was secretary of the Newfoundland Company and a member of the Merchant Taylor's Company. He had also invested in the East India Company.

In 1610 both Slany and John Guy submitted a petition to the Privy Council of London on behalf of the London and Bristol Company for a grant of incorporation of the Newfoundland Company. Its main goal was to establish a settlement in Newfoundland at Cuper's Cove and colonize it. Slany's interest in Newfoundland was heightened by favorable reports from John Guy and William Colston of the vast riches to be had in Newfoundland. He had also convinced Percival Willoughby to invest and establish ownership of a tract of land near the colony. Slany had predicted the failure of the colony because of disagreement with John Guy when he accused him of deceiving the Newfoundland Company over the Island's mineral resources in 1616. Slany taught English to the Patuxet Native American tribesman, Tisquantum (better known as Squanto) and brought him to Cuper's Cove as an interpreter and expert on North American natural resources.

[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Edward_Wynne_\(colonial_governor\)](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Edward_Wynne_(colonial_governor))

Edward Wynne was Proprietary Governor of the Ferryland colony from 1621 to 1626. Born in Wales, he was appointed by Sir George Calvert, (later, first Baron and Lord Baltimore) to establish the colony, and in August 1621, he landed at "Ferryland" with 12 men. By November of that same year, the colonists had completed a large dwelling, and then by Christmas, had added a stone kitchen. In 1622, a second group of colonists led by Daniel Powell was sent to the new English Colony, bringing the population to 32, including seven women. Within a few years, the Colony had housing, a forge, a warehouse, sawmill and wharf. In 1623, the Colony became the Province of Avalon when Calvert's grant was confirmed by King Charles I of England, growing to a population of 100 by 1625. Wynne was dismissed that year, probably because he lacked the skills to govern a growing Colony of that size and because Calvert himself wanted to govern the colony directly.

Apollo not mindful, that there were any more Adventurers & Planters of eminency than these, which he beheld there present, was about to frame a speech unto them, when the Lady Mnemosyne Princess of Memory whispered his Majesty in the ear, that there were other Noble Britons, which had likewise advanced this glorious enterprise. And why said Apollo, do they absent themselves from this Assembly? They have reason for it, answered the Lady Pallas; For if they repair hither to your Majesty's Court, and their Enemies watching that opportunity should enter into their charge, the remedies which you consult upon at this present, will fall out to be applied, as Physique to a dead Coarse; Some of the Dunkirk's may take their progress into your Britanniol, to solace themselves there with

your Nymphs, and to glut their greedy throats with Cods-heads. In what a case think you will your Jassons be with their Fishing for the Golden Fleece, if some of these Ragamuffins make havoc of their Ships, Mariners, Goods, and Plantations?

[ed.] A pointed reference to Vaughan's broken plan as a result of pirates?

Before you borrow the personal presence of those Gentlemen who are here wanting, it were fit your took some order to secure that Coast from Piratical rovers. The Lord Viscount Falkland looks unto his great Government in Ireland, to see the same well-fortified and guarded. The Lord Baltimore is likewise busy in supplying his Colony at Ferryland. Sir William Alexander attends on the valiant King of Great Britain, night and day, taking care by what means he may most commodiously transport his Scottish Colonies into those parts. Sir Francis Tanfield, and Sir Arthur Aston, two generous Knights, which to their immortal glory, do employ their times in building and manuring that new ground, cannot be spared from their Plantations, lest the wild Boars break into their Gardens. I think, said Apollo, I must send for Hercules from his starry Sphere, or get another Medusa, whose very sight shall turn these Dunkirk's into stones, before my virtuous followers shall endure the least affront at the hands of malicious Erinyes, that Patroness of barbarous Pirates. In the mean time we will think on some convenient course to restrain these threatened thunders and blustering blasts.

<https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Athena>

Athena, often given the epithet Pallas, is the goddess of wisdom, craft, and war in ancient Greek religion and mythology. In later times, Athena was syncretized with the Roman goddess Minerva. Athena was portrayed as having a calm temperament, and moving slowly to anger. She was believed to only fight for just causes and never fight without a purpose.

In ancient Greek literature, Athena is portrayed as the astute companion of heroes and as the patron goddess of heroic endeavour. She is also the patroness of Athens. The Athenians constructed the Parthenon atop their Acropolis as a temple to Athena; it takes its name from her epithet Parthenos, which means "Virgin".

[ed.] *Physique to a dead Coarse* – *physique* refers to a laxative; a dead coarse [course?] to a moribund or stultified plan; coarse also refers to something not delicate or rough in nature.

<https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Erinyes>

In Greek mythology, also known as the Furies, were female chthonic deities of vengeance; they were sometimes referred to as "infernal goddesses" (χθόνια θεαί). A formulaic oath in the Iliad invokes them as "the Erinyes, that under earth take vengeance on men, whosoever hath sworn a false oath. ... The Roman writer Maurus Servius Honoratus wrote that they are called "Eumenides" in hell, "Furiae" on earth, and "Dirae" in heaven.

http://www.biographi.ca/en/bio/tanfield_francis_1E.html

Sir Francis Tanfield, governor of Lord Falkland's colony in Newfoundland; baptized 14 June 1565 in Gayton, England; m. Elizabeth Lane and they had a son and two daughters; d. 9 Jan. 1639.

Francis Tanfield was the son of Clement Tanfield and his wife, Anne, of Gayton, Northamptonshire. He was knighted in July 1603 and, in September, accompanied the new ambassador, Lord Spencer, to the court of the Duke of Württemberg.

Tanfield was second cousin to Elizabeth, daughter of Sir Lawrence Tanfield – a subscriber to the Newfoundland company of 1610 – and wife of Henry Cary, Lord Falkland. About 1620 Cary purchased two pieces of land in Newfoundland: the first, a strip between Renewes and Aquaforte, he bought from William Vaughan; the second, a larger area on Trinity Bay, he bought from the Newfoundland company. The scheme was well worked out and, in 1623, an appeal for subscribers and planters was published, land being offered in return for investment of capital or service in the settlement. By this date Sir Francis Tanfield had been appointed governor, and it was probably that same year that he and the colonists left to settle at Renewes. Tanfield, who does not appear to have had previous experience of this kind of enterprise, was troubled by conflict between the planters and the fishermen. He was helped and advised by Sir Richard Whitbourne, who twice visited the colony. There is no indication of the scale on which the plantation was undertaken, and it survived for only two years. Nothing further is heard of Tanfield until 1630 when he was in England and preparing to go to Ireland on the king's service.

Tanfield was admitted to the Poor Knights of Windsor in March 1630. He died on 9 Jan. 1639 and was buried two days later in St George's Chapel, Windsor Castle.

[ed.] Tanfield operated Newfoundland for Falkland 1623 to 1625. The Renewes Harbour based lot was sold to Falkland by Vaughan, probably in 1622 or 1623.

[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Arthur_Aston_\(army_officer\)](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Arthur_Aston_(army_officer))

Sir Arthur Aston (1590 – 11 September 1649) was an English professional soldier, most noted for his support for King Charles I in the English Civil War, and in folklore for the gruesome manner of his death in Ireland. He was from a prominent Roman Catholic family originating in Cheshire.

And seeing that you my dear servants, are here assembled at this time, I must have you to satisfy the wavering world, whether the Golden Fleece be in greater plenty and abundance in this Island or in New England, Virginia, the Summer Iles, or in some other foreign Coast, which your Nation may easily possess. At these words, there was much muttering among the English and Scottish. For some contended on the behalf of Virginia; others contested for New England. Every man had his opinion according to his imaginary object, wherein most preferred private fantasies, before the intellectual faculty. His Majesty having patiently awaited for their unanimous resolution, like Brethren of the same Island, born under the same Prince, Religion and Government, and seeing no end of their disputes, he willed Captain Mason to break the Ice, in respect he had been six years acquainted with ice and frosts at Cupert Cove, one of the coldest places of those Countries, and boldly without partiality, fear, or sinister regard, to disclose the secrets of the Soil, the benefits of the Land, and whether this Plantation were such an inestimable jewel as Orpheus Junior had delivered, or to be had in more estimation than any other place.

[ed.] *The Summer Isles*, or more properly *the Somers Isles*, were named for Admiral of the Virginia Company, Sir George Somers. Bermuda was in the unofficial possession of the Virginia Company since 1609.

Captain Mason after some complementary excuse of his disability, answered in this wise: I could have wished that Mr. John Guy, my predecessor in Britanniol, a man both learned & experienced in these exploits, had spared me the relation, which your Majesty has imposed on me: But seeing the lot is fain into my share, I will repeat those passages, which he and others here know better than myself.

[ed.] Mason had it right; he repeats his own and Whitbourne's descriptions of Newfoundland. His map was included in *Golden Fleece*.

This Island now in question is altogether as large as England, without Scotland. And at the degree of 51. of Northerly latitude. Where England ends, there this blessed Land begins, and extends itself almost as far as the degree of 46. just in a manner as the climate lies from Calais to Rochelle. The weather in the winter somewhat like unto it in Yorkshire, but far shorter, for the Sun shines above half an hour longer in the shortest day, than it does in London. The Summer much shorter than in England, and lasts from June unto Michaelmas, especially in the Southerly part. I have known September, October, and November, much warmer than in England. But one thing more I found worthy of an Astrologer's search, wherefore the Spring begins not there before the end of April, and the winter comes not in before December or January: the causes I know not, unless Nature recompenses the defect of the timely Spring, with the backward and later winter. Or else because our Plantations lay open to the Easterly winds, which partaking of the large tract of the Sea, and of the ice mountains, which float there, being driven by the current from the Northerly parts of the world, might happily prove the accidental cause of the Springs backwardness; yet tolerable enough, and well agreeing with our constitutions. Towards the North, the land is more hilly and woody; but the South part, from Renewes, to Trepassey, plain and *champaine* even for 30 miles in extent. It abounds with Deer, as well fallow Deer, as Ellans, which are as big as our Oxen. And of all other sorts of wild Beasts, as here in Europe, Beavers, Hares, &c. The like I may say for Fowl and Fish. I knew one Fowler in a winter, which killed above 700 Partridges himself at Renewes. But for the Fish, especially the Cod, which draws all the chief Port towns in Christendom to send thither some ships every year, either to fish, or to buy the same; it is most wonderful, and almost incredible, unless a man were there present to behold it. Of these, three men at Sea in a Boat, with some on shore to dress and dry them, in thirty days will kill commonly betwixt five and twenty and thirty thousand, worth with the Train oil arising from them, one hundred or six score pounds. I have heard of some Countries, commended for their twofold harvest, which here we have, although in a different kind: yet both as profitable, I dare say, as theirs so much extolled. There is no such place again in the world for a pore man to raise his fortunes, comparable to this Plantation, for in one month space, with reasonable pains, he may get as much as will pay both Land-lords Rent, Servants wages, and all Household charges, for the whole year, and so the rest of his gain to increase.

[ed.] He repeated Mason's *Discourse* note about *ellans* (moose) which were not in Newfoundland although plentiful in Nova Scotia and Cape Breton. He obviously reported this from a second hand account. There is a sense that Vaughan is paraphrasing Mason's work here.

As for the other question, whether the title of *Golden Fleece* may be conferred more deservedly upon this Island, than on any other foreign place, where his Majesty's Subjects of Great Britain doe use to Trade? By the last part of my *Discourse*, it is plain, that it goes far beyond all other places of Trade whatsoever, and justly to be preferred before New England, Virginia, and other Plantations, for these

four reasons: First, it lies near to Great Britain, by three or four hundred leagues, than either of them. For we may sail hither within twelve or fourteen days, being not above six or seven hundred leagues passage: whereas Virginia lies as far again. Secondly, it is better in respect of Trade, and the con- course of people, which with 500 or 600 Ships, do yearly resort thither. By which means they aug- ment their Princes Customs, and doe maintain many thousands of their fellow-subjects, their wives and children. Thirdly, the convenience of transporting Planters thither at ten shillings a man, and twenty shillings the Tun of goods. And if the party be a Labourer, it will cost him nothing for his pas- sage, but rather he shall receive four or five pound for his hire to help the Fishermen on the Land for the drying of their Fish: whereas every man which goes to Virginia, must pay five pound for his pas- sage.

[ed.] Here Mason enlarged the fleet to 500 or 600 ships. His scheme for free passage is new. Also of note is that Mason was already involved with Sir Fernando Gorges in planting New England since 1621. Yet he is still sup- porting Newfoundland, perhaps only for the fishing.

Lastly, we are better secured from Enemies, for we have no Savages to annoy us in the South-parts: And if any wars should happen betwixt Great Britain and Spain, we need not fear their insolent inva- sions. For we have a Garrison of three or four hundred Ships, of our own Nation, which fish at our doors all the summer, and are able to withstand an Armada, if their King would but confirm that Com- mission, which his blessed Father, about three years already past granted, that two warlike Ships be yearly sent as waftors to defend the Coast, and to be authorized with power to levy men & Ships there, if occasion so require; and all upon the charges of the Fishing fleet. This Commission I ob- tained, and since I left it with my friend Orpheus Junior, to bring to perfection, who as I am informed, is at this present in the Court of Great Britain, an earnest solicitor to that effect. To conclude, after the Fishing Fleets are returned homewards, we are safe, for the winds are commonly from August out Westerly, whereby none can come to us. And if they should; we have other places in the Country to go to, until our Enemies be gone. For there long they dare not stay for fear of the Frosts, which per- haps their tender complexions cannot brook as well as our Northerly Nations.

[ed.] Mason said he left his *commission for waftors* with Vaughan. He served notice that the protection was on the charge of the fishing fleet, the merchant owners, presumably.

Then he modifies the protection; it isn't needed in the fall when the passage back was only a couple of weeks and even if they were being harried by for- eign pirates, they could hide until the weather got cold enough to drive the warmer cuntryed foreigners away. The cold which they all said wan't too bad had some use after all. Whitbourne also made reference to the weather being too cold for those from the Iberian Peninsula.

CHAP. 4.

Apollo having noted how important to Great Britain the Plantations are like to succeed and fall out for the restoring of their State to worldly felicity, that it prove a parallel Monarchy to the proudest of the bordering kingdoms, made choice of John Guy, Alderman of Bristol, to show in what manner the Britons should order their Plantations in this Golden Island, and secure their new habitations from the icy and cold foggy Air, which in some seasons of the year were reported by the Fishermen, to mo- lest and dignify the Inhabitants.

[ed.] John Guy had his say on Newfoundland, either he was not outgoing or he didn't want to say much.

Master Guy earnestly sought to post over the handling of this serious determination to Captain Mason, in respect he had wintered there longer than he had. But Apollo by no means would alter his imposition, saying, that in regard that Mr. Guy had oftentimes been personally in the Land, and wintered there twice, being the first Christian, which made it apparent to the world that it was habitable & commodious for the use of mankind, and also for that he had calculated the mutations of the seasons, keeping a Journal of every Accident during his abode in the Country; he, and none but he should direct what might be convenient for the settling and prosperous propagation of these most hopeful Plantations.

Mr. Guy seeing that by no entreaty or excuse, he could put the task off from himself, with a lowly reverence to his Majesty, he said; If the Noble Emperor had asked my poor judgement a dozen year's past, concerning these secrets, it may be, I might have given him more agreeable contentment, than at this time. For then the model of the Country and Climate lay more fresh in my apprehension. Notwithstanding, seeing the lot is cast upon me, I will produce the best remedies which I know for the correcting of the malignant air, if so I may without scandal call it. The Country I assure your Majesty, is as tolerable as England, *Caeteris paribus* (All other things being equal), comparing all the seasons together.

And if some nice persons feel one winter among many, more snowy and frosty than other, they seem to forget their own Country, where the like inconvenience happens. But to avoid the worst, if every Householder dig up the next ground to his habitation, and round about the same, and then burn it, those moist foggy vapours will not appear, especially after the Sun has once warmed and pierced into the earth so dismantled and laid bare. Secondly, let them dig wells near their houses against winter, that they may have water in despite of the frost or snow. Thirdly, let them provide them of fuel enough before winter, to have the same more sear and dried. Fourthly, let them build their houses with a hill, or great store of trees interposed as a shelter betwixt them and the sea-winds, which there are Easterly and very nipping. There is no winter to speak of before the midst of January. And when the Easterly winds blow, the weather is no other, than it is in Holland. And I verily believe, that in the south part of the Land, where it trends towards the west, and where the ground is even and plain without hills, it differs not much from the temperature of the south part of Germany. And for the further encouragement of our Planters, I can avow this for a certain rule, that once being passed a mile or two into the Land, the weather is far hotter. I found Filberts six miles distant from the Sea side, very ripe a month before they were fit to be eaten by the Seaside. So great an alteration there is within six miles space, by reason that those raging Easterly winds are defended and assuaged by the hills and woods which stand as walls to fence and break their force.

[ed.] As all Newfoundlanders know the weather can turn nasty in short order and frequently. Guy noted the main culprit to be the easterlies (we say north-easterlies) which are softened by forests away from the coast. By the early 19th century coastal dwellers had taken up coastal summer fishing stations and inland winter domiciles based on the common knowledge of the winter northeasterlies being horrid.

Of course, the promoters of plantations couldn't admit the true nature of the weather in Newfoundland, it would have defeated their purpose.

Above all things, I wish the Planters to sleep in boarded rooms, and not to be too idle the first winter for fear of the Scurvy. For in all Plantations this disease commonly seizes upon lazy people the first winter. Yea, Sir Walter Raleigh's Colony in Virginia, though a hotter Country, 1586. could not avoid this mortal sickness. These rules observed, our Planters may live happily. They may fish a month before others, which come out of England thither to fish, & they may fish three months or more for Cod and Herring, after they are departed, which will much enrich them.

[ed.] Scurvy was the demon that plagued all world travel althugh Guy's prescription – keeping busy – wasn't really effective. But *Planters*, if they remained healthy could extend fish harvest by four months to everyone's benefit.

Chapter 5 introduced Sir Fernando Gorge who defended the rights of planters against the freewheeling methods of the western merchants, albeit in New England. After hearing both sides *Apollo* rendered his decision, work together for the betterment of both planter and merchant.

<https://www.britannica.com/biography/Ferdinando-Gorges>

Sir Ferdinando Gorges, (born c. 1566, probably at Wraxall, Somerset, Eng.—died 1647, Long Ashton, Gloucestershire), British proprietary founder of Maine, who promoted, though unsuccessfully, the colonization of New England along aristocratic lines.

After a colourful military career in his early manhood, during which he was knighted (1591), Gorges' life after 1605 was dominated by attempts to gain royal sanction for various settlement schemes in North America, although he himself never traveled there. He felt that colonizing should be a royal endeavour and that colonies should be kept under rigid control from above. In 1620 Gorges succeeded in obtaining a charter to develop the Council for New England—a proprietary grant covering the entire area in North America between the 40th and 48th parallels. He intended to distribute the land as manors and fiefs to fellow gentry who were members of the Council but was thwarted by the success of two vigorous, middle-class, self-governing English colonies founded by joint-stock companies at Plymouth and Massachusetts Bay. Since these New England settlements had received their charters directly from the crown, the Council was thus bypassed as an intermediary.

Gorges was the recipient of several land grants during his lifetime, most importantly the charter for Maine in 1639. Although his agents set up a provincial government there, the English Civil Wars and Gorges' advancing age prevented him from fulfilling his American dream.

Apollo according to his wonted manner, having paused and meditated on the Plaintiffs and Defendants allegations about one quarter of an hour: at last pronounced this definitive sentence. Forasmuch as we conceive both this Plantation, and the Fishing Trade to be very expedient to Great Britain: we order both of them, like Hippocrates Twins, to consociate together in brotherly amity, and to assist one another without malicious emulation. That the Fishermen have convenient places for the drying of their Fish on the land, with as much woods as will serve for their fuel during their abode in that Country, and for their return homewards by the way, and also as much woods as will build up or repair their Ships & Stages; provided that the common sort of Mariners shall not of their own heads, without their Master of the Ship, and one of the chief of the Planters be present, cut or cast down any woods, but what by them shall be seen fit for those necessary uses. Secondly, that none of the

Fishermen shall throw their Ballast into the Harbours to deface the same. Thirdly, that for some few years, they shall not traffic with the Savages, but shall leave the same to the Planters, until the Plantations be completely strengthened, and of sufficient power to live of themselves, and be conveniently armed against those barbarous people. Fourthly, that all such plats of plain lands, near to the Harbours, which the Planters shall from henceforth rid of woods, and make apt for Stages to dry fish upon, shall belong to the Planters: And that all such places which the Fishermen have already rid, and built Stages upon, shall appertain to them for ever. As also all such Stages, which they shall hereafter build for that purpose. In lieu of which privileges, every Ship shall transport a Ton of such provisions which the Plantations want, receiving for the same, ten shillings, towards the fraught, and the price of the goods by them disbursed in England. Fifthly, that both the Planters and the Fishermen shall join and suddenly assemble all their forces together with their best endeavours to expel Pirates, and their Countries enemies; if any arrive on that Coast, with intent to prey upon either of them. Sixthly, if any dissention happen betwixt the Fishermen and the Planters, the matter shall be compromitted to twelve men's arbitration, six of the one side, and six of the other, and if they miss to accord the parties difference, then the chief person in the Plantation, and the Master of the Ship, whereof the Fisherman is, to end the business as Umpires and principal Judges.

[ed.] Here are the old Newfoundland complaints, many of Whitbourne's *abuses*, set straight, at least for New England as little seemed to change in Newfoundland. The ruling was that planters and west country fish merchants should co-operate and collaborate. This didn't happen in 1626 and never happened afterwards; in the 1800's merchants were also *liveryers* and, even throttled down by modern rules, they were no less callous regarding their tenants and suppliers.

Chapter 6 detailed arguments to support the families of sailors lost on expeditions. A mention of scurvy (named by Guy as the most serious, and expected, development in plantationers' health) remedies was made by Button:

To conclude, Sir Thomas Button delivered two notes more of great consequence for the preservation of the Discoverers' health and lives, which Apollo better liked than all the former Discourses; whereof the one was, that he observed Aqua vitae, Sack, and such hot liquors, to become most hurtful to his men in the cold Winter, and on the other side, small drink and Barley water most sovereign to maintain them in health. The other observation was, that the juice of those tender branches or sprigs of trees which flourished fresh and green in the Winter, out-daring the bitter blasts, and withstanding the extremity of the frosts, being pressed out, and ministered to the sick, did miraculously restore them to their health. And the means of his first knowledge thereof, proceeded by seeing of the multitudes of Partridges, which fed and lived thereon all the Winter, to become fat and plump.

[ed.] Sack was an older name for sweetened, fortified wines from Spain and the Canary Islands, now called sherry.

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Thomas_Button

Sir Thomas Button (died April, 1634) was a Welsh officer of the Royal Navy, notable as an explorer who in 1612–1613 commanded an expedition that unsuccessfully attempted to locate explorer Henry Hudson and to navigate the Northwest Passage.

On his return, he was appointed Admiral of the Irish coasts and on 30 August 1616 was knighted by the Lord Deputy of Ireland. Despite his standing in the Navy, his subsequent career was marked by prolonged quarrels with

the Admiralty, wrongs being committed on both sides, resulting in the end with him in ill-health being stripped of his post as Admiral and left effectively bankrupt. He was buried on 8 April 1634 at the church of St Margaret's, Westminster, survived by his wife and five of their seven children.

[ed.] Spruce beer anyone? Interesting that the observation of the efficacy was based on wildlife.

Chapters 7 and 8 dealt with the Northwest Passage and its consequence, if found, to allow English access to the Orient and the spices and other products on which the Portuguese had more or less a monopoly. It concludes with more medical information pertinent to living in hot climates:

But first I could with Aesculapius to call a consultation of his best experimented Physicians, and to lay down a dietary for their health, for a Northern man taken out of his natural Element, and placed but for a small while in those fiery Climates, will quickly droop. And now in the interim until this consultation be concluded, out of the experience of such as travelled into those parched Countries, I wish them to ballast their ships with Turnips, as a Defense against the Scurvy, to carry along with them the salt or juice of Scurvygrass well sodden, and stopped up in glasses, and above all, the juice of Lemons.

Item, to bring along with them, good store of White wine Vinegar to mingle with water, a liquor which preserved Sir Francis Drake in his long voyage round about the world.

Item, to use Cider, and such cooling drinks, more than Wines or Aqua vitae; saving at times of excessive heat, when the body becomes fainty, and the spirits are withdrawn into the outward parts. Then, a little draught of their hot waters, or a cup of Sack, will refresh nature, although they sweat never so much. For it is found out by experience, that the moisture which lies within the body, is exhaled and forced into the exterior parts, and that the inward part then forsaken of that moist comfortable humour, and being cold, gladly receives a sudden restorative to repair those annoyances, which the violence of that unusual heat hath extracted.

Item, to feed betimes in the morning, and not at noon, when the Sun is vehemently hot, or else late in the evenings, once or twice a day, as their stomachs serve them.

[ed.] Chapter 9 and 10 presented various arguments for the enriching and reform of Englishmen and the English economy, ranging from agriculture reform to control of lawyers who were seen to be making too much money. The arguments are ascribed to the seven wise men of Greece, presumably important and powerful men who are not otherwise identified by Vaughan. They were Bias, Pitticus, Periander, Thales the Milesian, Chion, Theobolus, and Solon the Lawmaker.

Chapter 11 brought the big guns, this time named, into the argument. Each with his own take on the situation. Secretary Walsingham proposed that letters of marque, i.e. sanctioned piracy, was a good way to retore the revenues of the Crown. Sir Thomas Smith decried the imports of finery and alcohol from foreign markets as detrimental to English manufacturing and brewing.

Chapter 12 was a conclusion in which Apollo summed up the meetings and among other things gives a nod to planting in Newfoundland and Nova Scotia:

I require you, my Gracious friends, to assist the planters of the Newfound Isle, which we have lately styled Britanniol, and to treat on their behalf with that magnanimous King Charles of Great Britain, that he confirm the commission and orders, which his Father of blessed memory granted about three

years past for the establishing of Wafting ships for the defence of that hopeful Plantation, and of the fishing fleets against the oppressions of Pirates, assuring him from us, that there lies the principal part of the Golden Fleece, which Orpheus Junior has sounded out in his *Cambresium Caroleia*, which he published at the celebration of his Marriage with the Paragon of France; which likewise he lately renewed here before us at Parnassus: And not only he, but others have intimated the benefit of this Project, namely, the Noble Sir William Alexander in his New Scotland, and Master Misselden in his Circle of Commerce, who in most lively terms paints out the substance of this Fleece.

[ed.] Edward Misselden, an English merchant, published his Circle of Commerce, a defense of free trade, in 1623.

Chapter 13 was a final note that Golden Fleece could only be obtained by shutting out naysayers and critics.

Richard Eburne

A plain pathway to plantations that is, a discourse in general, concerning the plantation of our English people in other countries. Wherein is declared, that the attempts or actions, in themselves are very good and laudable, necessary also for our country of England. Doubts thereabout are answered: and some means are shewed, by which the same may, in better sort than hitherto, be prosecuted and effected. Written for the persuading and stirring up of the people of this land, chiefly the poorer and common sort to affect and effect these attempts better than yet they do. With certain motives for a present plantation in New-found land above the rest. Made in the manner of a conference, and divided into three parts, for the more plainness, ease, and delight to the reader. By Richard Eburne of Hengstridge in the county of Somerset.

TO THE CURTEOUS AND Christian READERS, especially the Common-People of this Realm of ENGLAND.

Other men, diverse, have laboured severally in describing and commending, one this Country, another that: as Captain Whitbourne, New-found-Land; Captain Smith his New-England; Master Harcourt Guiana; and some others, more than one or two, Virginia. And every of these has used sundry Motives for the advancement of a Plantation, in the place by him most affected; all tending to this main end: To move our people of England, to plant themselves abroad, and free themselves of that penury and peril of want, wherein they live at home. But none that I know has handled the point in general, viz. to show the benefit and the good; the lawfulness and the ancient and frequent use; the facility and necessity (that is indeed, if I may so speak, the Doctrine) of Plantations. That task therefore, have I undertaken, which how I have performed, I leave to others to judge; requesting this at your hands (benevolent and courteous Readers) that you observe and consider: First, That I am the first that hath broken this Ice, and searched out this way; and that therefore it must needs be to me more rough and rude, than if I had passed a smooth water, and gone along in an usual and beaten path. Secondly, That my whole purpose and intent is, principally and specially to do some good this way, for and with the meaner sort of our people: to whose capacity therefore, it was fit, and more than fit, necessary, that I should fit and frame my speech. That observed, I doubt not but you will, not only bear with, but also approve of my plainness, as best befitting my purpose to work; and my subject to work upon: the more learned and judicious sort, I freely and ingeniously acknowledge myself more desirous to have my Teachers and directors in this kind of Learning, than my Readers and Followers.

[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Robert_Harcourt_\(explorer\)](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Robert_Harcourt_(explorer))

Robert Harcourt (1574?–1631) was an English explorer, projector of a South American colony, in what was later Guiana.

...

On 23 March 1609, accompanied by his brother Michael and a company of adventurers, Robert Harcourt sailed for Guiana. On 11 May he arrived at the Oyapock River. Local people came on board, and were disappointed at the

absence of Sir Walter Raleigh after he had famously visited during his exploration of the area in 1595. Harcourt gave them aqua vitae. He took possession in the king's name of a tract of land lying between the River Amazon and River Essequibo on 14 August, left his brother and most of his company to colonise it, and four days later embarked for England.

... He ultimately obtained letters patent empowering him to plant and inhabit the land at Guiana, but was prevented by circumstances from visiting it again. The king renewed the grant on 28 August 1613 in favour of Harcourt and his heirs, Sir Thomas Challoner and John Rovenson. To promote the success of the scheme, Harcourt wrote an account of his adventures. A corporation of "lords and gentlemen" was formed and entrusted the conduct of the enterprise to Roger North. North, despite the opposition of Gondomar, the Spanish ambassador, transported a hundred English settlers to Guiana (Oyapoc). He then obtained on 30 January 1626 a grant for incorporating his own and Harcourt's company with all customary privileges. The following April, Harcourt issued a Proposal for the formation of a Company of Adventurers to the river Amazon, and an enlarged edition of his book, with the conditions laid down by him for settlers in Guiana. Harcourt lost heavily on the speculation, and had to sell Ellenhall as well as his property at Wytham in Berkshire.

Harcourt died on 20 May 1631, aged 57, and was buried at Stanton Harcourt.

[ed.] Eburne gives credit to the preceding *Discourses* but pointed out no one had looked at it from his perspective – showing the benefit, the good, the lawfulness, the *ancient and frequent use*, and the *facility and necessity*.

If any think it a point beyond my Compass, for a Divine by Profession, to deal with an argument of this Nature, viz. to entreat of Plantations, which are commonly taken to be a matter altogether of Temporal and Secular right. Let him be pleased to know: First, That I am not alone, nor the first in this attempt, but have for my president the precedent examples of some far before me in Learning and Knowledge; as Master Hakluyt, who long since wrote a great Volume of English Voyages, Master Crashaw in England,

[ed.] Crashaw's *A Sermon preached before the right honorable the Lord Lawarre, Lord Governour and Captaine Generall of Virginea, and others of his Maiesties Counsell for that Kingdome, and the rest of the Adventurers in that Plantation, Feb. 21, 1609*, published in London, 1610.

and Master Whitaker in Virginia;

[ed.] Alexander Whitaker (1585–1616) was an English Christian theologian who settled in North America in Virginia Colony in 1611 and established two churches near the Jamestown colony, and was known as "The Apostle of Virginia" by contemporaries; Whitaker was the man who baptized Pocahontas.

who have both employed their Pens and pains for that Plantation.

Secondly, That Plantations are Actions wherein we also of the Clergy are as far interested as any other. They are as free for us, as for others: and, if men will have any hope that they shall prosper in their hands, we must have a distinct part, a certain share, and Clergy-like Portion in them, as well as

men of other places and qualities have theirs. And therefore, to write and discourse of, and for them, it behooves, and becomes us of the Clergy, as well, and as much as any other.

Thirdly, That one proper, and principal end of Plantations, is, or should be, the enlargement of Christ's Church on Earth; and the publishing of his Gospel to the Sons of Men: and therefore in that respect, it cannot but properly and directly belong unto them, to whom Christ has given commandment and authority above others to take care of his Flock, to seek the furtherance of the Gospel, and to sound forth the glad tidings of Salvation to all Nations, to be principal Agents therein, and special furtherers thereof.

[ed.] Clergy had a right to be part of a plantation to effectively increase the size of Christendom.

...

Though I have not presumed to set down any certain and regular platform of a good and right Plantation which happily to have done, would have seemed in me too much either boldness or rashness: yet thus much I presume to affirmed of that I have written, that if any will read and consider it well, he may, without any great labour, collect and find out a true and good platform of such an Action.

I have so answered many and most of the common Objections made against and about these attempts, that out of, and by the same, an answer may likewise be shaped to any other objection that lightly can be made there-against.

[ed.] New lands meant more space; the ideal of a *house with a backside*; that the potential of having something at home in England didn't come close to the New World potential with little or nothing. He added *one or two* hundred acres to the allure. Englishmen were by and large tenants and lessors of land, only the rich and powerful actually owned land, being elevated to land ownership in the New World was certainly a great incentive, and to get it with a modicum of effort. Eburne argued that anything was better than living in England; and that once many had moved to plantations, England would recover more easily.

He concluded the introduction with a note that as God is everywhere, fear not in the New World.

Your Companion in one or other Plantation, if the Lord will: RICHARD EBURNE.

Section 1 is a promolegia of why the book was written, similar to Vaughan's introduction. The book takes the form of a catechism with questions being asked by Respire (a farmer) and answered by Enrubie (a merchant).

The Glory of God cannot but be much furthered thereby, were it but only, that the Gospel of Christ should thereby be professed and published in such places and countries, by those alone, that shall remove from hence to inhabit there, where before, since the beginning of the Gospel, for ought we know, or is likely, it was never heard, at least professed, as it is now of late come to pass, (God be praised) and we hope will be shortly in Newfound land.

Resp.

Will be, say you? Methinks you should rather have reckoned that among the first, because that for fifty or threescore years before ever the Summer Islands or Virginia were heard of [ca. 1550], our people did yearly go thither a fishing, and so the Name of, Christ was there long since honoured among them.

Enr.

But for all that, till there be Christians inhabiting there, we cannot say properly, that the Gospel of Christ is planted there, or that it is any part of Christendom. It must therefore in that respect, give place to the other before-named, as which indeed were Christian before it.

...

This is, as you see, greatly to the honour of God, but it will be much more, if when and where our people do plant themselves in such countries where already are an infinite number of other people, all Savages, Heathens, Infidels, Idolaters, &c. this in the Plantation may principally and speedily be laboured and intended. That by learning their languages, and teaching them ours, by training up of their children, and by continual and familiar converse and commerce with them, they may be drawn and induced, persuaded and brought to relinquish and renounce their own Heathenisms, Idolatries, Blasphemies and Devil-worships.

[ed.] Enrubie claimed the spread of Christianity was the most important reason to settle the New World. Respire acknowledges Newfoundland was well known; but not settled as a Christian country, replied Enrubie.

...

[ed.] 1. expansion of the kingdom would reduce the pressure on the economy

2. crowding populations in peaceful times required moving them; like stalls overfull of bees or orchards overgrown with young sets; beehives were also used by Vaughan who feared too many bees meant too many drones with nothing to do; he continued that housing would be more affordable and less crowded and dingy in new places

3. prices for normal things had increased because of the increased demand; diminution of people in the land was suggested as a cure; better control of rents and land leases was seen a benefit

4. poor people in the New World would have better opportunities and better housing with attached pasture, forest and farm opportunities

5. The benefit that might that way accrue unto Merchants, and all kind of Adventurers by Sea, is infinite. For Traffic and Merchandize cannot but by means thereof wonderfully be bettered and increased. And withal, which is not the least point in Observation, most commodious and delightful must merchandizing and traffic needs be, while it shall be exercised for the most part, between one and the same people, though distant in Region, yet united in Religion, in Nation, in Language and Dominion. Which surely is a thing likely to prove so material and beneficial, as may turn the greater part of our Merchants voyages that way, and free them from many of those dangerous passages

[ed.] Trade with foreigners was dangerous and fraught with difficulty, un-
like trading with other Englishmen wherever they were located.

6. The last benefit to our Land, but not the least, is the curing of that evil Disease of this Land; which, if it be not looked into, and cured the sooner, will be the Destruction of the Land, I mean, Idleness the Mother of many Mischiefs, which is to be cured, and may be rooted out of the Land, by this means, yea by this only, and by none other, viz. by Plantation.

[ed.] Repsire reminded Enrubie that drinking alcohol and wanton spending were bad signs of the times. He added, *filching and stealing, robbery and cousenage, adultery and incest, fornication and all ind of wantonness and uncleanness, beggary and roguery, prophaneness and idolatry, and a number more, ... with which this Land of ours is defiled and filled, ...*

The best and the only cure was reduction of population. Experience showed. before the population grew so rapidly, *social diseases* were minimal. Along with *swaggering Youths, potting Companions, and idle*: there was never as much *little fornication, bastardy, quarrelling and stabbing, and other like wicked facts* as of late.

A discussion of idleness as the root cause of all social ills followed; but those sins and evils will persist in the newly settled lands, noted Respire, to which Enrubie suggested the application of harsh laws. The complaints are much the same as all the other Discourse writers.

Respire asked if the countries in which plantations would be set up are far away.

To that I say, first, If nearer places cannot be had, better a good place, though farre off, than none at all.

Secondly, others, as the Spaniards, have and do remove and plant further off, by a great deal.

Thirdly, Abraham, Jacob, and other good men, have been content in less need, ... that GOD so commanded to depart far from the places of their birth

Fourthly, When God calls, ... , Necessity does so require, good men should be indifferent to dwell in one Country, as well as in another,

Fifthly, Sister-land, or as it is yet commonly called, Newfound-land, which for the present seems to be the fittest of all other intended Plantations, is not very far off. It is not with a good wind, above fourteen or fifteen days sail. As easy a voyage in manner, the Seas and passage considered, as into our next Neighbour-Country Island [Ireland] , whither of late years many have out of England, to their and our good removed.

[ed.] Eburned stepped outside reality a little here. From his perspective a sea voyage of a few days and a few weeks were one and the same, sea voyages of which he knew little. He repeats the two week sail but doesn't clarify it as the return, again, he wasn't a seaman. Besides which people had moved to Ireland for years and they were doing well; what difference Newfoundland? Clerical naiveté?

Sixthly, Our Merchants, in hope of present but uncertain gain, do yearly and usually travel into farther Countries a great deal: and why, then should any for his assured, certain, and perpetual good, think it intolerable or unreasonable to make one such a journey in his life?

Resp.

The Countries themselves are wild and rude: No towns, no houses, no buildings there.

[ed.] Enrubie explained a land without infrastructure is best to inhabit as each man can develop his own arrangements for home and business. People can live as soldiers in tents until they can build houses, Enrubie suggested and the use of skins and hides to cover the tents might be a solution to the cold.

A discussion followed about the soil and air being good in the New World and conducive to the work needed to improve an uninhabited country.

There was lots of room in the New World, vast numbers of unforested acres; and plentiful forests even though some people had turned to burning the woods, a mistake. He hearkened back to Mason, Whitbourne and Vaughan on this point.

Much wood allowed for industry, building, fencing, ships and a host of other benefits. Such as mining, smelting, and metal working according to Eburne's predecessors. England's wood supply was dwindling faster and faster through industrial application.

Resp.

These Countries are full of wilde Beasts, Bears, &c.

Enr. [Eburne's numbers are replaced with bullets.]

-Some of them, as the Summer Islands, have no such at all. No harmful thing in them.

-None of them, especially Newfound Land, as far as I hear, have any, or at least, any store of noisome creatures, as of Serpents, Crocodiles, &c. as have many parts of this Continent, which yet long has been, and still be inhabited.

[ed.] the lack of native Newfoundland reptiles or amphibians was obviously noted from the early days; St. Patrick supposedly drove the snakes out of Ireland but no such Divine intervention is attributed to their lack in Newfoundland. Nobody thought that it was simply too cold, too long, for the cold-blooded to survive. Serpents are snakes. Crocodiles ranged throughout the Caribbean including the southern tip of Florida; alligators are native to the southeast United States, and parts of China.

-It is well, there are some beasts there, wild at least, if not tame. That is an argument undeniable, that tame beasts may there be bred and live.

-Better wild than none at all. For of some of them, some good use may be made for the present, viz. for labour, for food, and for apparel, till better provision can be made. ...

[ed.] Then followed a discussion about domestic animals. Cattle, horses, kine and sheep, how to transport and keep them in plantations. An economic

analysis of how more fish being produced would supplement beef production and thereby reduce the price of both fish and beef; a demand:supply ratio in other words.

-Many forecast perils where they need not: and so, many times are more afraid than hurt.

...

-Of perils and misadventures, some are merely Casual, and not to be avoided, some are altogether needless, and might have been prevented. The former of these must be borne with, as a part of that common calamity, whereunto the life of man is subject, and of those crosses and afflictions where-with God does either try his Children, as Gold in the fire, or afflict and punish them and others. For these, no man ought to be troubled and dismayed in these courses, more than for the like in any other, nor dislike them one jot the worse.

[ed.] Fear not the possible visissitudes of adventuring and planting; things work out.

...

These Actions, our Plantations, I mean, properly and in their own nature, are liable to as few hazards and mishaps, as any such lightly can be.

For, first, Our Passage to any of the places intended, is very easy, open, and clear, Sea-room at will, and, if we take time and season convenient; as navigable and pleasant as need to be desired. Few Pirates on those coasts, and fewer it is probable there would be, if some good course were taken for their repulse and dissipation.

[ed.] His sailing knowledge is lacking, again.

-Our Access and Entry is free and facile for the most part. No man once offers to forbid or hinder our landing there.

-The people of those Countries, if any be, ready either for love and hope of good from us, kindly to receive and entertain us, or for fear and weakness of their own accord ... fly from us, and betake themselves to more remote and inland parts of those Regions, or to submit themselves tractably to live under us.

[ed.] Did the aboriginals fly from the European? Or were there not enough of them to notice. In the 1700's some aboriginals had indeed become tractable, being captured and put to work by merchants in Trinity.

-The Countries themselves free, for the most part, of any noisome or very dangerous either beast or Serpent: not infected nor infested, as some of this Continent, which yet are, and long have been well inhabited, with the most dreadful of these sorts, that the world doth yield.

-We need not make way for ourselves into any one of them at all with fire and sword, as either our progenitors the Saxons and Normans did into this Land, or our later fore-fathers the English, into both France and Ireland. So that everything considered, We cannot well wish or expect, in these days to find out, to have and gain any Country or Place for Plantation with less troubles, fewer losses, and smaller dangers, if things be well handled, than these we may. Nor is it likely, if we neglect and ouerslip the so fair and many opportunities now offered us, that ever we shall have and find the like again.

Resp.

The profit is small, and little the good that is like to arise of so great labours, dangers, and expences. For whatsoever you, and some others talk of great riches there, and that way to be had, we hear of none that prove rich and wealthy there.

Enr.

It may be so, and there are many reasons for it.

For, first: It is not long that any have been in any of these Plantations, and there must be a time for every thing. They that will have ... from the ground, must tarry the ripening of it. It is not one year's work or two, to get a good state in Lands, and to get some store of wealth about a man in the same likewise. They that go over to such a business, have many things to do first, before they can have time to gather wealth about them; as to build, to rid their grounds, to make fences to destroy wild and hurtful beasts, to get over good and profitable cattle, to plant and sow their grounds, and the like: All which be matters of great labour, time and expanse. We see in daily practice with us, a man that is a Purchaser, till he has recovered his Fine, and stocked his Living, cannot be beforehand and get wealth about him: nor can they there, till they have done those and other like things, which are to them, as it were, their Fine and Income. It is well if seen, or ten, or twenty years hence, happily in the next generation, men can attain unto riches. It is enough for the fathers to take in the grounds, and settle the lands and livings for them and theirs against the time to come, though for the present, and for their own time, they hardly stand up, and meet with some difficulties.

-Men there, can, making nothing of their grounds yet, farther than any can themselves employ them to pasture or tillage. It is not there as in England, where, if a man have little stock or employment of his own for his grounds, yet he may let them out at a reasonable rent; but there, more than a man can stock and till himself, lies still, and will yield him nothing at all. Make it your own case. If you had the best Living in this parish in Fee simple, and had little to put upon it, nor could get any to rent it, at your hands, could you grow rich in haste? This is their case.

...

-All in manner that have gone over hitherto into any of these parts, are poor men, men of small means, and therefore with little or nothing, it is not possible they should in a little time attain to any store of some thing: And the less possible, for that the benefit of their labours redounds for the most part, not to themselves, but, as in regard of their great adventures and expenses, reason is it should, to the benefit of rich men here, that have sent them thither.

-Diverse of them that have gone over, have been Bankrupts and Spendthrifts, Idlers and Loiterers, who, as they thrived not in England, (for how should they thrive that run thriftless and heedless courses?) so will they not commonly in any Land. *Coelum non animum mutant, qui trans mare currunt*: as says the Poet, Weeds will be weeds, wherever they grow.

...

[ed.] The next few sections propound on how wealth is grown gradually with hardwork.

...

[ed.] Part 2 started with along discussion of how to raise money for plantations; one method is the selling of books through the English parishes, the Whitbourne solution, and included things like lotteries. A discussion on who was best suited for plantations, including maimed soldiers and sailors. Finally, Respire asked what sort of people were necessary to a plantation.

They are these, and the like. Armorers, Bakers, Barbers, Booksellers, Butchers, Bow makers, Brewers, Bricklayers. Carpenters, Chandlers, Clothiers, Coopers, Cutlers. Dyers, Drapers Felt makers Fishers, Fletchers, Fowlers, Fullers. Gardeners, Glassmakers, Glaziers, Glovers, Grocers. Hatters, Horners, Husbandmen, Innkeepers, Joiners. Labourers, Limeburners, Linen Weavers. Masons, Mariners, Merchants, Millers, Mill-wrights. Nailers, Netmakers. Parchment makers, Pewterers, Physicians, Apothecaries, Point makers, Printers. Ropers. Saddlers, Sailors, Saltmakers, Sawyers, Siveyars, Shearmen, Shipwrights, Shoemakers, Smiths, Soapmakers, Soldiers, Surgeons. Tailors, Tanners, Thatchers, Tilers, Turners. Vintners, Upholsterers. Wheelwrights, Wherrymen, Wool-Weavers, &c Of all these sorts of persons there must go some.

...

[ed.] Part 2 ended in lengthy discussion of the role of the church in plantations.

Part 3 started with a discussion of the need for Legal and Royal support for planting. Newfoundland is mentioned in passing as an example of a place that needed a population based on preoccupation – fishing.

Richard Hakluyt

A particular discourse concerning the great necessity and manifold commodities that are like to grow to this Realm of England by the Western discoveries lately attempted, Written In the year 1584 by Richard Hakluyt of Oxford at the request and direction of the right worshipful Mr. *Walter Raleigh* now Knight, before the coming home of his Two Barques: and is divided into xxi chapters ...

[ed.] Richard Hakluyt, in 1584, the year after Gilbert's claim of English authority over Newfoundland, proposed 21 points regarding plantations, wherever they were located, in the *Discourse of western planting*. Many of these are familiar in the 1620's *Discourses*, some 40 years later.

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Walter_Raleigh

Sir Walter Raleigh (circa 1554 – 29 October 1618) was an English landed gentleman, writer, poet, soldier, politician, courtier, spy and explorer. He was cousin to Sir Richard Grenville and younger half-brother of Sir Humphrey Gilbert. He is also well known for popularising tobacco in England.

In 1594, Raleigh heard of a "City of Gold" in South America and sailed to find it, publishing an exaggerated account of his experiences in a book that contributed to the legend of "El Dorado". After Queen Elizabeth died in 1603, Raleigh was again imprisoned in the Tower, this time for being involved in the Main Plot against King James I, who was not favourably disposed towards him. In 1616, he was released to lead a second expedition in search of El Dorado. During the expedition, men led by his top commander ransacked a Spanish outpost, in violation of both the terms of his pardon and a peace treaty with Spain. He returned to England and, to appease the Spanish, was arrested and executed in 1618.

[ed.] Written at the *direction of Raleigh* means these are really Raleigh's words.

That this western discovery will be greatly for the enlargement of the gospel of Christ whereunto the Princes of the reformed religion are chiefly bound amongst whom her Majesty [Elizabeth I] is principal.

<http://quod.lib.umich.edu/e/eebo/A47317.0001.001/1:3.4?rgn=div2;view=fulltext>

[ed.] Raleigh was a prolific writer with more than 20 books and a variety of articles, letters and memoranda published. His *A Cleare and evident way for enriching the nations of England and Ireland and for setting very great numbers of poore on work* remarked on the English coastal fishery, which by Raleigh's time was failing. His summation uses familiar terminology and concepts which were repeated over then next 50 years.

1. *For taking Gods blessing out of the Sea, to enrich the Realm, which otherwise we lose.*
2. *For setting the people on work.*
3. *For making cheapness and plenty in the Realm.*
4. *For increasing of shipping to make the Land powerful.*
5. *For a continual Nursery for breeding and increasing of Mariners.*
6. *For making employment of all sorts of people, as blind, lame, and others, by Sea and Land, for 10, or 12 years upwards.*
7. *For increase of Custom upon Merchandises returned from other Countries for Fish and Herrings.*

8. *For increase and eabling of Merchants, which now droop and daily decay.*

That all other English Trades are grown beggarly or dangerous, especially in all the king of Spain his Dominions, where our men are driven to fling their Bibles and prayer Books into the sea, and to forswear and renounce their religion and conscience and consequently their obedience to her Majesty [apostasy is mentioned by Vaughan as a consequence of being taken by pirates and sold into slavery].

That this western voyage will yield unto us all the commodities of Europe, Africa, and Asia, as far as we were wont to travel, and supply the wants of all our decayed trades.

That this enterprise will be for the manifold employment of numbers of idle men, and for breeding of many sufficient, and for utterance of the great quantity of the commodities of our Realm.

That this voyage will be a great bridle to the Indies of the king of Spain and a means that we may arrest at our pleasure for the space of time weeks or three months every year, one or two hundred sail of his subjects' ships at the fishing in Newfoundland.

That the riches that the Indian Treasure wrought in time of Charles the late Emperor father to the Spanish king, is to be had in consideration of the Q. most excellent Majesty, least the continual coming of the like treasure from thence to his son, work the unrecoverable annoy of this Realm, whereof already we have had very dangerous experience.

What special means may bring king Phillip from his high Throne, and make him equal to the Princes his neighbours, wherewithal is shown his weakness in the west Indies.

That the limits of the king of Spain's dominions in the west Indies be nothing so large as is generally imagined and surmised, neither those parts which he holds be of any such forces as is falsely given out by the popish Clergy and others his suitors, to terrify the Princes of the Religion and to abuse and blind them.

The Names of the rich Towns lieing along the sea coast on the north side from the equinoctial of the main land of America under the king of Spain.

A Brief declaration of the chief Islands in the Bay of Mexico being under the king of Spain, with their havens and fortes, and what commodities they yield.

That the Spaniards have executed most outrageous and more than Turkish cruelties in all the west Indies, whereby they are everywhere there, become most odious unto them, who would join with us or any other most willingly to shake off their most intolerable yoke, and have begun to do it already in diverse places where they were Lords heretofore.

That the passage in this voyage is easy and short, that it cuts not near the trade of any other mighty Princes, nor near their Countries, that it is to be performed at all times of the year, and needs but one kind of wind, that Ireland being full of good havens on the south and west sides, is the nearest part of Europe to it, which by this trade shall be in more security, and the sooner drawn to more Civility.

[ed.] Raleigh and his crowd were involved in Ireland plantations; the Elizabethan occupation of Ireland would rankle down to present times; it was one of cruel usurpation of Irish families and power structures and a hard stance against Roman Catholicism. As ports closest to Newfoundland and America, Raleigh's idea to use Ireland as the chief receiving port for new world goods and products had certain merit.

That hereby the Revenues and customs of her Majesty both outwards and inwards shall mightily be enlarged by the toll, excises, and other duties which without oppression may be raised.

That this action will be greatly for the increase, maintenance and safety of our Navy, and especially of great shipping which is the strength of our Realm, and for the support of all those occupations that depend upon the same.

[ed.] The nursery for seamen and officers was an early reason, repeated consistently ever after.

That speedy planting in diverse fit places is most necessary upon these lucky western discoveries for fear of the danger of being prevented by other nations which have the like intentions, with the order thereof and other reasons therewithal alleged.

Means to keep this enterprise from overthrow and the enterprisers from shame and dishonor.

That by these Colonies the Northwest passage to Cathay and China may easily quickly and perfectly be searched out as well by river and overland, as by sea, for proof whereof here are quoted and alleged diverse rare Testimonies out of the three volumes of voyages gathered by Ramusius and other grave authors.

That the Queen of England title to all the west Indies, or at the least to as much as is from Florida to the Circle arctic, is more lawful and right than the Spaniards or any other Christian Princes.

An answer to the Bull of the Donacion of all the west Indies granted to the kings of Spain by Pope Alexander the VI who was himself a Spaniard born.

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Inter_caetera

Inter caetera ("Among other [works]") was a papal bull issued by Pope Alexander VI on 4 May 1493, which granted to Spain (the Crowns of Castile and Aragon) all lands to the "west and south" of a pole-to-pole line 100 leagues west and south of any of the islands of the Azores or the Cape Verde islands.

It remains unclear to the present whether the pope was issuing a "donation" of sovereignty or a feudal infeodation or investiture. Differing interpretations have been argued since the bull was issued, with some arguing that it was only meant to transform the possession and occupation of land into lawful sovereignty. Others, including the Spanish crown and the conquistadors, interpreted it in the widest possible sense, deducing that it gave Spain full political sovereignty.

The *Inter caetera* bull and others similar to it, particularly *Dudum siquidem*, made up the Bulls of Donation.

The Bulls of Donation, also called the Alexandrine Bulls, are three papal bulls of Pope Alexander VI delivered in 1493 which purported to grant overseas territories to Portugal and the Catholic Monarchs of Spain:

Inter caetera of 4 May 1493

Eximiae devotionis of 3 May 1493

Dudum siquidem of 26 September 1493

The bulls were the basis for negotiation between the two powers which resulted in the Treaty of Tordesillas of 1494, dividing the non-Christian world

beyond Europe between them. At first these arrangements were respected by most other European powers, but as the Protestant Reformation proceeded the states of Northern Europe came to consider them as a private arrangement between Spain and Portugal.



[ed.] Spanish (red) and Portuguese (blue) global territories about 1600.

Raleigh's seacoast English boundary from Florida to the Arctic Circle was an easy claim to make.

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Richard_Hakluyt

Richard Hakluyt (1553 – 23 November 1616) was an English writer. He is known for promoting the English colonization of North America through his works, notably *diverse Voyages Touching the Discoverie of America* (1582) and *The Principal Navigations, Voiages, Traffiques and Discoveries of the English Nation* (1589–1600).

... Between 1583 and 1588 he was chaplain and secretary to Sir Edward Stafford, English ambassador at the French court. An ordained priest, Hakluyt held important positions at Bristol Cathedral and Westminster Abbey and was personal chaplain to Robert Cecil, 1st Earl of Salisbury, principal Secretary of State to Elizabeth I and James I. He was the chief promoter of a petition to James I for letters patent to colonize Virginia, which were granted to the London Company and Plymouth Company (referred to collectively as the Virginia Company) in 1606.

...

Hakluyt's patrilineal ancestors were of Welsh extraction, rather than Dutch as is often suggested; they appear to have settled in Herefordshire in England around the 13th century, and, according to antiquary John Leland, took their surname from the "Forest of Cluid in Randnorland".

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Robert_Cecil,_1st_Earl_of_Salisbury

Robert Cecil, 1st Earl of Salisbury, KG, PC (1 June 1563? – 24 May 1612) was an English administrator and politician.

He was the younger son of William Cecil, 1st Baron Burghley by his second wife Mildred Cooke. His elder half-brother was Thomas Cecil, 1st Earl of Exeter, and the philosopher Francis Bacon was his first cousin.

Robert was small and hunchbacked, in an age which attached much importance to physical beauty in both sexes, and he endured much ridicule as a result ... Nonetheless his father recognised that it was Robert rather than

Thomas who had inherited his own political genius. While Burghley was fond of both his sons, he is said to have remarked that Robert could rule England, but Thomas could hardly rule a tennis court.

...

Following the death of Sir Francis Walsingham in 1590, Burghley acted as Secretary of State, while Cecil took on an increasingly heavy work-load. He was also appointed to the Privy Council in 1591. He became the leading minister after the death of his father in 1598, serving both Queen Elizabeth and King James as Secretary of State.

...

Although James would often speak disparagingly of Cecil as "my little beagle" he gave him his absolute trust. "Though you are but a little man, I shall shortly load your shoulders with business", the King joked to Cecil at their first meeting. Cecil, who had endured a lifetime of jibes about his height, (even Queen Elizabeth had called him "pygmy" and "little man"), is unlikely to have found the joke funny, while the crushing weight of business with which the King duly loaded him probably hastened his death at the age of 48.

Reportedly, Cecil was the discoverer of the Gunpowder Plot; He also took down Essex and his rebels and was a judge at Raleigh's 1603 treason trial and was instrumental in sparing his life.

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