Bishops, by whom they were converted to the Christian Faith, under the regne of Edelbert. In the time of Harald the Faire-haired, the first Monarch of Norway, some thynke it began to be inhabited: for when hee had expell'd a great company of Noble men out of Norway, they (forfaking their owne Countrie) came with their whole Families and dwelt here. It is likely, that these things happened a thousand yeares after Christ; but as Islandus Ionas writeth about the yeare 874, who declareth the succesion and names of these Bishops. Cranzius nameth Iisclus to be the first Bishop. But it seemeth, as we may collect out of the Elocumes of Nicolaus Zenius, that it was under the command of the Norwegians two hundred yeares before, where we reade, that Zichmus King of Frisland did attempt to get this Island by force of Armes, but was repuls'd by the King of Norway's Garrison Souldiers, placed in this Island. The whole Island is divided into foure parts. The Eastern part they call Austrlingasordon, the Western Westlingasordon, the Northern Nortlingasordon, the Southern Sudlingasordon. They have no Cities, but Mountaines in stead thereof. Here is a Fountaine, the exhalations whereof will change any thing into stone, and yet the shape thereof shall still remaine. And there is a Fountaine of pestilent water, which will poison any one that tasteth of it. There is water that tasteth like beere. The Northerne Ocean, in which this Island is situare, doth afford such great plenty of fish, and is so commodious to the Common-wealth of Iceland, that all the Inhabitants doe live and maintaine their Families by it. I should want time to reckon up the severall kinds of Fish that are in the Sea, yet it will not be amiss, to remember some of the rarest. Among which there is a kind of Fish called Naihal, whereof if any one eate, he dieth presently; and he hath a tooth in the innermost part of his head, which standeth forth 7 cubits in length, which some have told for an Unicorn's horn, and it is believ'd to have a great vertue against poison. This Monster is fortie yards long. The Kyster is an hundred and thirty Elles long, and hath no teeth; his flesh is most sweet and pleasant in eating, and his fat doth heal many diseases. There is the British Whale, which is thirty Elles long, having no teeth, but a tongue seven Elles in length. And there is a kind of a great Whale, which is 1 dome scene, being rather like an Island it selfe than a Fish. In regard of the hugenesse of his body, hee cannot follow the lesser fishes, yet hee takes them by cunning and craftiness. There is also another Fish called Stantus Valur, all grisyly, and something like a Thornback, but much greater; when he appeareth he seemes like an Island, and overturneth Ships with his Fins. There are also Sea-Oxen, called Seanaus, of a grisyly colour, and divers other fishes. I come now to the Mountaines. In Iceland (Faith Georgius Agricola) there are three very high Mountaines, whose tops are always white with continuall Snowy, the bottomes doe burne with continuall Fire. The first is called Hecla, or Heckfort, the second, the Mountain of the Croffe; and the third Helga, that is, the holy Mountain. Not farre from Hecla there are Mynes of Brunston, which is the onely commodity of traffique, that belongs to the Inhabitants of Iceland. For Merchants doe fraught and loade their ships with it. The Mountain when it rageth, doth send forth a noise