

Bishops, by whom they were converted to the Christian Faith, under the reigne of *Edelbert*. In the time of *Harald the Faire-haired*, the first Monarch of *Norwey*, some thinke it began to be inhabited: for when hee had expell'd a great company of Noble men out of *Norwey*, they (forsaking their owne Countrey) came with their whole Families and dwelt here. It is likely, that these things happened a thousand yeares after Christ; but as *Islandus Jonas* writeth about the yeare 874, who declareth the succession and names of these Bishops. *Crantzius* nameth *Istephus* to be the first Bishop. But it seemeth, as we may collect out of the *Ecloques* of *Nicolas 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 repul'd by the King of *Norwey's* Garrison Souldiers, placed in this Island. The whole Island is divided into foure parts. The Easterne part they call *Auslendingasfordung*, the Westerne *Westlendingasfordung*, the Northerne *Nortendingasfordung*, the Southerne *Suydendingasfordung*. 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 poyson any one that tastes of it. There is water that tastes like beere. The Northerne *Ocean*, in which this Island is situate, doth afford such great plenty of fish, and is so commodious to the Common-wealth of *Iseland*, that all the Inhabitants doe live and maintaine their Families by it. I should want time to reckon up the severall kindes of Fish that are in the Sea, yet it will not be amisse, to remember some of the rarest. Among which there is a kind of Fish called *Nahual*, 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 sold for an *Vnicornes* horne, and it is beleev'd to have a great vertue against poyson. This Monster is fortie yards long. The *Soyder* is an hundred and thirty Elles long, and hath no teeth; his flesh is most sweet and pleasant in eating, and his fat doth heale many diseases. There is the *Brittish Whale*, which is thirty Elles long, having no teeth, but a tongue seven Elles in length. And there is a kinde of a great *Whale*, which is seldom seene, being rather like an Island it selfe than a Fish. In regard of the hugeness of his body, hee cannot follow the lesser fishes, yet hee takes them by cunning and craftinesse. There is also another Fish called *Stantus Valur*, all grisly, 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 *Seenaut*, of a grisly colour, and divers other fishes. I come now to the Mountaines. In *Iseland* (saith *Georgius Agricola*) there are three very high Mountaines, whose tops are alwayes white with continuall Snow, the bottomes doe burne with continuall Fire. The first is called *Hecla*, or *Hecklsfort*; the second, the Mountaine of the *Grosse*; and the third *Helga*, that is, the holy Mountaine. Not farre from *Hecla* there are Mynes of *Brimstone*, which is the onely commodity of traffique, that belongs to the Inhabitants of *Iseland*. For Merchants doe freight and load their ships with it. The Mountaine when it rageth, doth send forth a

The Fountains.

The Sea.

The Mountaines.