Bishops, by whom they were converted to the Christian Faith, under the reign of Edelbert. In the time of Harald the Faire-haired, the first Monarch of Norway, some, it seems, began to be inhabited: for when he had expelled a great company of Noble men out of Norway, they (forsaking their own Country) came with their whole Families and dwelt here. It is likely, that these things happened a thousand years after Christ; but as Islandus Jones writeth about the yeare 874, who declareth the succession and names of these Bishops. Cranzeus nameth Istepins to be the first Bishop. But it seemeth, as we may collect out of the Elogues of Nicolas Zenus, that it was under the command of the Norwegians two hundred years before, where we read, that Zichmuus King of Frisland did attempt to get this Island by force of Armes, but was repulsed by the King of Norway's Garrison, placed in this Island. The whole Island is divided into four parts. The Eastern part they call Ausflendingaforthing, the Western Weflendingaforthing, the Northern Norfellingaforthing, the Southern Snyflendingaforthing. They have no Cities, but Mountains instead 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 taste thereof. There is water that taste like beere. The Northern Ocean, in which this Island is situate, doth afford such great plenty of fish, and is so commodious to the Common-wealth of Iceland, that all the Inhabitants doe live and maintain 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 amiss, to remember some of the rarest. Among which there is a kind of Fish called Naimal, 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 Erincorne horse, and it is believed to have a great vertue against poison. This Monster is forty yards long. The Reyder 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 Brittfish 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 fideome scene, being rather like an Island itself 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 an other Fish called Saments 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 Seaenants, of a grisly colour, and divers other fishes. I come now to the Mountains. In Iceland (faith Georgius Agricola) there are three very high Mountains, whose tops are always white with continuall Snow, the bottomes doe burne with continuall Fire. The first is called Helga, or Hekslfor, the second, the Mountain of the Croffe, and the third Helga, that is, the holy Mountain. Not farre from Hekla there are Mynes of Brunstone, which is the onely commodity of traffique, that belongs to the Inhabitants of Iceland. For Merchants doe freight and load their ships with it. The Mountain when it rageth, doth send forth a noise