

clear; it is the Brion Island of our charts. Alezay, I hope, has been shown to be Dead-man's Island. What can be the large, unnamed island, other than the large island of the Magdalene group, to which, in his narrative, strangely enough, Cartier gives no name? Its position and shape are both exceedingly accurate for the time, and for the hasty survey Cartier was able to give it. On two or three maps subsequently to be considered, the same island is marked "*ille de sablões*," and "*I. dareas*," both Portuguese forms for "*Isle of Sands*,"<sup>1</sup> and so Cartier described it. In his own words, "*semble de loing que se soinet butterolles de sables, pour ce que se sont terres-basses et araineusses*," i.e. "it seemed from afar to be little hills of sand, for it is a very low and sandy land." How well this describes the great island of the Magdalenes, composed as it is of four or five distinct rocky islands, joined by long lines of sand dunes, everybody knows. Does it not seem strange in the face of these facts, that this island has been considered up to the present, to represent Prince Edward Island? HARRISSE, for instance, so considers it, for in his description of another and very similar map by the same author, made in 1550, he says that what is clearly the island we are considering, represents Prince Edward Island of to-day. I call particular attention to this point, for it is connected with one of the most important parts of our present study.

Passing to the mainland, we meet with our familiar "*R. des barques*," and "*C. dangonlesme*" which stands, of course, in place of Cape Orleans. Cape of the Savages is not named, but running out to the north-east we see represented the reef, spoken of by Cartier, which ran half a league into the sea. These places of course appear to be on the mainland. It is hardly necessary to repeat that this is because Prince Edward Island was not known to be an Island, and is therefore shown as apart of the mainland. All of the topography of the Gulf in this region was given to the cartographers exclusively by Cartier, and no writer whatever has ever pretended that Cartier explored or passed through the Strait of Northumberland. The Bay of St. Lunario, really the northern end of the Strait, is clearly shown, but we have a new name for it. It seems to read "*Baye de Se. mane*," which I believe is a misprint, and meant to read "*Se. Marie*." It will be remembered<sup>2</sup> that Cartier found he was in his supposed bay on July 2nd, but as he had actually entered it on the 1st, he named it after the saint of that day, St. Leonarius. Now, July 2nd, is the day of the visitation of the Virgin Mary, and it seems as if this name had been substituted either by Cartier or the maker of this map, as an alternative for St. Lunario.<sup>3</sup>

The name "*G. Soman*" I cannot explain.<sup>4</sup> Just north of it is a triangular indentation which is probably meant for Miramichi Bay, though it is separated from St. Lunario by a distance quite unusual in these old maps. "*C. despoir*" is perfectly clear,—Cartier's

<sup>1</sup> And HARRISSE describes, (op. cit. p. 231,) another map by the same author, made in 1550, in which what is clearly the same island, is called "*Il. des arenes*."

<sup>2</sup> See these Transactions, v. 131-132.

<sup>3</sup> An interesting possibility is suggested to us here. Cartier saw Miramichi Bay on the 2nd, and described it as a triangular bay, lying north-east, but gives it no name in his narrative. He had named so many places after saints, that we are tempted to wonder whether he did not call Miramichi Bay, Bay of St. Mary, and the name has got displaced on the map. I must say I have as yet seen no facts to substantiate this very hazy theory.

<sup>4</sup> I have no doubt that anyone familiar with the old French, Spanish and Portuguese, familiar with Cartier's narratives, and who will allow for the abominably bad spelling and carelessness of early cartographers, could solve all the puzzling questions about these names, left unsolved in these pages.