

leagues off, the mainland of the Grand Cham, and that he coasted along it for 300 leagues and landed. He is called the great Admiral, great honour being paid to him, and he goes dressed in silk. The discoverer of these things has planted a large cross in the ground with a banner of England and one of St. Mark, as he is a Venetian, so that our flag has been hoisted very far away."

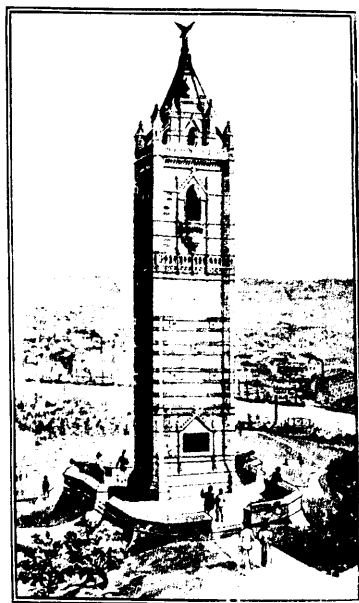
The king was much pleased by Cabot's success, and gave him new letters-patent authorizing him to fit out a second expedition for fresh exploration in the "lande and iles of late founde by the said John in oure name and by oure commandmente." Sebastian, also, probably sailed with his father in this expedition, which consisted of five well-armed ships, victualled for a year and manned by 300 men. It left Bristol some time in the July of 1498, but while it is now generally believed by the best investigators that Cabot coasted the shores of North America from Labrador or Cape Breton as far as Cape Hatteras, we have no details of this famous voyage, and are even ignorant of the date when the fleet returned to England. It is probable that John Cabot died during the voyage, and from this time forward his son Sebastian appears alone in historic records.

THE CABOT MAPPEMONDE.

There is a remarkable paucity of authentic documents relating to these two voyages which laid the basis of the claim of England to so large a portion of North America. We have not even the handwriting or portrait of John Cabot to interest us in those days, though Sebastian has left both behind him. The official documents are the two letters-patent, and a few entries in the privy purse accounts of Henry VII. and his son. The rest of the historical information must be gathered from such second-hand sources as letters from London to Spain and Italy, reports of conversations between Sebastian and his friends, and some vague notices in English chronicles and collections of

voyages. It is well known, however, that John Cabot left behind him a "description of the world on a chart and also on a solid sphere, which he had constructed, and on which he shows where he has been." This map was sent to Spain by her ambassador, and, no doubt, formed the basis of the *mappe monde* which the famous pilot, Juan de la Cosa, made in 1500, and in which due recognition is given of the discoveries of the English under Cabot by a line of English flags along what is clearly the coast of North America, and by such designations at the north-east as *mar descubierta por los ingleses*, and *Cayo de Ynglaterra*—geographical expressions probably referring to the Gulf of St. Lawrence and Cape Breton or Cape Race.

It is also shown by Hakluyt that Sebastian Cabot made or suggested in later years a map of the discoveries of himself and his father, copies of which



BRISTOL'S TRIBUTE TO CABOT.

were to be seen in "many ancient merchants' houses," as well as in Queen Elizabeth's gallery at Whitehall. No such map can now be found in England, but in 1843 one was discovered in the house of a Bavarian