

been fought. Brevoort erroneously translates it "even with." Mr. Nicholls makes it "not lying in front of the land but further on," a translation which has the unique merit of flatly contradicting its original. Other translations there are, but the Latin version of the Paris map uses instead of *ex adverso* the synonym *oppositam* in which the idea of adjacency is necessarily implied, and *oppositam* recorded by Chytreus intensifies this idea. In the Latin version on the Paris map the meaning is also clearly expressed that the inscription given is intended to apply generally to the whole region and not solely to the island. A new sentence commences—*Hujus terræ incolæ*. All these are indications that the Latin versions are the originals.

*Latin Inscription No. 8 (Copied by the Late Dr. Deane) on Map of 1514.*

Terram hanc olim nobis clusam aperuit Joannes Cabotus Venetus, nec non Sebastianus Cabotus ejus filius, anno ab orbe redempto 1494, die vero 24 Julii, (sic) hora 5 sub diluculo, quam terram primum visam appellarunt & Insulam quandam magnam ei oppositam, Insulam divi Joannis nominarunt, quippe quæ solenni die festo divi Joannis aperta fuit. Hujus terræ incolæ pellibus animalium induuntur, arenâ in bello, sagittis, hastis, spiculis, clavis ligneis, & fundis utuntur: sterilis incultaque tellus fuit, leonibus, ursis albis, procerisque cervis, piscibus innumeris, lupis scilicet, salmonibus & ingentibus soleis unius ulnæ longitudine, aliisque diversis piscium generibus abundat, horum autem maxima copia est, quos vulgus Bacallios appellat; ad hæc insunt accipitres nigri corvorum similes, aquilæ, perdicesque fusco colore, aliæque diversæ volucres.

The version of Chytreus is the same as above but—24 Junii instead of Julii—1594 instead of 1494 and *oppositam* for *oppositam*.

*Legend on Clement Adams's Map—From Hakluyt.*

Anno Domini 1497, Joannes Cabotus Venetus, et Sebastianus illius filius eam terram fecerunt perviam, quam nullus prius adire ausus fuit, die 24 Junii, circiter horam quintam bene mane. Hanc autem appellavit Terram primum visam, credo quod ex mari in eam partem primum oculos injecerat. Nam quæ ex adverso sita est insula, eam appellavit Insulam divi Joannis, hac opinor ratione, quod aperta fuit eo die qui est sacer Divo Joanni Baptista: Hujus incolæ pelles animalium exuviasque ferarum pro indumentis habent, easque tanti faciunt, quanti nos vestes preciosissimas. Cum bellum gerunt, utuntur arenâ, sagittis, hastis, spiculis, clavis ligneis et fundis. Tellus sterilis est, neque ullos fructus affert, ex quo fit, ut ursis albo colore, et cervis inusitate apud nos magnitudinis referta sit; piscibus abundat iisque sane magnis, quales sunt lupi marini et quos salmones vulgus appellat; solem autem reperiuntur tam longæ, ut ulnæ mensuram excedant. Imprimis autem magna est copia eorum piscium, quos vulgari sermone vocant Bacallaos. Gignuntur in ea insula accipitres ita nigri, ut corvorum similitudinem mirum in modum expriment, perdices autem et aquilæ sunt nigri coloris.

*Hakluyt's Translation, Ed. 1600.*

(Words in italics are interpolated, or changed.)

In the yeere of our Lord 1497 John Cabot, a Venetian, and his sonne Sebastian (*with an English fleet set out from Bristoll*) discovered that land which no man before that time had attempted, on the 24 of June, about five of the clocke early in the morning. This land he called Prima Vista, that is to say, first scene, because as I suppose it was that part whereof they had the first sight from sea. That island which lieth out before the land, he called the island of St. John upon the occasion, as I thinke, because it was discovered upon the day of John the Baptist. The inhabitants of this island use to weare beasts' skinnes, and have them in as great estimation as we have our finest garments. In their warres they use bowes, arrowes, pikes, darts, wooden clubs and slings. The soile is barren *in some places* and yieldeth litle fruit, but it is full of white beares, and staggess farre greater than ours. It yeeldeth plenty of fish, and these very great, as seales, and those which commonly we call salmones; there are soles also above a yard in length; but especially there is great abundance of that kinde of fish which the *savages* call Bacallaos. In the same island also there breed hauks, but they are so blacke that they are very like to ravens, as also their partridges and egles, which are in like sort blacke.