

and full of pease, white and red; myrtles, having the white blossoms on them; strawberries ripe; a wild grain like barley, which looks as if it had been sowed and worked; and this land is of the best temperature that one could desire—and of great warmth. We saw there an infinity of gulls, cranes, and other birds. In a word there was nothing wanting to the land but good harbors.”

From the foregoing description of Jacques Cartier, anyone acquainted with the northwestern coast of this Province will readily recognize in Cape d’ Orleans, Kildare Cape; while Cap des Sauvages is none other than North Cape. The ledge of rocks at the latter; the distance between the two; the picture of this coast; above all, the topography of the New Brunswick side which follows,—is as exact as it could be made in writing in those days, and fits into no other section of the gulf shore. The entrance into Cascumpec Harbor and the Kildare River, (le Fleuve des Barques) was not, I think, just at the same spot then as it is to-day, but broke through the sandhills nearer Kildare; as it now threatens to break through still further east than the present entrance. Kildare River and the bay into which it emptied, was a favorite resort of the Indians for hundreds of years after Jacques Cartier; and well up to its head waters as on Savage Island, called after them, have many indications of long-used camping-grounds been found, even in our days. Nor does the remnant of the Mic-Macs desert it in the present, but under very changed circumstances, still divides its placid waters in summer with the oar which has long since replaced their forbears’ paddle. But, everything taken into consideration, it is easy to recognize the first landing place of Cartier on Canadian soil at CASCUMPEC, PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND, ON DOMINION DAY, 1534.

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5. Cartier thought he saw the land interlock down the strait, as he sailed over to the New Brunswick side, giving an accurate description of that shore.

