

bibed, especially during ebb tides, by the shell-fish, they are thus productive of consequences, fatal to those who use them as an article of food.

Not only the bird isles, already described, but the island of Bonaventure, and Percé rock, abound in the summer with ganets, which, in prodigious flocks, arrive early in May from the southward. They lay and hatch their eggs, not only on those islands, but on various parts of the coast, where adventurous sportsmen, often with considerable risque ascend and plunder their nests, amid the steep and threatening cliffs. These birds, at that period very fierce, will sometimes by the severity of their bite, directed chiefly at the eyes of the despoiler, force him to retreat. The bay of Gaspé is more than two leagues in depth, and its coasts are inhabited by settlers engaged in the fisheries.

GULPH AND RIVER OF ST. LAWRENCE.

The Gulph of St. Lawrence, says Mr. H. is about eighty leagues in length; and when the winds and currents are favourable, its passage does not usually exceed twenty-four hours. The Saint Lawrence, is one of the greatest, most noble, and beautiful rivers, and, at the same time, the farthest navigable for vessels of a large size, of any in the universe. From its mouth to the harbour of Quebec, the distance is one hundred and twenty leagues; and vessels from Europe ascend to Montreal, which is sixty leagues higher up its course.

Cape Rosiers, at a small distance to the northwards of the point of Gaspé, is properly the place which limits the farthest extent of this gigantic river; and it is from thence that the breadth of its mouth, which is ninety miles, must be estimated. They who pretend that its width is one hundred and twenty miles, measure it apparently from the eastern extremity of Gaspé. The mouth of the Saint Lawrence is separated into two channels, by the island of Anticosti, extending from south east to north west, about a hundred and twenty miles, and its utmost breadth about thirty miles. The north channel is little frequented, although safe and of great depth; it is much narrower than the south channel, which is near sixteen leagues wide at its entrance. The island is of little value; the wood which grows upon it is small, the soil is barren, and possesses not a single harbour where a vessel may with safety enter. The country is flat towards the coasts, rising a little in the centre, but no where into hills. Flat rocks extend at each extremity, to a considerable distance from the shores, rendering the approach hazardous. A few savages sometimes winter there, for the purpose of the chase. On passing this island, the land becomes visible on both sides of the river.

A considerable number of rivers flowing through long channels