

shores of Ireland and Scotland for some few days; then they turned to the east (*i.e.*, west), leaving the north on the starboard side, or on the right hand (*a mano dritta*, so writes Raimondo). A vessel sailing with the north on her right side, is, of course, sailing westwardly. Sailing in this direction they discovered land either at four hundred leagues distant or at seven hundred leagues, or (as I shall show) at both these distances.

We have no exact statement as to how far they sailed northwardly before turning to the west, but we can give a pretty accurate guess from the data before us. The navigators said that the new land was about seven hundred leagues, or twenty-one hundred miles distant, and that they could reach it in fifteen days. That would be allowing about one hundred and forty miles a day ( $140 \times 15 = 2,100$ ), or nearly six knots an hour ( $24 \times 6 = 144$ ), which is very good sailing. Now, Raimondo says that on rounding Cape Clear they sailed north for *a few days* (*qualche giorni*). Taking this expression in its ordinary acceptation, we may allow three or four days. Sailing northward from Cape Clear for four days, at six knots an hour, more or less, would give five hundred and sixty miles ( $140 \times 4 = 560$ ). This would bring them to the neighborhood of St. Kilda's, or Rockall, or between that and the Feroe Islands. Then turning their course westward, more or less, they would meet exactly at four hundred leagues distant, Cape Farewell in Greenland. Thus would be verified the statement of the two writers, Raimondo and De Ayala; that the navigators found the new land at four hundred leagues. On Majollo's map (1527) there is a point given exact: responding to this cape, and marked *tierra-firme* (Spanish). It is evidently intended to represent the first land seen by Cabot, which point Raimondo calls *terra ferma* (Italian).

This was doubtless the first land seen by Cabot; but being uninviting in appearance, bleak and barren, moreover being evidently only a headland, and the open ocean being still to the westward before him, he pushed onwards without landing, and some three hundred leagues further on—thus making up the seven hundred leagues as mentioned by Pasquaglio, and reconciling those hitherto apparently conflicting statements—he would again strike land, either on the coast of Labrador or on the east coast of Newfoundland. If he had continued westwardly from Greenland, with a tendency towards the north, say west northwest, he would strike the coast of Labrador, about where the Island of Mugford is situated, or between  $55^\circ$  and  $60^\circ$  north latitude. If, however, he had allowed his course to tend somewhat more towards the southwest, he would make land at the same distance of three hundred leagues on the east shore of Newfoundland, and somewhere in the neighborhood of Cape St. John or Cape Bonavista. I