asking if that document, of which only one copy is known to-day, has not undergone during the course of years, the fate peculiar to documents of the same kind, and if the copy in the Bibliothèque Nationale gives a representation of the original type, similar in all its parts to that made out by Sebastian Cabot ".

According to Harrisse, there had been four editions of that map:

1. The map in the Bibliothèque Nationale, drawn in 1544; found at a curate's dwelling in Bavière in 1843;

2. The map seen at Oxford by Nicolas Heschoff, in 1566; drawn in 1549;

3. The map engraved by Clement Adams, seen by Hakluyt in 1565;

4. Finally the map Purchas pretends to have examined in the private gallery of the King of England. It bore the date of 1549.

All these editions are quite alike, but they all differ on several points. Without losing our time by making tedious comparisons, we may say, in brief, that the Cabotian map is far from being a document on which we can rely to make assertions in matters of discoveries, and still more so in geographical science. In certain respects, the learned professor of cosmography is far behind others. Newfoundland is, according to him, but a vast archipelago; Cape Breton is a main land, etc., etc. The French maps issued before his are, generally, more accurate.

The map drawn by Sebastian Cabot is the only one which claims, by its legend, that the English have been the first to land at Cape Breton. All the other geographical monuments of that period do not say a word about it. However, they are unanimous in limiting the English discoveries to Labrador. Let us make a short analysis of those old maps.

The map of Juan de la Cosa, drawn in 1500, shows us the *Cavo de Inglaterra* (cape of England); Humboldt believes it to be a promontory in the neighborhood of Belle-Isle, which would now be, according to Dr Kohl, Cape Race.

It is the remotest mention of English discoveries, and it belongs to Newfoundland. We are still far from Cape Breton.

In 1511 a *portulan* was published by the Vicomto de Maggiolo. M. D'Avezac describes it as follows:

" The polar regions in a radius of nearly thirty-five degrees offer the most curious and singular configurations surrounding the Polar sea, with a continuous cloud from the