

And from another :

" All the said land is low and plaine, and the fairest that may possibly be seen full of goodly meadowes and trees.—*Hakluyt*.

Struggles between
England and
France.

The Island was long neglected by the British Government, but its pristine loveliness seems to have attracted the French, for in 1523 it was appropriated by that nation as part of the discoveries of Verazzani, a native of Florence, who was sent westward by Francis I of France. Until the country finally passed into the hands of the British in 1763, while not the scene of any actual conflict, it was continually changing hands. All through the years were occurring the fierce wars between the Gaul and the Anglo-Saxon for the possession of New France. The treaty of Utrecht in 1713 closed one of these struggles and P. E. Island was ceded to Britain. In 1745 the two powers were again at war, Louisburg was captured by the British and the Island of Saint John was seized by the New England forces. The great fortress was restored to the French in 1748 by the treaty of Aix-la-Chappelle, but in 1758 it once more fell into the hands of the British under the leadership of the gallant Wolfe ; and a body of soldiers under Captain Lord Rollo took possession of Prince Edward Island in the name of the King of Great Britain. Then followed the fall of Quebec, and by the Treaty of Paris in 1763, Cape Breton, the Island of St. John and Acadia were ceded to Britain, the two Islands named being placed under the Government of Nova Scotia. But the Acadians maintained a determined hostility, and assisted the Indians in committing many depredations in Nova Scotia. Strong means were used to enforce their submission, and some were deported to Canada, and the Southern Colonies ; while others returned to France rather than swear allegiance to England.

The Island was erected into a separate government in 1769, but the first Governor, Walter Patterson, did not