Some of the most important facts about old maps are illustrated by the four given herewith, which show the effects of the voyages of Cartier upon the maps of the Gulf of St. Lawrence. The reader will do well to examine them with a good modern map of the Gulf before him, and also to read in this connection the sketch of a part of Cartier's first voyage, already given in No. 1 of this series of readings.

Before the voyages of Cartier, the Gulf of St. Lawrence was shown on the maps merely as a rounded indentation in a nearly continuous coast line of Eastern North America, and one of the very best of these maps

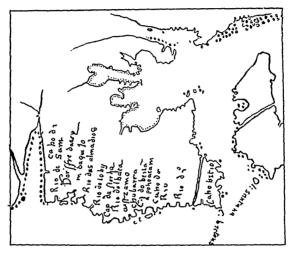


Fig. 2--Map made by Jean Rotz, dated 1542; really belonging to 1535.

is given in Figure 1. Hardly any feature and not a single name can be recognized; even the straits of Belle Isle are not shown. Figure 2 is an early map showing the first voyage, but not the later ones, of Cartier. Erroneous as it is, it is yet an immense advance over those that preceded it. Unfortunately no names of places are given in the Gulf of St. Lawrence, but these can be supplied from Figure 3, which shows the effects of Cartier's second voyage also. Cartier's narrative makes it plain that y de margaux is what is now called Bird Islands, and ye de brion is still called Brion Id., while Allezay is a small island at the southwestern end of the Magdalene