

ing with him five ships and three hundred men. It is interesting to know that the name of the ship in which he made his first voyage was *The Matthew* of Bristol, as appears from the following extract from an ancient Bristol manuscript: "In the year 1497, the 24th June, on St. John's Day, was Newfoundland found by Bristol men, in a ship called *The Matthew*." It is not difficult to trace the origin of the name "Newfoundland." On the old maps the whole of the northern region is designated *Terra Nova* or New Land, this epithet applying to all the English discoveries in the north. In the course of time, the name settled down on this single Island, just as the term *West Indies*, which once applied to the whole of America, is now limited to a group of islands on its eastern side. Cabot called the place *Baccalios*, from the abundance of the codfish he observed in its waters, the native term for which is *Barcelon*. Hence the designation of a small rocky inlet, north of St. John's,—*Baccalieu*.

FIRST FISHERIES.

For almost a century, no attempts were made by Englishmen to follow up this discovery of their countrymen, by colonizing Newfoundland. The Portuguese were the first to turn their attention to these Northern regions discovered by Cabot. Gaspar Cortereal ranged the coast of North America in 1500; discovered and named Conception Bay and Portugal Cove, in Newfoundland, and established the first regular fishery on its shores. Within seven years of Cabot's discovery, the fisheries of Newfoundland were known to the hardy mariners of Brittany and Normandy. They had discovered and named the Island of Cape Breton; and had established themselves in the prosecution of those fisheries on the Banks and Shores of Newfoundland which are carried on by their descendants at the present day. Thus early did the French obtain a footing on these coasts. In 1517, forty sail of Portuguese, French and Spaniards were engaged in the codfishery, and in 1527 an English Captain wrote a letter, which is still extant, to Henry VIII. from the haven of St. John's, Newfoundland, in which he declares that he found in that one harbour eleven sail of Normans and one Breton engaged in the fishery. In 1534, *Jacques Cartier*, the celebrated French navigator, whose enterprise discovered and secured Canada for France, circumnavigated Newfoundland, explored the Bay of Chaleurs, unfurled the lilies of France at Gaspé, and in a second voyage ascended the St. Lawrence as far as Montreal. It was on this second voyage that he and Roberval, his assistant in the enterprise, met in the harbour of St. John's and gave it the name it still bears. In 1578, according to Hakluyt, the number of vessels employed in the codfishery had increased to four hundred, of which only fifty were English, the remainder being French and Spanish.

COLONIZATION.

It was at this date that England at length awoke to the importance of taking possession formally of Newfoundland and planting a colony on its shores. Illustrious names are connected with the earlier efforts to colonize this island, although these attempts were not attended with