

ALRIGHT ISLAND, M. I.

This is a view of the northern extremity of Alright Island, showing part of the settlement of House Harbour, together with the southern entrance to the harbour bearing the same name.

Alright Island lies to the north-east of Amherst Island, and forms the north-east boundary of Pleasant Bay, which has here a width of about twelve miles. The island is about four miles long by two broad, and its surface is almost entirely a succession of small hills and valleys. The soil is fertile though little cultivated, as the inhabitants, with few exceptions, devote themselves entirely to the seal and cod fisheries.

In the foreground is the Roman Catholic Church, a new and commodious structure, with a presbytery and school-house in the rear. A little to the right is the dwelling-house of Wm. Johnston, Esq., the principal merchant resident here. Further, in the same direction, is a flat sandy beach, dividing the waters of Pleasant Bay from another small bay, and terminating towards the east in a point, on which are situated the merchants' stores, and the buildings used in preparing the seal oil, which forms their principal staple of trade. This point forms the southern boundary of the entrance

to House Harbour, which is protected to the north by another point stretching from Grindstone Island (seen in the rear). This is the general anchoring ground of the vessels frequenting this island, several of which are shown in the plate. The waters of Pleasant Bay, after passing between these points, flow for about twenty miles to the east, between two sand ridges, which are prolongations of Grindstone and Alright Islands and form a kind of lagoon varying in width from a half to one and a half miles. At the eastern extremity of this lagoon is Grosseisle, an island with a very good harbour, open to the south, called Grand Entry.

In the background is shown a part of Grindstone Island, so called from a lofty conical cape of sandstone on its south-east shore, called by the French Cap Meule. This island forms the north-west boundary of Pleasant Bay, and is about five miles in length. Its soil is rich, and agriculture is prosecuted with vigour. The eastern extremity, shown in the plate, is very interesting, from the numerous traces of volcanic action it presents, lava, tuff and scoria, being abundant. At its western limit is the thriving village of L'Etang du Nord.