



## PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND

was discovered on St. John's Day, 1497. by Sebastian Cabot, who named it in honor of that saint. By an act of the Colonial Legislature it received the name it now bears in 1798, "to perpetuate the grateful remembrance of that peculiarly auspicious and happy period of the island having been under the command of Lieutenant-General H. R. H. Prince Edward," Duke of Kent, who was also at the head of the forces in Nova Scotia, Cape Breton, and Newfoundland. From its fair agricultural capabilities, the island is not unfrequently styled "the garden of British North America." It is about 140 miles long, 30 in average breadth, and contains an area of 1,250,000 acres of land, nearly all of which is capable of cultivation. It is well wooded and watered, largely intersected with roads, and indented with numerous bays and harbors. Scarcely any part of the country is more than 10 or 12 miles from a shipping place. The surface is level or undulating, the highest hill not exceeding 400 feet, and the verdure in summer closely resembles that of Ireland. The soil, a light red loam, is naturally fertile, easily worked, and when properly manured, yields abundant crops. The climate—cold and bracing in winter, warm and pleasant in June, July, August, September, and October—is favourable to health and longevity. Bright clear skies prevail throughout the year. Fogs are all but unknown. As a resort for summer visitors the island offers many attractions. The scenery in many places is very fine. At Rustico, Stanhope, and elsewhere on the north shore, excellent surf bathing may be had. The rivers and harbors abound with mackerel and trout. Salmon, too, are caught at Bedeque, Morell, and Winter River. Brant, geese, ducks, plover, and snipe are abundant, and with partridge, woodcock, and rabbit offer recreation and pleasure for the lover of field sports. An act was passed in 1871, by the Legislature, authorizing the construction of a line of railway from Alberton to Georgetown, with branch lines to Souris (east) and Tignish (west.) The road is 197 miles in length, and became the property of the general government of Canada in December, 1874. The island entered confederation on July 1st, 1873.

## CHARLOTTETOWN,

the capital of the island, is pleasantly situated on a short neck of land between the North and Hillsborough Rivers. It contains a population of (say) 10,000 souls, whose civic affairs are managed by a mayor, stipendiary Magistrate, and ten common councillors, with a police force. It is well laid