

h a pic-
ell culti-
will see
t of St.
Cath-
urches.
u pass
an op-
ns, and
Canada.
y, but
of the
adows.
where
n east-
ges of
ersede
oad at

a, in a
ood or

ch to
bold
rest,
wire
marine
e fer-
three
land.
essed
great
ines,
it of
nasts
Mul-

grave. Eastward, on the C. B. shore, is the Marine Rail-
way, where a large number of vessels repair the damages
met with at sea. All along the eastern shore of the
Strait are clusters of pleasantly situated colleges, and
numerous indications of industry and enterprise.

Plaster Cove (Port Hastings) affords the safest possible
shelter from the roughest winds. The Straits in many
points of view will remind the traveller of some reaches of
the Hudson River, some favorite spots on the Frith of
Clyde, some portions of the Loch Lomond scenery. The
"Strait" is 15 miles from St. George's Bay, on the north
to Chedabucto Bay on the south. The greater part of it is
more than a mile wide. Northward from Plaister Cove
you travel by a good road twenty-eight miles through a thinly
peopled country till you reach

Port Hood

the county town of Inverness. It is a place of call for most
steamers that have intercourse with Cape Breton on this
side. It is exposed to the fury of the northwest winds,
which are often very rough and destructive here. At-
tempts have been made to erect a breakwater, so as to save
the harbor, but hitherto without success. There is a cre-
scent shaped island out a mile from the shore, under the
lee of which vessels find shelter. Within the memory of
people still living, this island was separated from the main
land only by a shallow, fordable channel, a few yards wide.
The connection might have been maintained at the expense
of a few dollars. But when the woods were cut away the
power of the storms increased, and the resistance of the
soil decreased, till now the channel is over a mile wide, and
deep enough to allow the passage of any ship. The island
is wasting rapidly every year. Port Hood is rising in im-
portance, as a link of connection between Pictou and Cape
Breton. Here often in autumn a hundred vessels, chiefly
American fishermen, may be seen at the same time. This
coast is a favorite resort of mackerel and herring. From
Port Hood you proceed about ten miles to