

map accompanying this paper, a copy of a portion of Bruce's chart of 1761, which, made from surveys, is quite accurate and shows the harbour unmodified by modern changes, Denys' description can be readily followed: as, indeed, it can be without a map by those familiar with St. John Harbour.

Is it possible to doubt that the island on the left of the entrance mentioned by Denys is Partridge Island, or that the marshes and flats on the same side as the island are the Carleton flats, extending all along the west side of the harbour and merging into the great marshy mud flats now for the most part filled in except for the Mill Pond? How can the flats so described by Denys possibly be the Courtenay Bay flats as required by Mr. Hannay's theory? The beach, which is composed of muddy or miry sand, and which extends out into a point, is mentioned next. Can it be doubted that this point is that which is now Sand Point? A modern chart shows even better than the Bruce map the extent and form of these flats, and how well Denys' description applies thereto. This point being passed, he tells us there is a cove (or creek) making into the said marshes, across the narrow entrance of which La Tour built his weir. Can any description be clearer than this? What are the "said marshes," if not the Carleton flats already referred to, now filled in except for the Mill Pond? And the creek is shown with the most satisfying clearness in Bruce's map just above the beach of gravel. Where are the places on the east side of the harbour to which these words would apply?

And now comes the crucial point: "A little further on, beyond the said weir, there is a little mound where d'Aunay built his fort," says Denys. There is such a mound precisely where Denys says; and upon it long afterwards Fort Frederick stood; there is no other with which it can be confounded. Here then was the site of Charnisay's Fort. How can this description be possibly so forced as to place it at Portland Point, as Mr. Hannay would have us believe? But this is not all; Denys tells us more: "I have not found [it] well placed according to my idea, for it is commanded by an island which is very near and higher ground, and behind which all ships can place themselves under cover from the fort, in which is only water from pits [or wells], which is not very good; no better than that outside the fort." There is but a single island in the harbour above Partridge Island, and that is very near the mound. It is to-day of about the same height as the site of Fort Frederick, but even now at low tide vessels could lie behind it out of reach of the guns of a fort on the shore. There is good reason to suppose that the island was higher nearly two hundred and fifty years ago.<sup>1</sup> As there is but a single island in the harbour, this one apparent inconsistency as to its height cannot throw us off the track.

<sup>1</sup> The island is washing away very rapidly indeed, the estimate of a resident being that 50 feet of the lower end have disappeared within thirty years. Its highest point is at present twenty feet above high tide, about the height of the "Old Fort" site. It was probably formerly wooded, and large stumps can still be seen *in situ* upon its northern beach. It is known to be steadily sinking, but the movement probably affects the mainland as well. It consists of gravel overlying slate, and even its highest part may have been lowered much in two hundred and forty years. It is quite possible, too, that the old fort site is higher than when Charnisay built his fort upon it, as the successive rebuildings upon the site would tend to raise it somewhat. An old resident on the island told me that very large numbers of cannon balls had been exposed in the washing away of a clay bank at the northern end, balls which seemed to have been shot from the opposite, *i. e.* the Portland, shore. It seems certain that these must have been fired from the fort on Portland Point. Is it not probable that they came from Fort La Tour against the ships of d'Aunay during its vigorous defences? And do they not increase the probability that it was La Tour's fort which stood there, and not Charnisay's, which was temporary and probably never besieged, as he had no enemies after it was built?