

Renommée," wrecked in 1736, is also shewn, as I will allude to it in my remarks. In 10 years the Wrecks and Casualties on Anticosti number :---

- 7 Steamships,
- 67 Sailing Ships and Barques,
- 14 Brigs and Brigantines,
- 18 Schooners,

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106 Vessels of about 120,000 gross tonnage, and manned by over 2,000 men exclusive of any passengers. Probably 3,000 souls have been cast upon its shores by shipwrecks in 10 years. The value of vessels and cargoes, 6 to 8 millions of dollars, or over half a million lost per annum. I shall not tire you with figures nor official statistics, but proceed simply to describe the Island as I saw it on different occasions.

The Island of Anticosti may be called the heart of the Gulf of St. Lawrence, it is surrounded by fishing of all descriptions, from the monstrous whale to the tiny caplin, and its Rivers abound with salmon and trout. Hundreds of Canadian and United States fishermen visit its waters in schooners and barges every season to earn a precarious living. It is about 135 miles long and over 30 miles broad, narrowing at each end, with an area of nearly two millions and a half acres. A considerable portion of the southern part is a peat bed about 12 to 15 feet above the level of the sea, partly covered by a thick and impenetrable forest of dwarf spruce trees about 12 feet high, their branches so twisted and matted together, that it is said a man can walk upon their tops. Swamps and small lakes are met with in every direction—the home and breeding ground of innumerable water-fowl—such as geese, ducks, loons, &c., &c. Such is the nature of the Island until a more northerly portion is reached, when it gradually rises to about 400 feet and is nowhere over 700 feet above high water mark. Here may be found extensive forests of pine, spruce, juniper,