

along with the other local place-names of the Island.

And what white explorer first saw Miscou? Happily we know well, or at least the one who first tells us of it. It was in that period when all the great nations of Europe vied with one another in exploring the newly-discovered world, and in seeking a western passage to the riches of India. And it was the great French navigator, Jacques Cartier, who, on July 3, 1534, now nearing four centuries ago, coasted northward along Miscou and rounded its northern point. Seeing before him a great open bay he hoped he had found a passage to the west, and he named the point, the present Northwest Point, *Capt d'Esperance*, the Cape of Hope. This was the first name applied by any European, so far as we know, to any part of New Brunswick. What a pity it has not survived to our own day! But he named also Bay Chaleur because of the heat he experienced there on July 9th, and this name does exist to-day, the most venerable European word connected with New Brunswick.

A period of exploration is followed ever by a time of exploitation, when the attempt is made to develop the resources of the new country. Thus at Miscou opened the period of the French traders. For the earlier part of this time at Miscou we have no records, but there can be no doubt that soon after Cartier's voyage the French fishermen and traders began to use the fine harbor of Miscou, where, I believe, goodly fleets of little vessels could be seen every summer. It was some of these fishermen no doubt who related to the great Champlain the story of the Gougou, a strange and horrible monster having its home in an island which seems to have been Miscou. But we come to sober history in 1623 when, as the records tell us, one Raymond de la Ralde, first resident of Miscou whose name has been preserved, established a trading post there in which some of his men spent a winter. This post, I believe, for reasons given in a