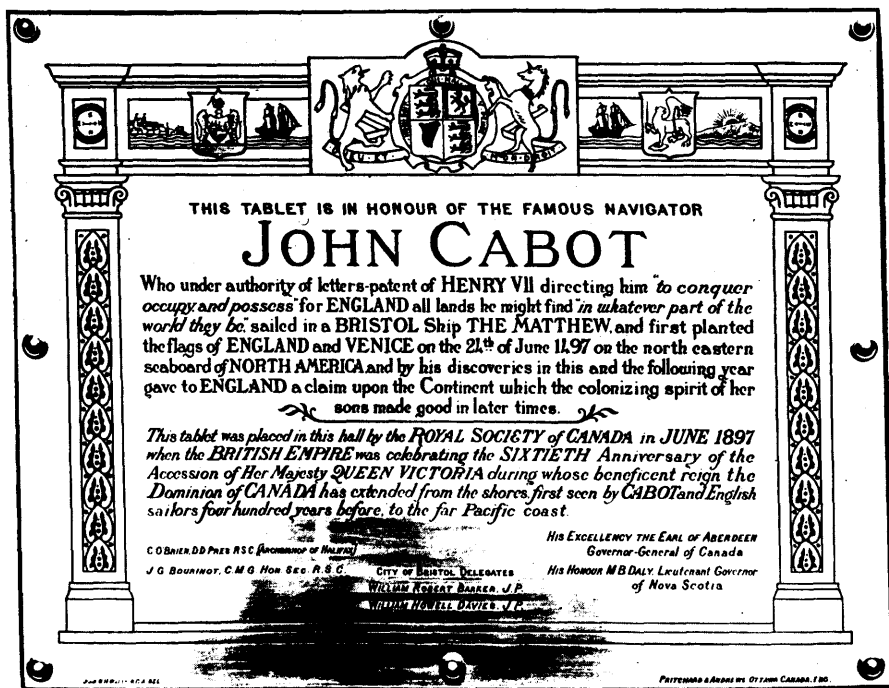


and I may simply say that the weight of authority goes to show that the section delineating northeastern America shows the discoveries of Cortereal and Cartier up to the date of 1544, and clearly places the landfall on the Island of Cape Breton. Sebastian Cabot probably gave the information which formed the basis for the map, if he did not actually draw it himself, and must have also suggested the legend which refers to the discovery of *Prima Vista* on St. John's day. The actual site of the landfall will always be a matter of controversy unless some document is found among musty archives of Europe to solve the question to the satisfaction of the disputants who wax hot over the claims of a point near Cape Chidley, on the coast of Labrador,

Breton. One of the weightiest essays on the question has been written by Dr. S. E. Dawson,* who, with much learning and critical acumen, argues in favour of Cape Breton—the most eastern point of the island of that name—and of the Isle of Scatari, as Cabot's landfall, and the island stated in the legend to be “over against” (*ex adverso*), the *Prima Vista* of the disputed map.

On the 24th of June, 1897, the people of Bristol laid the foundation of a stately monument in honour of Cabot on Brandon Hill, which recalls that mysterious Island of St. Brandon, for which the adventurous sailors of the old seaport sought in vain long before the voyage of 1497. On the same day the Royal Society of Canada placed with appropriate ceremonies a



THE CABOT TABLET, AT HALIFAX.

Placed by the Royal Society of Canada, on June 24th, 1897.

of Bonavista, on the east shore of Newfoundland, of Cape North, or other point on the Island of Cape
 brass tablet in the old Province Building of Nova Scotia. In view of the controversies with respect to the site

*Trans. Roy. Soc. Can., Vol. XII., O.S., and Vol. II., N.S., Sec. 2. Archbishop O'Brien, in his presidential address at the Cabot celebration, took issue with Dr. Dawson on certain points and assumed an original ground while adhering generally to the Cape Breton theory. See Trans. for 1897, Vol. III., N.S. The Royal Society has taken the lead in this interesting discussion among scholars of Europe and America.