

is nooning to show that he went further than that, and, as already pointed out, the Gut of Canso, through which he might have sailed, was not yet known. As he sailed thence along the coast of Newfoundland, he could not have come within sight of Prince Edward Island.

Another noted explorer was the Portuguese, Stephen Gomez. Like so many of the sea-faring men of his country and day, he was a most skillful navigator. He had sailed with Magellan, when that great sailor discovered the strait which bears his name; but Gomez was of a jealous and treacherous nature, and, taking one of the ships, deserted his chief at the Strait and returned to Spain, in the service of which country the expedition to the south had been made.

Under the patronage and with the support of the emperor, Charles V., Gomez, in 1525, fitted out a ship and made an exploring voyage to North America. A methodical and skillful explorer, he minutely examined the coast from somewhere near Florida to Cape Breton and Newfoundland. He discovered the Gut of Canso, and that Cape Breton is an island. It had previously been thought to be part of the mainland. The name St. John had been given by John Cabot to the small island off the east coast of Cape Breton, discovered by him. Gomez gave it to Cape Breton itself, and the Gut was called the channel of St. John or St. Julian. But he did not go beyond that. He examined the coasts of Nova Scotia, and seems to have struck Halifax, as well as other harbours. The reports of his voyage, which are pretty full, give no hint of Prince Edward Island, or that he was ever in its immediate neighborhood. Had he seen an island the size of Prince Edward Island, there would surely

have been some mention of it. He was too painstaking and methodical an investigator to omit so important a discovery. In fact, his explorations from the Gut were in a direction away from this Island.

But, while it may now be safely asserted that none of these great explorers ever saw the "Garden on the Gulf", there can be no doubt that Jacques Cartier did make its shores. He has left a record of his voyage, which was long lost, but has been found, and of which more than one translation was known. Cartier was not only a great and skillful navigator; he was also a most observant man. The localities he touched can frequently be recognized from his descriptions.

Leaving his home port of St. Malo, in France, in the spring of 1534, he directed his course towards Newfoundland, even then becoming noted for her great fisheries, to which European vessels were resorting. He made a very good run, and towards the end of April reached the strait of Belle Isle, where he was detained some days by ice, then got through the strait, and explored the coast of Labrador and the shores of Newfoundland. Having navigated the waters of these coasts, he reached out into the Gulf of St. Lawrence, and discovered the Magdalen Islands, one of which he named Brion Island, after the Sieur de Brion, who had assisted in the expedition. After a few days at the Magdalens, during which he visited the Bird Rocks, which he describes, as well as all the other principal islands, he sailed on the 29th June, and the following day made the north shore of Prince Edward Island, at or near Cape Turner and Cape Tryon, in New London. He coasted westwardly, and landed in his boats at several places. He described the country as a beautiful one, and speaks of its woods, and says that there were no harbors,