

generally affected their language. Still there are a few words in use which seem to have come in that way, for example, *callibogus*, a mixture of spruce beer and rum; a *scalawag*, a scamp; *tomahawk*, the name by which the American shingling hatchet is known; *catamaran*, a word originally denoting a raft of three logs lashed together, used first in the East and afterwards in the West Indies; but in Newfoundland used to denote a woodshed, and when side sleighs were first introduced, applied to them; and *scrod*, in New England *escrod*, a fresh young codfish boiled.

There is a word common in names on the coasts of Newfoundland and Labrador to which I must advert. It is the word *tickle*, used to denote a narrow passage of some length, usually between an island and the mainland, sometimes large enough to afford shelter for vessels, and sometimes so small as to be navigable only by boats. On the east coast of Newfoundland there are six or eight such places, known by particular appellations, as North Tickle, Main Tickle, &c., and the Coast Pilot notes over a dozen such places on the Labrador coast. We have other names formed from them as Tickle Point or Tickle Bay. In two or three instances in Nova Scotia and New Brunswick we have such a place known sometimes as a *tickle*, but commonly as a *tittle*, which I deem a corruption of it. I have never seen a conjecture as to the meaning or origin of the word, but myself proposed the following explanation.* The first explorers of the coast referred to were the Portuguese, who gave names to the leading places on these shores, a number of which remain to the present day. A large proportion of these were the names of places in Portugal or the Western Islands, from which they carried on much of their trade. Now on the coast of Portugal may be seen a point called Santa Tekla. It is a narrow projection some miles in length, inside of which is a lengthy basin, narrowed by an island. As there were few good harbors on the coast of that country, this formed a favorite resort for shelter, particularly to her fishermen. What more natural than that they should give the name to places here of similar appearance and serving the same purpose. The slight change from Tekla to Tickle will not appear strange to any person who knows into what different forms foreign words have been changed when adopted by Englishmen.

* Transactions of the Royal Society of Canada, VIII. (2), 144.