

"A trapper named Hebert, who has resided for many years in the above named Bay, pointed out to me a cleared spot in front of his house, in which he produced excellent potatoes which have never been known to be subjected to disease, and, in fact, all the vegetables before mentioned. At a short distance, north from his house, will be found one of the most delightful wild rose patches in the Dominion of Canada.

"At the time of my visit, the temperature ranged from 60° to 80° , but the delightful refreshing winds from seaward served to reduce the heat, making the atmosphere pleasant. Rain is not of common occurrence, and thunder storms are rare; no doubt, in the present undrained condition of many portions of the interior, some evaporations occur during the warmest days of summer, but there is nothing unhealthy nor of a miasmatic nature in the Island of Anticosti. The only bad atmosphere arises from the decomposition of sea-weed, commonly called kelp (*Algae*), thrown up by the sea, combined with fish offal accumulating during the fishing season in the Bays and along the coast, but if agriculture was carried on, a better manure cannot be found. When salt water *algae* cease to perform their functions, they are cast ashore, where they soon decompose, and I have remarked that wherever masses of drifted sea-weed occurred, the terrestrial plants in the vicinity were of very luxuriant growth. To my determination, Anticosti lies directly East and West in the centre of the Gulf, and, without doubt, the northern portion of the Island claims the highest altitude, therefore, I would say, that in an agricultural view, the inclined plane from north to south serves to make the Island a quick vegetable and cereal producing land—having a southern aspect from sunrise until almost sunset.

"There are excellent cod, salmon and other fisheries along the north side, rendering remunerative returns annually to parties engaged therein. The fact is that fishermen who come from the southern fishing towns of the St. Lawrence and other Maritime Provinces, take no interest in anything but their daily toil in procuring fish. They take no notice of the interior of the Island, and have never penetrated its forests to any distance. Sometimes a few of the men who pass the summer in Fox Bay, make an autumnal trip to the interior or plains, about five or six miles up the river of that name, to destroy young Canada Geese for food. This, I believe, to be the extent of their researches in this quarter. These men informed me that very clear large pearls are found in the river about six miles inland.

"During my stay, Fox Bay was quite a lively place. I have frequently counted upwards of sixty fishing schooners lying at anchor every evening in the harbour. All these vessels appeared to do well. Fox Bay is not, however, the only harbour on the North-eastern portion of the Island; there are many others affording every facility for the protection of fishing craft and wherein plenty of fresh water and good fuel can be found. It was estimated that about five thousand were this year engaged in the fisheries connected with the Island, many of whom have already erected temporary buildings along the coast, which they occupy during the fishing season. Quite a commotion was created when they learned that the Island had been sold to a Company. It was evident that the greater portion of these people would become permanent settlers if they could be assured of obtaining good titles for locations. Presuming, therefore, that the 5,000 now engaged in the fisheries of the Island, were offered a good title, they would, with their families, become permanent settlers of the Island, and, say—five members to each family—would give a population of 25,000 (twenty-five thousand) souls, which may be accomplished inside of one year. This important fact should not be lost sight of, not only as regards the material importance to the Company, but to the Dominion at large; the Island of Anticosti, possessing as it does, the key of the St. Lawrence, and the best fisheries in American waters.

"The formation of all localities visited by me, consisted of limestone on the coast, and as far as I had gone into the interior, but there generally occurs a depth of about four and a half feet of dark loamy soil, which, if mixed with sea weeds and decomposed fish, would make excellent land for the produce of almost any vegetation.

"Fossils occur in extraordinary numbers, in fact they are met with from West Point to East Point, and specimens of *Zoophyta*, *Eryozoa*, *Brachiopoda*,