



Gulf." Here and there, particularly in the western part, are large blocks of granite which were carried by the ice-cap from Gaspé or New Brunswick and prove by their presence the fact that where Northumberland Strait now stretches between the Island and the mainland was once dry land.

In comparison with some of the Canadian provinces, P. E. Island is very old. The first words ever written about it were penned four centuries ago when Jacques Cartier, on his first voyage, sailed along its northern coast. This is his description, in the flowing, Elizabethan English of Hakluyt's translation: "We went that day on shoare in four places to see the goodly and sweet-smelling trees that were there; we found them to be cedars, ewe-trees, pines, white elmes, ashes, willowes, with many sorts to us unknown, but without any fruit. The grounds where no wood is are very faire and all full of peason, red and white gooseberries, strawberries, blackberries, and wild corne like unto rie, which seemed to have been sowed and plowed. This countrie is of better temperature than any other that can be seen, and vere hote. There are many thrushes, stock-doves and other birds; to be short there wanteth nothing but good harboroughs. The firme land is compassed about by little islands of sand." As they sailed past the "outer most pointe," a shy native signalled them to land. "We, seeing such signs, began to turne toward him, but he, seeing us come, began to flee: so soon as