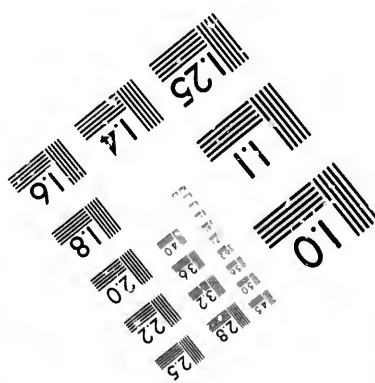
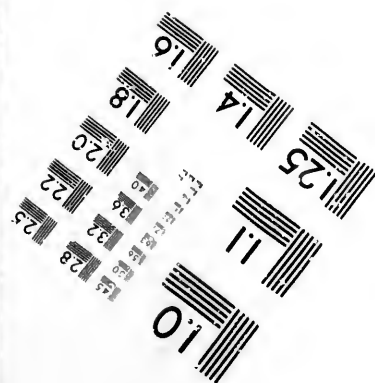
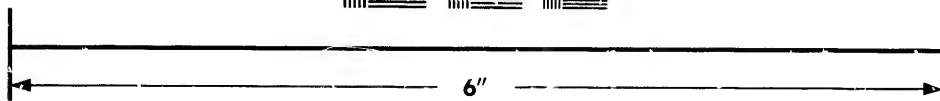
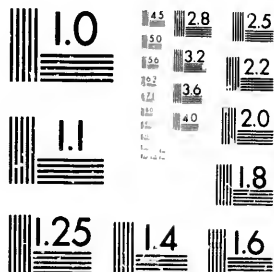


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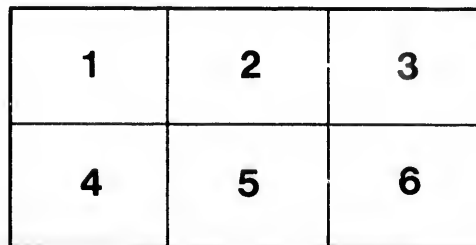
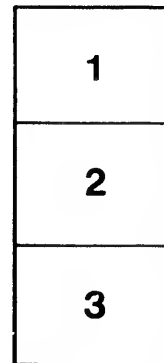
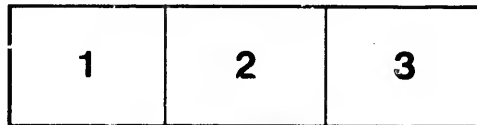
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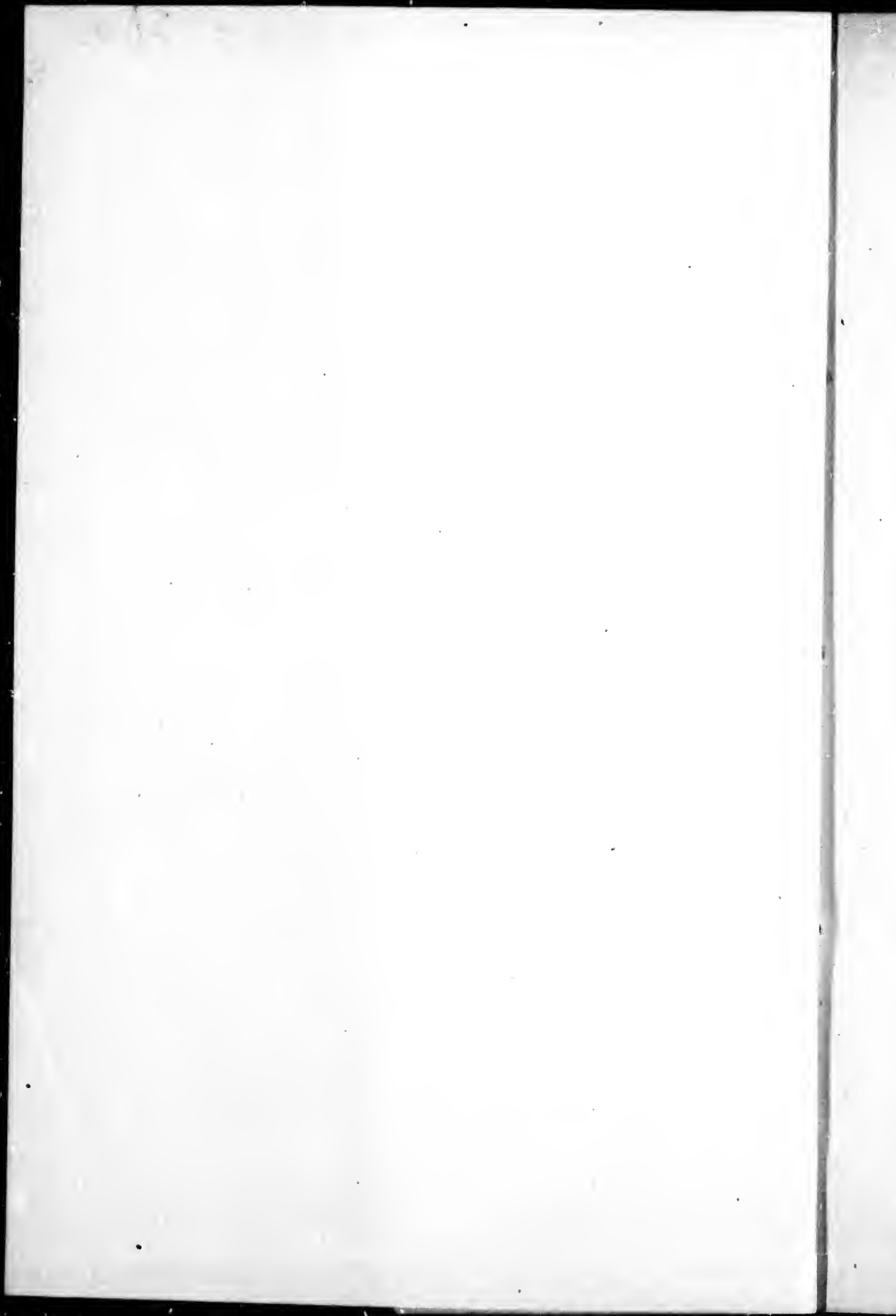
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PROSPECTUS.

ANTICOSTI COMPANY

OF

CANADA.

This Company has been formed for the purpose of purchasing, working and developing the many valuable resources known to exist on the Island of Anticosti, and also for the purpose of colonizing the said Island. A special Act has been obtained from the Dominion Parliament incorporating the Company for that purpose, and received Royal assent on 14th June, 1872. (See Act and relative Joint Stock Clauses Act Appendix.)

The Directors of the Company, after mature consideration and investigation of all matters connected with the Island and its resources, have effected the purchase from the Proprietors in fee simple, on the most favourable terms, of the whole of the Island of Anticosti. This Island is situate in the Gulf and River St. Lawrence, in the Dominion of Canada; it has over 300 miles of sea coast; is about 140 miles long and about 35 miles broad in the widest part, with an average breadth of 27½ miles, and comprises a territorial area of 2,460,000 acres, being one-fourth larger in size than Prince Edward Island.

The Capital of the Company is \$2,500,000, divided into 25,000 shares of \$100 each, \$1,500,000 of which will apply to the purchase of the whole Island (in fee simple), and the remainder to the development of its resources and in prosecuting the business of the Company.

The whole Island of Anticosti was first granted by the Crown of France, in 1680, to one Louis Joliet, in consideration of the discovery of Illinois,—now the State of Illinois, U. S. A.,—and for other services rendered to the Government. But, after the conquest of Canada by Great Britain, it passed into the hands of wealthy English families residing

mostly in England, who have ever since, by succession, retained the proprietorship; although frequent attempts have heretofore been made both by the Government of Canada and by private individuals, to purchase the Island, with a view to colonization and development of its resources, they have invariably failed to induce the English proprietors to consent to a sale. This fact appears to have been the only obstacle to the colonization of the Island. Like the objection made by the "Hudson Bay Company" to the colonization of the North-West Territory, so have parties been found ready at all times to discourage every attempt hitherto made to purchase the "Island of Anticosti." This Company has, however, at length succeeded in making an absolute purchase as above stated.

The climate of Anticosti is exceedingly healthy, and certainly not more severe than that of the other Maritime Provinces. The cold blasts of the winter are very much tempered by the waters of the Gulf and River St. Lawrence, and the heat of the summer months rendered much less intense by the same influence. The atmosphere is pure and clear, not subject to fogs to the same extent as prevail upon and around the "Island of Newfoundland." Vegetation progresses most rapidly, and crops come to perfection in good season, a fact which shows that climate (unless it be very severe) is by no means the most influential element in determining the Agricultural capabilities of a country. The geological character of a country has more influence upon its economic prospects than climate; and as the geological character of the Island is favourable, with a fine and healthy climate, it should, therefore, be carefully studied with regard to its bearing upon the question of agricultural productiveness.

The soil of Anticosti is of good quality, being a rich loam intermixed with particles of limestone, and capable of raising most of the cereals, root-crops, and fruits, to perfection. Of cereals, such as wheat, barley, oats, peas, and beans; of roots, such as turnips, carrots, onions, cabbage, parsnips, and potatoes; and of fruits, such as apples, plums, cherries, gooseberries, strawberries, and currants, as well as all other garden vegetables,—all of which have been successfully raised by parties resident on the Island. The meadows also produce great abundance of hay.

Sir William Logan, in his Geological Report to the Government of Canada, 1857, states that upwards of *one million* acres are composed of soil of the very best quality for agricultural purposes. The language used in the Report is:—"It is on such rocks, in such conditions, and with such altitudes that the best soils of the western Peninsula of Canada West are placed as well as the Genesee County in the State of New York. I have seen nothing in the actual soil as it exists to induce me to suppose that, in so far as soil is considered, 'Anticosti' will be anything inferior to these regions."

Valuable forests exist on the greater part of the Island, of pine, spruce, maple, birch, juniper, tamarac, ash, and cedar. There can be no doubt that a large revenue will be derived from the forest. Although the timber

generally is not of the largest size, it is of a superior quality, and, besides its value for exportation, it is well adapted for ship and house building purposes, and will be of great value for these operations on the Island.

The geological survey, made on the Island by the Government of Canada, does not report the discovery of any mineral ore, with the exception of pieces of magnetic oxide of iron; yet it states that there is no reason to assert that iron ores may not be found hereafter. We have an example of this in respect in Newfoundland, which, after repeated geological examinations in former years, was pronounced to possess no minerals, while within the last few years copper, silver and lead have been discovered. The Copper Mines at the Tilt Cove, Newfoundland, which were said to have been worked by Messrs. Bennett, McKay & Co., of St. Johns, for the last few years, with unprecedented success, have recently been sold to an English Joint Stock Company for the sum of £150,000 stg. (\$750,000); the late proprietors receiving thereof in cash £100,000 (\$500,000), and the remainder in Stock of the new Company. From this it may reasonably be expected that the Island of Anticosti may become a valuable mineral producing country, as its geological formation is similar to that of Newfoundland.

ECONOMIC SUBSTANCES.

The substances fit for economic application, also mentioned in the Government Report above referred to, are as follows, viz. :—

The fossiliferous limestone, which exists in great quantities upon the shores in a horizontal state, is of so fine a grain and colour, and so hard, that it is deservedly classed under the head of marble, and it receives a beautiful polish. There is little doubt that were this stone brought to the large cities, it would be extensively used in public buildings as well as for ornamental purposes.

There is also another kind of stone, exceedingly well adapted for lithographic purposes, a sample of which has been tried, with satisfactory results.

Limestone for building purposes appears in a coarse but regular formation, and is displayed in abundance in beds from six to eighteen inches in thickness in the neighbourhood of South-West Point. It is easily dressed, and yields good blocks of a yellowish white colour. Two Lighthouses on the Island are built of it, and have stood for upwards of twenty-five years without showing signs of decay.

Sandstone is also found of a good warm colour, a greenish grey approaching to drab, rather lighter than the sandstone of Craig Leith Quarry, near Edinburgh; it has a free grain, and would therefore dress easily, while the angular fragments on the beach show that it would retain its sharp edges. Blocks of every size might be obtained, varying in thickness up to five and a-half feet.

The same sandstone would also yield very good grindstone ; it is even grained, and there is a sufficient amount of clear sharp grit in it to render it available, while there would be no difficulty in getting any size of grindstone required.

Clay fit for brick-making exists in some abundance, of a bluish grey colour ; it will prove very serviceable for building purposes on the Island.

This marl is found of considerable thickness at the bottom of several small lakes, covering from 50 to 200 acres each. This substance is nearly pure Carbonate of Lime, and will make good mortar for masonry work. In some parts of the State of Vermont, large quantities are said to be manufactured for that purpose.

Sir William Logan, in his Geological Report of Canada, 1863, says, (after referring to deposits of Peat or Peat-bogs in the different parts of Canada, and as to its economic value and use when distilled as oil for illuminating purposes, as well as when prepared for fuel,) on Page 783 :

“The most extensive Peat deposits in Canada are found in Anticosti along the low land on the coast of the Island, from Heath Point to within eight or nine miles of South-West Point, a continuous plain covered with peat, extends for upwards of eighty miles, with an average breadth of two miles, thus giving a superficies of more than one hundred and sixty square miles. The thickness of the Peat, as observed on the coast, was from three to ten feet, and it appears to be of an excellent quality. The height of this plain may be on an average fifteen feet above high water mark, and it can be easily drained and worked. Between South-West Point and the West end of the Island, there are many small Peat-bogs, varying in superficies from 100 to 1,000 acres.”

Too much importance cannot be attached to the value of these Peat deposits, when we consider the new and approved mode adopted for the successful manufacture of Peat and Parafine oil and fuel, coupled with the situation upon the sea coast, and at a point where there is a good harbour for extensive shipment. A large amount of capital is now invested in Sweden, France, Ireland, and America, as well as in other countries, for the manufacture of those valuable articles of commerce on an extensive scale with considerable success.

Near the South-West Point there are several large salt-ponds or springs, which, when labour becomes plentiful, might be turned to good account in the manufacture of Salt, of which there is a great consumption in Canada. It may thus become an article of great commercial importance, as it is well known that Salt, manufactured from salt-ponds, is the most valuable for curing fish.

It is also well-known that some of the Bahama Islands are retained merely on account of their valuable salt-ponds, and at Ceylon a large revenue is derived from the salt-works carried on upon the Island.

HARBOURS.

There are three excellent harbours, one at Ellis Bay, one at Fox Bay, and one at South-West Point (Lighthouse). The harbour at Ellis Bay at the upper end, and the harbour at Fox Bay at the lower end of the Island, can be so improved as to be capable of accommodating a large fleet of the largest sized sea-going ships and steamers, with the greatest safety in all kinds of winds, having an excellent holding bottom of gravel and mud; at South-West Point the harbour can also be made safe by construction of break-waters, while besides there are many other smaller harbours for vessels of light draught along the coast, affording safe shelter.

The establishment of depots of coal at Ellis Bay and Fox Bay (close to which both inward and outward bound ocean and coasting steamers must pass) would be an advantage, the importance of which it would be difficult to overestimate; and if, upon an exploration of the interior, coal be not found on the Island, it could easily be procured from Nova Scotia, and laid down at either harbour for about \$3.50 to \$4.00 per ton.

These harbours offer peculiar advantages for Naval Stations, as all vessels bound up or down the St. Lawrence must pass close to the Island. When it is considered that upwards of 2,000 vessels arrive from Europe, in the season, and also several of the finest lines of steamers in the world, besides a large fleet of coasting and fishing vessels, all of which must necessarily pass within sight of the Island, some idea may be formed of the importance to be attached to the position and capabilities of these harbours for Commercial and Naval Stations.

RIVERS.

The Rivers and Brooks along the coast are very numerous, considering the size of the Island; there is scarcely a mile that is not supplied with a clear stream of water, and every six or nine miles shows one of a size sufficient to supply the water power necessary for milling and manufacturing purposes; some beautiful waterfalls are also to be found near the coast, presenting excellent sites for these purposes.

The largest rivers on the Island are the Beccsie, Otter, Jupiter, Pavillon, Chaloupe, Fox, and Salmon; besides many smaller streams, most of which swarm with the finest brook trout and salmon.

FISHERIES.

The Fisheries adjacent to the Island are of great value and importance in a commercial point of view; these consist of both deep sea and river

fisheries, and although as yet comparatively neglected by Canada, are entitled to be classed amongst the most valuable fisheries of America. Whale; seal, cod, mackerel, salmon, herring, halibut, haddock, and eels, as well as shell fish, have for many years been most successfully caught along the coast, and in the rivers and bays of the Island, by fishermen employed by capitalists from the Island of Jersey, who have extensive establishments at different points along the coast on the shores of the River St. Lawrence. These capitalists reside at home like merchant princes, enjoying the profits of their employees' operations in the Canadian Fisheries.

In the Spring, seals are exceedingly abundant, and are met with by thousands in the bays, and more sheltered places on the coast, amongst the drift ice. It is frequently the case, that a sailing vessel will catch as many as 10,000, and since the introduction of steam vessels in these fisheries, as many as from 25,000 to 30,000 seals are caught in a season. The average value of Seal for the last two years has been about \$3.50 each. Commander Lavoie, of the Government Schooner "La Canadienne," in his Report to the Minister of Marine and Fisheries, 1870, says:—"This Island is beginning to be frequented and settled by hardy fishermen, tempted by the desire of participating in its rich fisheries, which, up to the last few years, were comparatively unexplored; a more perfect knowledge of the surrounding of the Island, and more prudence on the part of the fishermen, enables them to arrive, depart, and sail around the Island in almost every kind of weather. The importance and value of its fisheries have also increased along with the number of fishermen. The waters bordering on Anticosti are stocked with the same kinds which are met with on the South and North coast of the St. Lawrence."

There cannot, however, be a better proof of the importance that should be attached to the Fisheries than is offered by the large fleet of American vessels that frequented the Island, during the existence of the Reciprocity Treaty, with their expensive outfits, (some of them coming for a distance of 500 to 1,000 miles,) and the great interest manifested by the Government and people of the United States, since the abrogation of the Treaty, with regard to the fishery question with Canada. It will also be observed from the terms of the Washington Treaty, that the American Government agreed to admit fish caught and cured in Canadian waters free of duties, which will enhance, by 20 per cent. at least, the value of Canadian fish.

COMMERCIAL POSITION.

The favourable position of Anticosti as regards shipping and general commercial enterprise has been shown, and the extent of fisheries surrounding it. It is self-evident that if the Canadian Fisheries were not

of an immense value, American fishermen and capitalists would not so eagerly seek to renew their former privileges with the Canadian authorities. Keeping this in view, the advantages to parties residing upon the Island will be very great, with every facility for drying and curing the fish, and with ready means of shipping to American as well as to all other markets of the world.

We look forward with confidence at no distant day to see extensive commercial transactions carried on on the Island, and a direct trade opened up for the exchange of the produce of the Island with that of the United States, West Indies, South America, and the Mediterranean. Many a large town in various parts of the world has sprung up into a position of great commercial importance with less promising resources than a town on Anticosti may present; but these resources must be properly developed to ensure such a result. Many a project of less promise has, in this country, been at first sacrificed through timidity and prejudice, which, upon subsequent trial, has proved a success.

TOWNS.

It is proposed to lay out town sites at Ellis Bay, Fox Bay, and at the South-West Point (Lighthouse). The chief town will be at Ellis Bay, where the principal place of business will be established. Ellis Bay is beautifully situated, having a fine command of the surrounding country, with an excellent beach; its salubrious and bracing sea-air will doubtless make it eventually a place of resort for thousands of pleasure-seekers, where they can combine sea-bathing with many other summer sports, such as shooting, fishing and sailing.

COLONIZATION.

The Directors, having in view the importance of permanently colonizing the Island, propose, when the several permanent improvements referred to in the next paragraph shall be far enough advanced, to take the necessary steps to bring under the notice of the emigrating population of Northern Europe the innumerable advantages of Anticosti, as a place where there is every prospect for an industrious family securing a home of competence and independence; and with a view to the adoption of a system of colonization to the mutual advantage of the Emigrants and the Company, the Directors propose to make an appropriation commensurate with the importance of the undertaking.

OPERATIONS.

With a view to the early colonization and settlement of the Island, and the gradual development of its many valuable resources, the Directors propose to carry into effect the following operations with the least possible delay:—

1. To open out roads, to survey and lay out townships, and to encourage settlement, by granting land on favorable terms to actual settlers, and by offering liberal inducements to merchants, traders, agriculturists, fishermen, and artizans, to settle on the Island.

2. To erect grist mills, saw mills, iron foundry, planing mills, and such other necessary works as the growing population and the resources of the Company may warrant; also to aid such deserving settlers as may require it, by assistance to erect suitable dwellings, and to contribute to the building of churches and the establishment of good schools.

3. The building or purchasing of fishing schooners and boats; also of iron screw steamers for whale and seal fishing, and a steamer for conveyance of mails and passengers between the Island and the main land.

4. To lay a submarine telegraph cable, to connect the Island and the mainland, at a point on the coast of Gaspé; improvement of harbors of Ellis Bay and Fox Bay, with patent slips and ship yards. In carrying out these last-mentioned enterprizes, the Company expect to receive material aid from the Dominion Government, as they will conduce so greatly to the advantage of the commercial and shipping interests of the country, and to the relief of shipwrecked and disabled vessels.

5. The erection of stores and warehouses, and such other buildings as may be necessary for the business of the Company, where will be kept a suitable supply of provisions, salt, and all kinds of goods required by the colonists, as well as supplies for the use of the numerous fleets of fishing vessels which resort from all points to the rich fishing grounds near the Island.

The Directors have every reason to believe that when the proposed works are in full operation, profitable employment will be found for a large population; numerous applications and inquiries for land have already been received from residents of Newfoundland and different points on the Gulf, and the Directors are satisfied that a very large immigration of a most desirable character will be immediately available. Indeed, they have already commenced to arrive, twenty-four families, embracing one hundred and twenty-five individuals, having landed at Ellis Bay on 19th August last from Garia, in Newfoundland; and as soon as it becomes known that the Company is prepared to receive and employ them, an influx of several thousand can be confidently predicted to take place in a single year. With a liberal colonization policy, the Directors

look forward at no distant day to see the Island of Anticosti with a flourishing population of at least 100,000.

As an investment, the Anticosti Company offers to capitalists advantages superior to most enterprises, and the Directors invite a consideration of the facts set forth in the reports and maps appended hereto.

In conclusion, the Directors would remark that the price at which the title (in fee simple) to the Island has been assumed by the Company is extremely moderate; whether we consider its extensive area, viz., 3,844 square miles, embracing 2,460,000 acres of fertile land, pronounced by Sir William Logan and other eminent authorities to be equal in quality to that of the Peninsula of Ontario, or of the Genesee Valley in the State of New York; its valuable forests, which experts in the lumber trade, estimate to be worth at least \$3,000,000; its unrivalled fisheries, or its commanding commercial position—standing, as it does, in the gateway of the St. Lawrence—in whatever aspect it can be viewed, it must be admitted that the investment of \$1,500,000 or £300,000 stg. in the purchase of this magnificent territory is a most advantageous one for the Company, the land costing not more than 60 cents or 2s. 6d. stg. per acre. The Directors are persuaded that the facts herein mentioned fully warrant them in anticipating large returns to the shareholders.

APPENDIX A.

TO THE PROSPECTUS OF THE ANTICOSTI COMPANY.

EXTRACTS from the Annual Report of the Department of Marine and Fisheries for year ending 30th June, 1870, by the Hon. P. Mitchell, Minister of Marine and Fisheries, dated at Ottawa, 31st December, 1870 :

“VALUE OF FISH PRODUCTS.

“The annual increase of yield and enhanced value of the produce from our Fisheries show how rapid and extensive has been their development. Without reckoning at all the catch of foreigners, the actual value for exportation of the produce of our waters in the Confederated Provinces now exceeds seven millions of dollars (\$7,000,000), nearly doubling in ten years.”

“The labour and capital engaged in them have correspondingly increased. A few years more of sufficient protection to the inshore and inland Fisheries of Canada, as well from domestic injury as against intrusion by foreigners, will, doubtless, favour the further development of this valuable resource.”

“EXTENT AND INTRINSIC VALUE OF THE BRITISH NORTH AMERICAN FISHERIES.

“There is no country in the world possessing finer Fisheries than British North America. As a national possession they are inestimable, and as a field for industry and enterprise they are inexhaustible. Besides their general importance to the country as a source of maritime wealth and commerce, they also possess a special value to the inhabitants. The great variety and superior quality of the fish products of the sea and inland waters of these colonies afford a nutritious and economic food admirably adapted to the domestic wants of their mixed and laborious population. They are also in other respects specially valuable to such of our people as are engaged in maritime pursuits either as a distinct industry or combined with agriculture. The principal localities in which fishing is carried on do not usually present conditions favourable to husbandry. They are limited in extent and fertility, and are subject to certain climatic disadvantages. The prolific nature of the adjacent waters and the convenience of the undisturbed use are a necessary compensation for defects of soil and climate. On such ground alone, the sea and inland Fisheries, to which British subjects have claims on this Continent, are of peculiar value, and as regards particular sections of the country, the benefits of sole privilege of fishing are, practically speaking, an almost vital necessity.”

“When, therefore, we regard them as being abundant and important for domestic substances, or in their much larger import as a valuable resource, capable of ever increasing development and limitless reproduction, employing an amount of capital reckoned by many millions of dollars, and engaging the labours of hundreds of thousands of persons; encouraging maritime pursuits; fostering the commercial marine; promoting foreign trade; keeping always and productively in active training an independent, spirited class of sea-faring men,—the teeming waters around the coasts of the British North American possessions and those which form the great lakes and magnificent rivers, present to our view a national property richer and more perpetual than any mere monied estimation could express.”

“It is in the highest degree gratifying to find that British subjects are becoming every year more and more alive to their vast importance, and that Canadians especially are now more than ever anxious to preserve them as the finest material portion of our Colonial heritage.”

“The fact of foreign nations having always clung with such tenacity to every right and common liberty which they have been enabled to secure in these Fisheries, and the eagerness which foreigners manifest to establish themselves in the actual use of such extensive and lucrative privileges, constitute the best extrinsic evidence of the wide-spreading influence of their possession and the strongest testimony to their industrial and commercial worth.”

"VALUE OF THE FISH CAUGHT BY BRITISH AND AMERICAN FISHERMEN.

"The aggregate value of the fish products of the Provincial Fisheries is nearly seventeen million Dollars (\$17,000,000), and it is susceptible of being increased to a very much greater value."

"Americans employ--tonnage varying--between eight and eleven hundred vessels in these Fisheries. Their estimated annual catch, chiefly within the three mile limit, is valued at about eight millions of dollars (\$8,000,000). The probable value of capital embarked in carrying on the inshore Fisheries is computed at nine millions of dollars (\$9,000,000); thus making a total interest of some seventeen millions of dollars (\$17,000,000).

APPENDIX "O" TO THE ABOVE REPORT.

QUANTITY AND YIELD.	PRICE.	AMOUNT.	
4,567 bbls. Salmon	\$15 $\frac{1}{2}$ bbl.	\$68,505	00
111,000 cans do.	15c. $\frac{1}{2}$ can	16,650	00
316,005 lbs. do.	12 $\frac{1}{2}$ c. $\frac{1}{2}$ lb.	39,500	62
550 Smoked Salmon	\$1 each.	550	00
85,254 bbls. Mackerel	\$12 $\frac{1}{2}$ bbl.	1,023,040	00
123,392 do. Herrings	\$1 do.	493,568	00
13,180 boxes Smoked Herrings	75c. $\frac{1}{2}$ box	9,885	00
14,366 bbls. Alewives	\$3 $\frac{1}{2}$ bbl.	50,281	00
1,060 do. Eels	\$8 do.	8,480	00
102 do. Trout	\$8 do.	816	00
1,534 do. Halibut	\$6 do.	9,204	00
399,809 quintals Cod	\$1 $\frac{1}{4}$ $\frac{1}{2}$ ql.	1,699,188	25
92,513 do. Scale Fish	\$3 $\frac{1}{2}$ do	323,795	50
6,214 bbls. Shad	\$9 $\frac{1}{2}$ bbl.	55,926	00
820 do. Smelt	\$4 do.	3,280	00
553,000 can Lobsters	15c. $\frac{1}{2}$ can	82,950	00
297,823 gals. Oil	45c. $\frac{1}{2}$ gal.	133,796	70
Total		\$4,019,424	27

"The prices upon which these Returns are based are rather below the average obtained in our own market."

"In order to get at the real value of this branch of trade to the country, the prices obtained by the exporter in foreign countries, less the expense of exportation, should be adopted, in which case the value of the fish would be very much greater. The increase in the catch of Mackerel over last year amounts to 38,679 barrels, the value of which would be nearly half a million of dollars."

(Signed,) "P. MITCHELL,

"Minister of Marine and Fisheries.

"DEPARTMENT OF MARINE AND FISHERIES, }
"FISHERIES BRANCH, OTTAWA, 1870." }

Certified, (Signed,) W. F. WHITTIER.

APPENDIX B.

[*Extract from Montreal Herald, of 4th September, 1872.*]

ANTICOSTI.

"The following able report on the features and resources of this long neglected portion of British North America has been kindly furnished by Mr. Couper, the distinguished Canadian Naturalist, who has during the past two or three seasons devoted his attention to the productions of the Island and its trading facilities. The report itself is replete with interest, and contains facts which have never before been submitted to the public. For our own part, we are surprised to learn that the Island is so rich in resources, and there can be little doubt, after the thorough examination that has been made, the results of which are condensed in what follows, that the Company have made a good bargain in the purchase of the Island :—

"There is no doubt in my mind that an industrious maritime, as well as an agricultural population, would do well on Anticosti, there being many localities on the Island extremely rich for the production of cereals generally raised in northern climates, and root crops, such as potatoes, turnips, carrots, onions, radishes, lettuce, &c.,—in fact, for the cultivation of any garden vegetable. These, in connection with its unsurpassed salmon, trout, cod, halibut and mackerel fisheries, as well as an abundance of lobster in their season, make the Island more advantageous; indeed, offer greater facilities for the accumulation of the needful than appears to me to be derived by people residing in more southern localities in the Maritime Provinces.

"On my late visit to Fox Bay, Anticosti, about the middle of June last, I was astonished to find timothy and clover in a wild state, rivaling in growth any of the grasses occurring in the neighborhood of Quebec or Montreal. White clover occurs in a wild state from Mingan westward on the north shore of the St. Lawrence. This excellent honey producing plant, if extensively cultivated on Anticosti, would, when the Island is peopled, and the honey-bee introduced, be another natural source of profit, and I really hope that I will yet see in the windows of our city stores labels informing the citizens that they have "Anticosti Honey" for sale.

"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 in 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.

“Regarding the forests of Anticosti, the higher portions of the land and the banks of the rivers are densely studded with trees of spruce, fir, tamarac, pine, juniper, ash, mountain ash or rowan, poplar, red and white birch and high crawberry. These trees, as far as I could see, were of sizes fit for what are termed “saw-logs,” and I have no doubt that a great quantity could be selected of the very best kind for cutting into lumber suitable for the American market and for railroad sleepers. I judge this from trees seen standing in the neighbourhood of Fox Bay, and the size of logs forming the houses of hunters and fishermen. The majority of plants are remarkably similar to those found in the Province of Quebec; and such is also the case with the butterflies and moths, the former, with the exception of two species, are identical with those found near the cities of Montreal and Quebec. Considering these facts entomologically, I should imagine that the average lowest degree of cold in the neighbourhood of Fox Bay would not fall much under that of the former city.

“I may here take the liberty to speak of a subject which I believe the Company has under consideration; namely—the erection of a dock-yard or hydraulic apparatus for the convenience of vessels. An institution of this kind would be a great boon to the owners of ships wrecked or otherwise disabled on any part of the Island. An instance of this kind was illustrated in the wreck of the “Royal Charter” in Fox Bay this Spring. This ship could have been platformed and taken off the reef at a trifling expense, and refitted to her former strength, provided that a convenient place could be reached, but to do so, in connection with towage it was calculated that to take her to Quebec would cost at least \$7,000; therefore, I doubt not, that the erection of an institution of this kind on Anticosti would be the saving of many a good ship which heretofore and now has to be burnt on account of the distance from a dock-yard.”

APPENDIX C.

THE ISLAND OF ANTICOSTI.

Extracts from Scientific Report, made by A. R. Roche, Esq., before the Literary and Historical Society, of Quebec, read 4th October, 1853.

"The Island of Anticosti is situated in the River and Gulf of St. Lawrence, about four hundred miles below Quebec, and consequently that much nearer England. It is nearly one hundred and forty miles long, and its greatest breadth is thirty-five miles, gradually becoming narrower as it extends East and West. It contains more than three thousand seven hundred and fifty square miles, or about two millions four hundred and sixty thousand acres.

"The Island contains extensive quarries of excellent stone for building purposes, deposits of marble of very superior quality, besides stone fit for lithographic purposes.

"The fisheries in its rivers, and surrounding its coast, are extremely valuable, and in the interior it contains extensive forests of most valuable timber. It also has large deposits of peat of excellent quality, exceeding one hundred thousand acres in extent.

"The excellent position of the Island in regard to ships, commerce, &c., becomes at once apparent, when we consider that every vessel must take either of the channels formed by Anticosti, upon entering or leaving the river, whether having passed from the Atlantic, or intending to pass to the ocean, through the Straits of Belle Isle, through the more frequented passage between Newfoundland and Cape Breton, or through the Gut of Canso, or whether running between Quebec and those portions of Canada, and of the Lower Provinces lying upon the Gulf of St. Lawrence. On taking either of the channels formed by Anticosti, vessels pass close to the Island, in consequence of the moderate breadth of the northern one, and of the strong south-east current which always runs along the southern channel, to avoid which, and the risk of being driven upon the truly dangerous coast of the south shore of the gulf and river, where, for several hundred miles, there is no harbour or place of shelter for any craft larger than a schooner, and where for long distances, there is not one foot of beach outside the perpendicular cliffs to land upon; vessels generally stand out till they make the West point of Anticosti, close to which is situated the convenient harbour of Ellis Bay, occupying a spot nearly mid-distance between the northern and southern banks of the St. Lawrence, and of easy access from both channels of the river. Considering that about two thousand vessels from Europe alone will have made this point in the course of the present season, some slight idea may be con-

ceived of the capabilities of position attached to the Island, and in particular to Ellis Bay. The inner anchorage of this Bay has a depth of from three to four fathoms at low water, with excellent holding ground, (gravel and mud,) is of as large capacity as the harbour of Montreal, and has been found by experience, to afford perfect shelter in all winds, to vessels of upwards of 500 tons; while the outer position of the anchorage could be materially improved at a trifling expense, so as to be able to contain in safety, during all winds, almost any number of vessels of the largest size. Docks, with a patent slip, &c., could be easily constructed there, which would be admirably situated for the repair of vessels stranded, or receiving other damage throughout the lower St. Lawrence, most of them becoming broken up by the action of the sea, and in some cases, dismantled by wreckers, before they can obtain assistance from Quebec, or the intelligence of their position can be conveyed there, which port, strange to say, is the only place from the Atlantic to Montreal, (a distance of upwards of eight hundred miles,) where vessels can be properly overhauled, or be supplied with the commonest stores, such as anchors, chains, sails, &c. For steam tugs employed for the relief of vessels in distress, Ellis Bay might also be made an excellent station, with the facilities there for procuring shelter for our shipping in a portion of the St. Lawrence, where a spacious and deep harbour is more wanted than in any other part of the river or gulf, it is astonishing that no attention has yet been directed to this spot. This neglect, however, cannot long continue. It could be made not only a fine commercial harbour, but also an excellent naval station, in the most convenient and central spot, for commanding, with a few steam vessels or gunboats, the two entrances of the river, and for sending out cruisers up the latter, or to any port of the Gulf.

"The Island on the south side generally rises from about twenty to sixty feet above the beach, (but at the entrance of Observation River it is between 200 and 300 feet high,) and is nearly level to the centre, where a range of moderate sized hills appear to run its entire length, and upon the north side to terminate in steep cliffs. It is mostly covered with a thick forest of trees, stunted near the shore, (like those upon a great part of the coast of England, and of other countries,) but which become gradually larger as they approach the interior, and are less exposed to the influence of the wind and sea. This is very remarkable upon some of the bays, where at exposed points they are very small, and gradually increase in size from each side to the centre, those nearest to the sea being sometimes quite white in appearance, from the salt which is thrown and crystallizes upon them. The trees are spruce, fir, red, and white birch, ash, quantities of very fine tamarack, and upon the north side of the Island some good sized pine.

"With the tamarack and pine growing there, and the immense quantities of valuable timber drifted upon the Island from Quebec and

other places, after easterly gales, many ships might be built every year. Like the valuable meadows for cattle and sheep, which have recently been discovered in Minnesota, in the Far West, there are here many very fine nature^l meadows, producing rich grasses, five and six feet high, and in some parts there are alternate ranges of wood and open plain. On the south side of the Island there are several peat bogs of some extent, and some salt marshes, caused by the overflowing of the sea at certain periods, which must tend to fertilize, rather than to impoverish the land; and near the south-west point there are some large salt ponds, which, were labour plentiful there, might be turned to account in the manufacture of salt: a manufacture which would become of some value to a great part of our North American fisheries, which, as well as the whole of Canada, are now supplied with salt from England or the United States; and for curing fish and provisions, bay salt, formed from the sea, and from salt ponds, is the most valuable. In consequence of there not having been a sufficient supply of salt upon the Island, an immense quantity of fish, caught at Anticosti on a recent year, had to be thrown away; and during the following season, the fishermen at Arichat, Cape Breton, were forced to sell mackerel at from sixpence to tenpence a hundred, or to see them rot upon the beach, through not having enough salt to cure them with. This latter circumstance occurred at a time when mackerel was selling at Boston for nineteen dollars a barrel. Some of the Bahama Islands are retained merely on account of the salt ponds which they contain, and at Ceylon a large revenue is derived from the salt works carried on in that Island.

"It is now time to notice these resources belonging to Anticosti, which, being wholly independent of soil and climate, may be turned to immediate account. These resources principally consist of its *sea and river fisheries*, which, although comparatively neglected by Canada, may be classed among the most valuable fisheries of British North America.

"In the recent report published by the New Brunswick Government upon the fisheries of that Province, mention is made of the valuable whale and cod fisheries existing upon the coasts of Anticosti; and it is stated that the Jersey houses fit out vessels to carry on the former upon both sides of the Island and up the St. Lawrence as far as Bic, some of the whales (hump backs) being seventy feet long, and yielding eight tons of oil; while the fishermen of Gaspé frequently resort to the east end of the Island, and take cod in great abundance.

"It thus appears, by these authorities, that on every side of Anticosti valuable whales abound, the pursuit of which, and seals and cod, it is not improbable, could be carried on in winter as well as in summer, were the attempt to be properly made; but without a trial, the undertaking may ever remain unjustly condemned as impossible. Should such an attempt be successful, it would not be the first instance of that being accomplished upon trial, which theory, timidity and prejudice had long declared to be

impracticable. Here again, the experience of our northern fishermen, and of the Esquimaux, who fearlessly encounter all difficulties and dangers of the ice, and of the weather, and who fish in winter and summer, might be successfully brought to bear.

"Of cod, Mr. Corbet, in his statement made to the writer, remarks, that one boat, with two good fishermen, could take off south west Point, or at Fox Bay, eighteen hundred of these fish in one day; while Mr. Morrison states that cod, halibut, and a variety of other fish, could be caught all round the Island, and in incalculable quantities; and that no finer cod is caught on any part of the coast of America, or on the banks of Newfoundland, than is to be met with there. To this may be added the testimony of Captain Fair, R. N., of H. M. ship "Champion," who states that he met a few shallops from the Magdalen Islands, at the east end of Anticosti, where they found cod in great abundance, and of excellent quality.

"Of hardly less value than the former is the seal fishery, which could certainly be carried on in the winter as well as in summer, many seals being seen on the ice during the former season, and in the spring, and thousands of them being observed during the summer and autumn, at the entrance of all the bays and rivers, where they remain almost entirely unmolested. To show the value of this fishery in the Gulf, the New Brunswick official report, already cited, brings forward an instance of a schooner engaged in it, from Sydney, Cape Breton, having cleared £14,000, within three weeks of her having left that port. Yet at Anticosti, where seals abound more than in most parts of the gulf, this fishery is at present almost neglected; the Americans and others who resort to its neighbourhood, being principally engrossed with the still more profitable cod and mackerel fisheries. For the storing and preservation of seal, whale and cod oil, the temperate degree of heat at Anticosti during the summer, is particularly favourable.

"At the present moment, the mackerel fishery is the most lucrative one in the St. Lawrence, and is the most extensively pursued; mackerel sell at Boston at an average of nineteen dollars a barrel, and at Halifax and Quebec, for a few dollars less than that sum. No part of the Gulf abounds with this fish more than the neighbourhood of Anticosti. Many schooners visit the coasts of the latter from the United States, the Lower Provinces, and a few from Gaspé, to carry on this fishery, in which they are very successful, and Mr. Corbet states that the mackerel he has seen in July and August come in shoals, so thick, and so close to the shore, that as many as one hundred barrels could be taken in one haul of the net. A few hours work will thus sometimes pay the whole expenses of a schooner during the season.

"Herrings, as fine as any in the world, are as plentiful about the Island as mackerel, but from the wretched manner in which they are cured, they obtain a much less price in the market, and are, therefore, comparatively neglected by the fishermen. To make this fishery as valuable as the

mackerel, a few of the Dutch North sea fishermen should be engaged, who would introduce their mode of curing, which has long obtained for Dutch herrings the highest price in every market in Europe. By adopting that mode the Scotch fishermen are beginning to compete successfully with the former.

"At the entrance of all the rivers and creeks immense quantities of lobsters are thrown up by the sea; the collection of which, and the preserving them on the spot for distant markets, or sending them fresh in vessels, containing wells, to our home markets, might render this fishery a very profitable one. Eels are also very numerous and very fine, and are often collected by parties of Indians, who come for the purpose, from Mingan, and who obtain a high price for them from the Americans. Some of the halibut, which are found off the coast, attain the weight of three or four hundred pounds.

"The caplin, which are now merely used as bait for cod, are so abundant around the Island, that they are sometimes thrown up by the sea, and cover the shore to the depth of two feet. Were they properly cured and exported, they would find good markets in Europe, or oil of an excellent quality could be made from them by the simple process of boiling.

"The number of schooners which resort to the shores of Anticosti from the United States, the Lower Provinces, and the Magdalen Islands, in pursuit of the cod and mackerel, is so great that there are sometimes as many as one hundred vessels fishing between the East Point and Fox Bay at one time, all of which are generally very successful. If these fisheries can be so profitable to expensively fitted out schooners, (of from 40 to 150 tons,) some of which come a distance of fifteen hundred miles, and have to bring every supply, including provisions and salt with them, how much more profitable would they become to parties residing upon the Island, who would have their supplies upon the spot, and who would carry on their operations in boats? How important also to the latter would become the trade which might be created with the former, the supplying them with provisions, often with fishing gear, and with every description of marine stores; and how soon would such a trade lead to more extensive transactions in regard to the purchase of fish upon the spot, and the disposal of it in the best markets, and to a future trade in West Indian, South American, and Mediterranean produce, obtained in exchange for fish, and being in great demand in Canada? It might also lead to the gradual rise, at different points of the Island, of good sized villages, and ultimately of towns. Many large towns in various parts of the world, which are now places of great wealth, have risen from elements quite as slight as these.

"Though all the rivers of Anticosti abound with the finest salmon, few of them are fished to any extent, in consequence of there being but a small number of persons residing upon the Island, and those who come there not being prepared, and not having the right, to fish in the rivers, which, with sufficient attention and judicious management, might be

made almost as valuable as the best salmon rivers in Scotland, for each of which a rent is obtained of from £5,000 to £15,000 sterling per annum. The porpoise fishery, which is successfully conducted at Tadousac (entrance of the Saguenay), could also be carried on at Anticosti at a considerable profit, the latter being as well situated for the purpose as the former. Each porpoise caught is worth £25, in the leather and oil which it yields.

"The hunting upon the Island is of considerable value, though of far less importance than its fisheries. The animals consist of black bears, martens, otters, and the silver grey, the red, the black, and sometimes the white fox, all of which are very numerous, and for the skins of which excellent prices are realized in the Quebec market, the silver grey and black fox fetching from £15 to £20 each. There are no snakes or reptiles of any description. Great quantities of ducks, geese, partridges, and other fowl, resort to the lakes upon the Island, some of which are of a species peculiar to England, and a duck, called the *muniac*, remains about the shore all the winter. It is probable that the Eider—which frequents the main shore further north—will be found there, in which case Eider-down might be made a profitable export.

"With so many other resources, it is of little consequence whether or not Anticosti shall be found to possess valuable minerals. There is no account of its ever having been visited by a geologist; but iron ore of great richness and quartz are frequently met with on the Island, and recently some substances have been discovered resembling mineral paints. Plumbago may also exist there, as it has been found among limestone of a similar character to that of the Island in several parts of this continent; and Mr. McEwan mentions having found freestone there, some of it as fine as water of Ayr stone, and some as coarse as grindstone. The fossiliferous limestone, which exists in great quantities upon the shores in that horizontal strata, is of so fine a grain and color, and so hard, that it is most deservedly classed under the head of marble.

"Were this marble quarried to any extent, large profits could be made by disposing of it to builders in the chief towns of the Province, whose wealthy inhabitants are beginning to vie with each other in the beauty of their residences and the style of their living. To Quebec and Montreal it could easily be conveyed as ballast. Being very durable, as well as very beautiful, there is little doubt that were it brought to those cities in any quantities, it would be selected for many public buildings. It has already been used for several lighthouses in the St. Lawrence, besides those upon the Island. Both Lieut. Baddeley, R.E., who touched at several parts of the Island in 1831, and Sir Richard Bonnycastle, R.E., who landed at the entrance of Jupiter River in 1841, speak of the value of this marble.

"Having taken passage at Quebec, about the middle of July, in the steamer "Wilmington," which was sent to Anticosti with the object of assisting a ship wrecked the preceding November, about twelve miles

from Ellis Bay (which had remained there ever since, almost uninjured by the ice or storms of an unusually severe winter), the writer visited that Bay, as well as South-West Point, three times, and was on the south side of the Island for about three weeks. At Ellis Bay, the steamer ran in, for shelter and firewood, on each occasion, and upon the last remained there for three days. She anchored about two miles up the harbour, in three and a half fathoms at low water, about a mile distant from the shore upon either side, and a mile and a half from the head of the Bay, which appeared to be, from point to point (Cape Henry to Cape Eagle) from eight to nine miles round. Upon looking out from this position towards the sea, every appearance of the most complete security was presented. This was experienced upon one occasion, when, in a heavy southerly gale, the steamer ran in from a tremendous sea outside, in which she pitched nearly bowsprit under, and anchored in water almost as smooth as a mill-pond. The same afternoon, a large American schooner ran into the Bay for shelter, and anchored nearly a mile outside of the "Wilmington," in perfect safety. During the several periods the steamer lay in this harbour, heavy winds were experienced from every quarter, yet she rode through all as calmly as if she had been moored in the front of Quebec; and in the spot where she was anchored, nothing less than such a hurricane as would cast vessels adrift and sink them either in the harbour of Quebec or in the Liverpool Docks, could affect a vessel there. Mr. Gamache, who resided for twenty-five years at this Bay, informed the writer that the harbour was perfectly secure in all winds and at all periods; that, besides other vessels, the "Sir Richard Jackson," of about 600 tons burthen, had twice laid there, for several months each time, and that her Captain had said it was as safe a harbour as any he had ever entered. Mr. Gamache himself built two vessels there of considerable size. A gentleman on board the "Wilmington," a member of Lloyds', who had come out from England and had chartered the steamer to proceed to the wreck, and who had been three times round the world as captain of an East India Company's ship, declared that he considered the harbour "a most excellent one," so much so, that he should, on his return to England, make it specially known at Lloyds'. Much might be given here in favour of Ellis Bay as a harbour, but the fact of such vessels as the "Sir Richard Jackson" having been repeatedly there in all weathers, without any of them having been cast ashore or having dragged their anchors, should be sufficient. No instance has ever occurred of a craft of any description having dragged her anchors or been injured there in any way; and Capt. Rudolph stated that the "Wilmington" would have ridden just as safely with a single anchor as with two. As the underwriter on board, belonging to Lloyds', remarked, there are many places in England and other countries carrying on a large maritime commerce which have not so deep, so spacious, or so safe a harbour as Ellis Bay.

"The shores of Ellis Bay are generally thickly wooded with spruce trees, of a better growth than those near the sea upon the other parts of the Island; and on the higher ground in the distance a good many hardwood trees were seen of a still larger size. One of the trees in a birch clump, which the writer measured, five feet from the ground, was fully five feet in circumference, its height appearing to the eye to be almost sixty feet. The buildings of the resident are very prettily placed near one of the three or four fine trout streams, where he has several acres cleared and divided by excellent fences, and where he had growing, and looking remarkably healthy, every description of vegetables and some fine timothy grass. The potatoes there were looking more advanced than they were at Quebec when the steamer left the latter place, a few days previously. The soil, though not very deep, is very good, consisting of a dark loam, with sand and gravel below; and there is little doubt that it could easily produce the hardier grains, to ripen which, or even wheat, there must be quite sufficient heat, the thermometer, on two occasions during the 'Wilmington's' stay there, being as high as 81° in the shade and 105° in the sun, and at no time going lower than between 50° and 60° during the three weeks the steamer remained in the neighborhood. Round the Bay many beautiful wild flowers were seen; also the sarsaparilla plant and the sweet pea. The salmon trout in the river, near the resident's house, were so numerous that they might almost have been caught by the hand, as they moved in shoals upon being disturbed by the sailors, who attempted to take them with buckets. Quantities were obtained, and found to be delicious eating. A number of very fine salmon were also purchased of the resident, whose assistant happened to enter the Bay with fifty he had just caught in the Beesic River, in the course of about an hour; and several large lobsters were taken in the Bay and sent on board. What appeared of extraordinary interest to those on the steamer, was the sight, every day when the tide was out, of some three hundred or four hundred seals sleeping or playing round the Bay. The Bay must be a favorite resort of theirs. A great many whales—at least fifty—were also seen between the Island and Gaspé, and several between the former and Bic, each of which must have been worth from £200 to £400. Both the whale and seal fisheries could be carried on much more conveniently from Ellis Bay than from Gaspé, Bic, or from any other place within the Gulf. With this sheltered spot everybody on board was much pleased, from the excellency of its harbour, the inviting appearance of the country round it, and the objects of interest which were met there.

"At the South-West Point, where the steamer could have run close up to the shore, and been moored to the flat limestone rocks, which form complete natural wharves, the five or six buildings were so disposed near the magnificent lighthouse as to present quite the appearance of a village. Upon landing, this appearance was heightened, as a number of fine fields,

neatly divided by straight fences, in which were growing very luxuriantly many vegetables and grasses, came in view, and a horse and four fine cows, all in excellent condition, were seen feeding upon a common close by. Added to these indications of civilized life were numbers of fowls and several fat pigs. Near to the landing-place immense quantities of mackerel were seen, close under the point. This spot must be about the bleakest upon the Island, being exposed to the north-west winds, notwithstanding which, Mr. Pope and his son have grown most excellent oats, and next year they propose to grow both oats and barley, seed for the latter of which the writer has just sent them. Last year they grew fully three hundred bushels of the best potatoes (the potatoe disease never having reached the Island); and some of which the writer brought to Quebec weighed three to the pound, while others of this year's growth, taken out of the ground on 5th September, and sent to the writer, are of a still larger size, and of an equally fine description. 'The first frost which appeared this year at the South-West Point,' Mr. Pope writes, 'took place on 27th August, but was not sufficient to do the slightest injury to potatoes.' At Quebec, the tops of the potatoes were blackened by frost about the same time. The writer penetrated about two miles into the woods at South-West Point, where he found the soil very similar to that in many parts of Canada in the original forest,—deep with vegetable deposits, without stones or a particle of rock to be perceived. At Gaspé, with a less genial soil and climate, the writer saw several fields of excellent wheat. As he entered the woods, and at a distance of a mile back, the trees were sixty or seventy feet high. This alone would indicate the existence of large and valuable timber in the interior. A number of pieces of particularly fine grained tamarack were piled up near the lighthouse, and the firewood which the steamer procured both at South-West Point and Ellis Bay, proved to be much better than that obtained at Gaspé, or at any point of the south shore of the St. Lawrence where they took in fuel.

"The Captain of the 'Wilmington,' who has a good knowledge of the construction of harbours of refuge, and who proved himself to be a thorough seaman upon several trying occasions, declared that, at an expense of £2,000, he could build a breakwater upon the reefs running out from the South-West Point, which would render the Bay a secure shelter in all winds for the largest vessels. A harbour could also be made at Salt Lake Bay, about eight miles further east. As at Ellis Bay, many wild flowers, and fruit, and the sarsaparilla plant, were met with at South-West Point; also a plant resembling the cotton plant, and the reindeer moss. Mr. Pope mentioned that Admiral Coffin touched at the South-West Point in the early part of the summer, and, after making many enquiries about the Island, said that 'it could be made to produce anything which can be grown in Canada.' That much good land, besides those fertile spots which have been pointed out by the various parties

referred to in this communication, is likely to be discovered by a survey, the writer is enabled to show, upon one of the highest authorities existing upon this Continent,—viz., Professor J. Hall, Palæontologist of the *New York Geological Survey*, and author of the 'Palæontology of New York,' who, having examined a number of fossils brought from Anticosti by the writer, described them in writing, and added: 'The specimens indicate the occurrence of limestone beds, with alternations of shale; and the decomposition of these will furnish a productive soil, in consequence of the abundance of calcareous matter.' Both Professor Hall and Mr. Logan (now Sir William Logan) expressed themselves strongly upon the importance of Government undertaking a thorough geological survey of the Island. A specimen of the marble brought from the Island obtained the first prize at the recent Provincial Exhibition, held at Quebec.

"As Anticosti belongs to a number of persons, some resident in Canada and others in England, who would, no doubt, be prepared to dispose of their interest in it at a reasonable price, it is to be desired that either the Government, or some public company in Canada or England, or one belonging to both countries, should purchase the Island, and expend sufficient means in turning its resources to account. Of the two, a company, which could enter into the several undertakings glanced at here, would be the more suitable for the purpose; but the field may be made to embrace so many and such varied objects, that it could well give employment to several distinct companies. It is of the highest public importance that the Island should not be allowed to continue in its present state, besides which, every large addition made to the inhabited sea-board of the St. Lawrence, must materially increase the commerce, the shipping, and the wealth of the Province."

APPENDIX D.

GEOLOGICAL SURVEY OF CANADA.

EXTRACTS FROM REPORT

OF

MR. JAMES RICHARDSON, EXPLORER,

ADDRESSED TO

SIR WILLIAM E. LOGAN, PROVINCIAL GEOLOGIST,

Dated 1st March, 1857.

"Agreeable to the instructions received from you in June last, to proceed to the Island of Anticosti for the purpose of gaining information regarding its geology, I left Montreal on the last day of the month, and embarked the following day, at Quebec, on a schooner, which reached the west end of Anticosti on the 6th July. Since my return, I have had an opportunity of reading an article on the resources and capabilities of the Island, by Mr. Roche, published in the 'Transactions of the Literary and Historical Society' of Quebec in 1855, and, in so far as I am enabled to judge, find it a correct and unexaggerated statement of facts.

"In respect to the soil of the Island, the plains on the south side are composed of peat, but the general vegetation of the country is supported by a drift, composed for the most part of a calcareous clay and a light grey or brown-coloured sand. The elements of the soil would lead to the conclusion of its being a good one.

"The most abundant tree is spruce, in size varying from eight to eighteen inches in diameter, and from forty to eighty feet in length. On the north coast, and in some parts of the south, it is found of good size in the open woods, close by the beach, without any intervening space of stunted growth. The stunted growth was occasionally met with on the north side, but it is only on the tops of cliffs and other places exposed to the sweep of the heavy coast winds where spruce or any other tree on the Island is stunted, beyond which open woods and good comparatively large timber prevails. Pine was observed in the valley of the Salmon River, about four miles inland, where ten or twelve trees that were

measured gave from twelve to twenty inches in diameter at the base, with heights varying from sixty to eighty feet. White and yellow birch are common in sizes from a few inches to two feet in diameter at the base, and from twenty to fifty feet high. Balsam fir was seen, but it was small and not abundant. Tamarac was observed, but it was likewise small and scarce. One of our men, however, who is a hunter on the Island, informed me that he had seen groves of this timber north from Ellis Bay, of which some of the trees were three feet in diameter and over one hundred feet in height. Poplar was met with in groves, close to the beach, on the north side of the Island. Of fruit-bearing trees and shrubs, the mountain ash or rowan was the largest; it was most abundant in the interior, but appeared to be of the largest size close to the beach, especially on the north side, where it attains the height of forty feet, with long extending and somewhat slender branches covered with clusters of fruit. The high cranberry (*viburnum opulus*) produces a large and juicy fruit, and is abundant. A species of gooseberry bush, of from two to three feet high, is met with in the woods, but appears to thrive best close to the shingle on the beach, where strips of two or three yards across and half a mile long were occasionally covered with it. The fruit is very good, and resembles in taste the garden berry; it is smooth and black coloured, and about the size of a common marble; the shrub appeared to be very prolific. Red and black currants are likewise abundant; there appears to be two kinds of each, in one of which the berry is smooth, resembling both in taste and appearance that of the garden; the other rough and prickly, with a bitter taste. Strawberries are found near the beach; in size and flavor they are but little inferior to the garden fruit; they are most abundant among the grass in the openings, and their season is from the middle of July to the end of August. Five or six other kinds of fruit-bearing plants were observed, some of which might be found of value. The low cranberry was seen in one or two places in some abundance; but I was informed that it was less abundant than in many other past seasons. The raspberry was rarely met with.

"The most surprising part of the natural vegetation was a species of pea which was found on the beach and in open spaces in the woods; on the beach, the plant (like the ordinary cultivated field pea) often covered spaces from a quarter of an acre to an acre in extent; the stem and the leaf were large, and the pea sufficiently so to be gathered for use; the straw, when required, is cut and cured for food for cattle and horses during the winter.

"But little is yet known of the agricultural capabilities of the Island; the only attempts that have been made are at Ellis Bay, S. W. Point and Heath Point. On the 22nd of July, potatoes were well advanced and in healthy condition at Ellis Bay. At S. W. Point, Mr. Pope had about three acres of potatoes planted in rows three feet apart; he informed me he expected a yield of six hundred bushels, and at the time of my arrival on

5th of August, the plants were in full blossom and covered the ground thoroughly; judging from the appearance, they seemed *the finest patch of potatoes I had ever seen*. About half an acre of barley was at the time commencing to ripen; it stood about four feet high, with strong stalk and well filled ear. I observed oats in an adjoining patch; these had been late sown, being intended for winter feed for cattle; their appearance indicated a large yield. On the day of my arrival at Heath Point (23rd of August), I accompanied Mr. Julyan about a mile from the lighthouse to a piece of ground composed of yellowish brown loam, which he had cleared in the wood, and planted about the middle of June with potatoes and peas. Of the potatoes he procured a bucketful of good size and quality; the peas were in blossom, yet a few pods were found to be fit for use. In this patch, I discovered three ears of bald wheat, the seed of which had been among the peas when sown; they were just getting into blossom, and probably would ripen; the ear was an average size, and the straw about three and a-half feet high.

"I observed frost only once; it was on the 18th September, but not sufficiently severe to do injury to growing crops; and I was informed by Mr. Julyan that the lowest temperature of the previous winter was only 7° Fahrenheit below zero. I observed some cattle at S. W. Point belonging to Mr. Pope and Mr. Corbet; they appeared to be in good condition, although they had been left to provide for themselves along the wood openings or along the shore. A horse belonging to Mr. Pope was in equally good condition.

"The harbours at Ellis Bay and Fox Bay are comparatively safe in all winds; the former is fully eight miles from West End Lighthouse on the south side; the latter is fifteen miles from Heath Point on the north side. Ellis Bay is two miles in breadth, with a breadth of deep water of three-fourths of a mile, extending up the Bay a mile and a-half, while the depth of the Bay is two and a-half miles. Fox Bay is smaller, the distance across its mouth is a mile and a-half, with half a mile of deep water in the centre, extending up the Bay nine-tenths of a mile, the whole depth of the Bay being one mile and two-tenths. I have been informed that a vessel of five hundred tons has been loaded with a cargo of timber in Ellis Bay. During a heavy wind from the east, while I was at Fox Bay, a schooner ran in for shelter and appeared to be quite safe. The streams that are met with along the coast are very numerous. Most of the streams and lakes swarm with the finest brook trout and salmon trout, and large shoals of mackerel were almost daily observed all around the Island. Seals were extremely abundant, and but for a few Indians who come over from Mingan in July and August, and take a few of them on the north side of the Island, they would be wholly undisturbed. In the bays and more sheltered places round the Island, these creatures are met with by thousands. Several species of whale were observed to be abundant towards the west end of the Island. This must be a favourite

resort, as they were either seen or heard at irregular intervals day and night.

"The wild animals met with on the Island, as far as I am aware, are the common black bear, the red, the black, and the silver fox and the marten. Foxes and martens are very abundant; the marten was frequently heard during the night in the neighbourhood of our camp, and foxes were seen on several occasions. The skin of the silver grey fox frequently sells for £25 to £30 currency. Mr. Corbet, the lessee of the Island, employs several men to hunt these animals, and I understand he makes some profit by the trade. I heard of no animals of any other description, with the exception of wild fowl; and I saw no frogs or reptiles of any description, and I was informed by the hunters that there were none.

"The substances fit for economic application met with on the Island are building stones, grind-stones, brick-clay, peat and shell marl. The only ore observed appeared to be loose pieces of magnetic oxide of iron; there is no reason, however, for asserting that long iron ore may not be hereafter found. The peat plain, which extends along the low lands of the south coast from Heath Point to within nine miles of S. W. Point, has a superficies of upwards of one hundred and sixty square miles, with a thickness of peat, as observed on the coast, of from three to ten feet. As far as my knowledge goes, this is the largest peat field in Canada, and the general quality of the material is excellent.

"Among the materials of the Island which may be considered of an economic nature, though not of a mineral character, sea weed and drift timber may be enumerated. The beneficial effect of sea weed as a manure is too well-known to require mentioning; but to what distance it would bear carriage for such application is more than I am able to state. On the Island, Mr. Pope (of S. W. Point) makes use of it as a fertilizer for his fields. The quantity of square timber and saw logs which are scattered along the south shore of the Island is very surprising; the abundance appears to be greater towards the east end than the west; but, according to the calculation which I have made, if the whole of the logs were placed end to end, they would form a line equal to the whole length of the Island, or one hundred and forty miles; this would give one million of cubic feet."

ANTICOSTI ISLAND.

EXTRACTS FROM REPORT

BY

WILLIAM SMITH, Esq.,

DEPUTY MINISTER OF MARINE, CANADA.

The Island which bears the name of the heading of this article lies directly in the south of the St. Lawrence, between the 49th and 50th degrees of latitude, nearly the same as that of the north of France, and contains an area of 2,460,000 acres of land of the best quality, similar, says Sir William Logan, the eminent Canadian geologist, to the fine arable soil of Canada West, and the Genesee County, New York State. It is one-fourth larger in size than Prince Edward Island. It possesses over 300 miles of sea coast, is about 140 miles long, and 35 miles broad in the widest part, with an average breadth of twenty-seven and a half miles.

When the feudal system became abolished, which had long prevailed under the French domination of Canada, there being no tenants on the Island, the seigneur, or lord of his manor, became possessed of the whole soil in fee simple, since which time it has been held jointly by a variety of persons, chief amongst whom are the Forsyth Family. The title to this immense possession seems to have been fully acknowledged by the Parliament of Canada, as an act was passed during the last session, (in the spring of 1873,) incorporating a company to develop the resources of the Island.

Anticosti slopes gradually from its elevated northern coast to the grassy savannahs, which skirt the southern shore, and thus, in a great measure, the fertile portions of the country are prevented from the severe winter winds. Its climate is very healthy, and it certainly is not severer than that of the other maritime provinces. The atmosphere is pure and clear, and free from the fogs which are so frequent on and around Newfoundland. The winter's cold is considerably tempered by the waters of the Gulf and River St. Lawrence, and the heat of summer is, to a certain extent, moderated by the same influence. Vegetation progresses

there very rapidly, and crops come to perfection in good season. The soil is of good quality, being a rich loam intermixed with limestone; valuable forests are to be found on the greater part of the Island, and although the timber generally is not of the largest size, it is of a superior quality, and well adapted for ship-building.

The fisheries around the Island, which have been hitherto comparatively neglected, are valuable and important. Speaking of them, commander Lavoie, of "La Canadienne," in his report, in 1870, to the Dominion Government, says: "This Island is beginning to be frequented, and settled by hardy fishermen, tempted by the desire of participating in its rich fisheries, which up to the last few years were, comparatively, unexplored. * * * * The importance and value of its fisheries have increased along with the number of fishermen. The waters bordering on Anticosti are stocked with the same kinds as are to be met with on the south and north coast of the St. Lawrence."

In his report for last year, (1872) Commander Lavoie says, "Large shoals of herrings visit its shores at about the same time they repair to Pleasant Bay, Magdalen Islands. A schooner, from Prince Edward Island, caught last spring, with the seine, 1,100 barrels of herrings in one day." He goes on to say:—"The whole coast of Anticosti abounds with fish of all sorts, but harbours are scarce, even for fishing boats. Cod-fish on this coast are all large, and no finer are seen even on the Miscon and Orphan Banks." The number of fishermen frequenting its banks increases every year. Even when cod-fishing was a failure everywhere else in the Gulf, it did not fail at Anticosti. Halibut are so plentiful, that 199 barrels were taken in one day.

The seal fishery, which could be carried on here as well in winter as in summer, might be turned to profitable account, large numbers of these animals being visible during the former season, and thousands of them being observed in the summer and autumn at the entrance of almost all the bays and rivers, where they remain comparatively unmolested.

Hunting on the Island is of considerable value, though of far less importance than its fisheries. The animals, whose skins are of marketable value, which are found on the Island, are black bears, which are very abundant, otters, martens, and the silver, grey, red, black, and, sometimes, the white fox. Great quantities of ducks, geese, and other wild fowl resort to the lakes and bays of the Island.

There are numerous natural harbours round the coast, which are comparatively safe in all winds—Ellis Bay and Fox Bay being especially so. The former is distant about eight miles from West End Light-house on the south side, and the latter is fifteen miles from Heath Point Lighthouse on the north side. Ellis Bay is two miles in breadth, with deep water three-fourths of a mile from shore, but only with from three to four fathoms in shore. Fox Bay is smaller; the distance across its mouth is only one mile and a half, with deep water in the centre, extending up the

bay nine-tenths of a mile, but shoaling near the shores of it; the whole length of the bay being one mile and two-tenths. Mr. Gamache, who has resided at Ellis Bay for upwards of twenty-five years, states the harbour to be perfectly secure in all winds, and at all periods. A gentleman from England, in 1853, a member of Lloyds, who visited the Island to inspect a vessel which had been wrecked on the coast, declared he considered the harbour "a most excellent one," so much so that he should, on his return to England, make it specially known at Lloyd's, and added, further, that there are many places in England, and other countries, carrying on a large maritime commerce, which have not got so deep, so spacious, or so safe a harbour as Ellis Bay. This gentleman had been three times round the world as captain of an East Indiaman.

The excellent position of Anticosti in regard to ships, commerce, &c., is easily seen, when we remember that every vessel must take one or other of the channels formed by the Island, whether having passed from the Atlantic, or intending to pass to the ocean through the Straits of Belle Isle, through the more frequented passage between Newfoundland and Cape Breton, or through the Gut of Canso, or whether running between Quebec and those portions of Canada and of the Maritime Provinces lying on the Gulf of St. Lawrence. Vessels taking either of the channels formed by the position of the Island, must pass close to the Island, in consequence of the comparative narrowness of the northern one, and of the strong south-east current which always runs along the southern channel. To avoid this, and the risk of being driven on the rock-bound coast of the south shore of the gulf and river, vessels generally stand out till they make the West Point of Anticosti, close to Ellis Bay. The inner anchorage of this has a depth of from three to four fathoms at low water, with excellent holding ground (gravel and mud); the outer portion of the anchorage could be materially improved at a trifling expense, so as to be able to contain in safety, during all winds, almost any number of vessels of the largest size. If docks were constructed at Ellis Bay, with a patent slip, it would be an admirable position for the repair of vessels stranded or damaged throughout the Lower St. Lawrence, many of which are now broken up by the sea or dismantled by wreckers before assistance can be obtained from Quebec. For steam-tugs employed for the relief of vessels in distress, this might be made an excellent station; here, also, a few steamers or gunboats could command the two entrances to the river, or send out from this convenient and central spot cruisers to any part of the Gulf.

The establishment of depôts of coal at Ellis Bay and Fox River would be an advantage, the importance of which it would be hard to estimate, coal being easily procurable from Nova Scotia, and laid down at either harbour at a cost not exceeding from \$3.50 to \$4 per ton. Considering the fact that upwards of 2,000 vessels arrive annually from Europe in the season, besides a large fleet of coasting and fishing vessels,

all of which must pass within sight of the Island, some idea can be formed of the importance to be attached to the position and capabilities of these harbours for commercial purposes.

The Company which has been formed for the purpose of colonizing the Island of Anticosti, and for working and developing its resources, propose to lay out town sites at Ellis Bay, Fox Bay, and at the South-West Point. The chief town will be at Ellis Bay, where the principal place of business will be established. The beautiful situation of the first of these places, with its bracing sea air, must eventually make it a resort for thousands of pleasure-seekers, since sea-bathing could there be combined with many other summer sports and amusements. The capital of the Company is \$2,500,000, divided into 25,000 shares of \$100 each. The Island is to be divided into twenty counties, of about 120,000 acres each, subdivided into five townships. It is further proposed to lay a submarine telegraph cable to connect the Island with the mainland; to build saw-mills and grist-mills, establish a bank and a general hospital, churches and schools, and to establish, moreover, five fishing stations, in different parts of the Island, where temporary buildings are to be erected for curing and drying fish.

Operations and improvements of such a kind have everywhere had the most beneficial result upon the industry, wealth and general progress of the country in which they were attempted, and with the great resources and favorable geographical position of the Island of Anticosti, there is no reason to doubt that they will be attended there with similar results.

Sir William Logan, in his "Geographical Report of Canada," after referring to deposits of peat, or peat-bogs, in different parts of Canada, says:—"The most extensive peat deposits in Canada are found in Anticosti, along the low land on the coast of the Island, from Heath Point to within eight or nine miles of South-West Point. The thickness of the peat, as observed on the coast, was from three to ten feet, and it appears to be of an excellent quality. The height of this plain may be, on an average, fifteen feet above high water mark, and it can be easily drained and worked. Between South-West Point and the West end of the Island there are many peat-bogs, varying in superficies from one hundred to one thousand acres."

Near South-West Point there are several larger salt ponds, which, if labour was abundant, might be turned to a profitable account in the manufacture of salt; a manufacture which would become of some value to a great part of our North American fisheries, which, as well as the greater part of Canada, are now supplied with salt from the Bahamas, and from England or the United States; and for curing fish and provisions, bay salt, formed from the sea and from salt ponds, is the most valuable. In consequence of there not having been a sufficient supply

of salt upon the Island, an immense quantity of fish caught at Anticosti, a year or two ago, were rendered useless.

In Commander Lavoie's Report for 1872, he says that geologists and others, who have visited the interior of the Island, agree in stating that its soil is rich, and that more than one million acres can be cultivated with advantage. Clearances have already been made at Gamache, (Ellis Bay, at South-West and at West Point, where the vegetables and grains of the district of Montreal and Quebec flourish. Stories, however, of the numerous wrecks that have occurred on the shore of Anticosti have spread such a terror that, up to 1861, nobody had thought of settling there. The reefs of flat limestone, extending in some parts to one mile and a quarter from the shore; the want of anchorage of a great portion of the coast, and above all, the frequent fogs, justify this belief, in part, but not in so great a degree as to render reasonable the dread with which they seem to have been regarded, and which can only have arisen from the natural tendency to magnify dangers, of which we have no precise knowledge.

Streams of excellent water descend to the sea on every part of the coasts of Anticosti. They are, for the most part, too small to admit boats, becoming rapid immediately within their entrances, and even the largest of them are barred with sand, excepting for short intervals of time, after the spring floods, or after continued heavy rains.

There is no doubt that in a very few years there will be a numerous population on the Island, as applications for land are being constantly received by the Anticosti Company, and the survey is being pressed forward with all practicable speed. Had the Island been thrown open for settlement years ago, it would be in a very different position, commercially speaking, from what it now is; but once opened, and found to be equally productive with the Maritime Provinces and Prince Edward Island, there is no reason why in a few decades it should not rival the latter. For long neglected and discarded, Anticosti now has a chance of prominence, and the Dominion will hail the advent of another link in her chain, which, though it may never assume the title now borne by Prince Edward Island, "the gem of the Gulf," may yet prove as valuable a jewel in the diadem of Confederation.

