

1534. dred and twenty-two men.¹ He steered west, inclining slightly north, and had such fair winds, that, on the 10th of May, he made Cape Bonnavista, in Newfoundland, at 46° north. Cartier found the land there still covered with snow, and the shore fringed with ice, so that he could not or dared not stop. He ran down six degrees south-south-east, and entered a port to which he gave the name of St. Catharine.²

Thence he turned back north, and made islands which, in his memoirs, he calls *Isles des Oyseaux*—Bird Islands.³ They are, he says, fourteen leagues from Newfoundland, and he was much surprised to see a white bear as large as a cow, which had swum across. As soon as this animal perceived the boats which were going ashore, it took to the water, and the next day Cartier having met it quite near Newfoundland, killed and captured it. He then coasted along all the northern part of that great island, and he says that you meet nowhere else better ports or a more wretched country; on every side it is nothing but frightful rocks, sterile lands covered with a scanty moss; no trees, but only some bushes half dried up; that nevertheless he found men there well made, who wore their hair tied on the top of the head, like a bundle of hay, to use his expression, with birds' feathers irregularly inserted, which had a most curious effect.⁴

After making almost the circuit of Newfoundland, though without being able to satisfy himself that it was an island, he took a southerly course, crossed the gulf, approached the continent, and entered a very deep bay, where he suffered greatly from heat, whence he called it

tier (Paris, 1865), p. 3, gives a document, dated March 19, 1533, which seems to show that he was then attempting to sail to America.

¹ The text of Ramusio seems to make this number in each vessel, but the *Discovrs du Voyage* sixty-one in each. See also Hakluyt, iii.

Hakluyt, *Histoire de la Colonie Française en Canada*, 7 n.

² Now Catalina; Ferland, *Cours d'Histoire*, 18 n.

³ Now Funk Island, (ib.); Hakluyt, iii. 202; *Discovrs du Voyage*, p. 18.

⁴ Ramusio, iii. 436; *Discovrs du Voyage*, p. 55.