

arrived there on the 25th,<sup>1</sup> and the next day the other two vessels joined him. On the 1st of August bad weather drove him to take refuge in the port St. Nicholas, at the mouth of the river on the north. Here Cartier planted a cross, with the arms of France, and remained till the 7th.<sup>2</sup> This port is almost the only spot in Canada that has kept the name given by Cartier: most of the others were afterwards changed—thus throwing much obscurity over this navigator's memoirs. Port St. Nicholas is at 49° 25' north latitude. It is quite safe, and you can anchor in four fathoms of water; but the entrance is difficult, because it is surrounded with reefs.<sup>3</sup>

1535.

Description  
of Port St.  
Nicholas.

On the 10th the three vessels re-entered the gulf,<sup>4</sup> and in honor of the saint whose feast is celebrated on that day, Cartier gave the gulf the name of St. Lawrence; or rather he gave it to a bay lying between Anticosti Island and the north shore, whence it extended to the whole gulf of which this bay is part; and because the river, before that called River of Canada, empties into the same gulf, it insensibly acquired the name of St. Lawrence, which it still bears.

Origin of  
the name  
St. Law-  
rence, borne  
by the gulf  
and river of  
Canada.

On the 15th, Cartier approached the island of Anticosti to examine it better, and in honor of the festival of the day, he called it Assumption Island.<sup>5</sup> But the name of Anticosti has prevailed in ordinary usage. The three vessels then ascended the river, and on the 1st of September they entered the river Saguenay.<sup>6</sup> Cartier merely recon-

Anticosti  
Island and  
Saguenay.

<sup>1</sup> The Brief Recit says the 15th, and Mr. d'Avezac shows that the manuscripts agree with the printed text. The other vessels arrived on the 26th.

<sup>2</sup> Brief Recit, p. 7.

<sup>3</sup> Ferland (Cours d'Histoire, p. 22) says: "According to the distances given by Cartier, the haven of St. Nicholas must be Pachachibou, a little harbor where coasting schooners find shelter."

<sup>4</sup> He apparently entered the Bay of St. Lawrence on the 8th. See

Brief Recit, 7, 8. This bay, according to Mr. Ferland (Cours d'Histoire, p. 22, n.), is the present Port de Ste. Geneviève.

<sup>5</sup> Brief Recit, p. 59. The Indians called it Naticotec. The name Anticosti seems to have been given to it by the English. Jean Alphonse errs in calling it Ascension Island.—*Charlevoix*. The Montagnais now call it *Natashkoueh*—place where they seek the bear. Ferland, i. 22, n.

<sup>6</sup> The Brief Recit does not mention