1603.   than a month, while Mr. de Champlain visited all the coast in a sloop, in search of a spot adapted for the proposed settlement.[1]

He might well have spared himself the trouble of going so far, and even of coming to that point; for he was between Camceaux and la Haive, which are, beyond dispute, the two best harbors in Acadia, and most advantageously situated for commerce; but he did not condescend even to stop there. He entered neither Port Royal nor Bay Françoise nor St. John's River, and pushed twenty leagues further, to a small island,[2] where Mr. de Monts, arriving soon after, resolved to settle. He named it Isle de Sainte Croix, and as it is only half a league in circuit, it was soon all cleared. They made quite comfortable quarters, and sowed wheat, which bore remarkably well.[3]

Inconveniences of this port.   They were not slow, however, in being convinced that they had made a poor selection. When winter came they found themselves without fresh water and wood; and as they were soon reduced to salt provisions, and many, to avoid the trouble of going to the mainland for water, drank melted snow, the scurvy broke out in the new colony, and caused great ravages.[4] Accordingly, as soon as navigation was open, Mr. de Monts had nothing more urgent than to seek a more advantageous spot. Steering southward, he ranged the coast, which runs east and west, for the distance of eighty leagues from the St. John's

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[1] During these excursions a priest, named Nicholas Aubry, was lost for sixteen days.

[2] Champlain (Voyages, pp. 11–17) says that he went only six leagues beyond Long Island to Port Ste. Margaret, and then returned to Port du Mouton. He and de Monts set out May 16; and they did enter Port Royal, which owes its name to Champlain (p. 21), as the Bay of Fundy did its name of Baye Française to de Monts (p. 13). They then visited les Mines, crossed the bay, and sailed west to Ouygoudy River, which having reached on the day of that saint, they called St. John's; and then pushed on to an island in Passammaquoddy Bay, to which de Monts gave the name of Ste. Croix (pp. 20–38)—Neutral Island, in Scoodic River.

[3] Champlain (Voyages, 1613, Quebec ed , p. 28), gives a view and plan of the fort.

[4] Ib., pp. 39–58; Lescarbot (ed. 1618), p. 460.