1604.

ting out; to which may be added, the inconvenience arising from fogs, which are frequent. Only one ship can enter at a time, and that must enter stern foremost and with infinite precautions : this is required by the strength of the currents and the tide. With this exception, nature has omitted nothing, we may say, to make it one of the finest ports in the world. It is two leagues long, and a good league in width. A small island, called Goat Island, is almost in the middle of the basin, and vessels can approach it closely. There is nowhere less than four or five fathoms water, and at the entrance there are eighteen. The bottom everywhere is very good, and ships are sheltered there from all winds. At the extremity of the port is a point, running out between two rivers, where there is water enough for sloops. The climate is temperate, the winter less severe than in many other parts of the coast, game abundant, the country charming—vast meadows surrounded by great forests—and everywhere fertile land.

French Bay and St. John's River.

From Port Royal to St. John's River the distance is two leagues ; and this is the width of Bay Françoise (Bay of Fundy), which has the same depth. Copper-mines are said to exist in most of the bays on that coast. The entrance to St. John's River is more difficult than that into Port Royal. You have to steer to the right, without running in too close to land. Within cannon-range is a rapid, over which sloops and even barks can pass at high tide. At the descent of this rapid there is a whirlpool about four hundred paces in circuit, in which there was formerly to be seen, standing erect, a tree, which seemed to float, and never left its place, notwithstanding the force of the current.

Singular tree.

It appeared to be about the size of a barrel, but it was sometimes all covered by the sea for several days. It also seemed to turn, as if on a pivot, for it was not always seen on the same side. The Indians seemed to pay it a kind of worship, attaching to it the skins of beaver and