THE DAO OF NEW-FOUND-LAND

John Mason's 1620 Discourse

with commentary by

Tor Fosnæs

and

appendices of materials taken from the Internet

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2015

CIP

Library and Archives Canada Cataloguing in Publication

Fosnæs, Tor, author
The Dao of New-found-land : John Mason's 1620 discourse / Tor Fosnæs.

ISBN 978-0-9867415-3-1 (paperback)

1. Mason, John, 1586-1635 Briefe discourse of the New-found-land. 2. Newfoundland and Labrador--Description and travel--Early works to 1800. I. Title.

FC2171.F68 2015 971.8'01 C2015-905585-7

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Preface

The quadricentenary of John Mason's appearance in Newfoundlaknd is upon us. His 1620 Discourse was one of a series of such extolling Newfoundland as a colonial, economic, military, transportation, and natural resources nexus, a prime location for England's empire building enterprises, fecund soil, tolerable weather and unbounded marine wealth. Discourses by John Mason, Richard Whitbourne, William Vaughan and Richard Eburne, the most well-known, spanned a decade to 1630.

All of a type, they obviously copied and borrowed heavily from one another, each successive discourse repeating and exaggerating those topics which presented the benefits to be gained by colonization [or plantation] for England, Newfoundland, and the growing Empire. Mason is brief, at just under 3,200 words, his observations are presented succinctly, unlike Whitbourne, for example, who went into great detail on fishing economics and trade in train oil, lumber and dried fish; Eburne concentrated on the materiel and skill requirements for successful plantation but used a language and style not unlike Vaughan's elliptical references and asides.

Mason is the epitome, capturing the essence of Newfoundland at the time, and truthfully little changed in the four centuries intervening. Oh, there are more animals and fewer fish, vast changes to the environment and resources, minerals exploited, and so on, but Mason's descriptions still hold true.

This work grew out of an involvement with the Sir William Vaughan Trust and the Early Modern Network in St. John's in their efforts to know more about the early settlement history of Newfoundland and in particular William Vaughan who spent 20 years "in planting" Newfoundland from 1616.

This book presents a transcript of Mason's Discourse with commentary, illustrations, and a number of appendices containing much other related to Mason's information. The material is mostly taken from the Internet and readers are encouraged to go to the sites and explore. Of considerable aid in learning the names of things from 1620 is Skeat and Mayhew, 1914, *A Glossary of Tudor and Stuart Words: Especially from the Dramatists* as found at *https://archive.org/details/aglossarytudora00mayhgoog*

The beauty of the Internet is that no one knows you're a dog.

Readers are requested to make comments to *Mobilewords* Limited

The Discourses in history

21 Discourses written between 1566 and 1628, are listed in *Literature of Justification* at *http://digital.lib.lehigh.edu/trial/justification/newfoundland/time*

1566: Gilbert writes *A Discourse of a Discoverie for a New Passage to Cataia*, a treatise on the benefits of northwest exploration and colonization of the New World. Not published until 1576 in London, then again in 1589 in Richard Hakluyt the younger's *Principall Navigations*.

1577: John Dee, *General and rare memorials pertayning to the perfect arte of nauigation*. Dee's work promoted colonization, and Dee himself assisted Gilbert in planning.

1578: Thomas Churchyard, *A discourse of the Queenes Maiesties entertainement in Suffolk and Norffolk with a description of many things then presently seene. . . . Wherevnto is adioyned a commendation of Sir Humfrey Gilberts ventrous iourney.*

1578: Richard Hakluyt the elder writes "Notes on Colonization," a discussion of colonization methods in barbarian lands. Not published until 1582 in the younger Hakluyt's *Divers Voyages*.

1580: Jacques Cartier, *A shorte and briefe narration of the two nauigations and discoueries to the northweast partes called Newe Fraunce.. . now turned into English by Iohn Florio** [see note on page 17]*; worthy the reading of all venturers, trauellers, and discouerers*. In the preface to this translation, Florioadvocates English colonization.

1582: *Divers Voyages Touching the Discovery of America* published by Richard Hakluyt the younger specifically promotes colonization of North America.

1582: Stephen Parmenius, "illustriset magnanimi equitis aurati HUMFREDI GILBERTI." Ed. David B.Quinn and Neil M. Cheshire. *The NewFoundLand of Stephen Parmenius*. Celebratory poem by a Hungarian who later died on the expedition.

1583: Christopher Carleill writes a pamphlet entitled *A Brief and Summary Discourse upon the Intended Voyage to the Further most Parts of America* to restate English colonizing discourse before Gilbert's voyage.

1583: Edward Hayes writes *Narrative of Sir Humphrey Gilbert's Last Expedition* (published 1589), glorifying the mission and taking great account of the ceremony of possession and the English laws decreed by Gilbert. For Hayes, this is a religious expedition.

1583: Peckham, having lost his contractual interests in Newfoundland with the death of Gilbert, attempts to rekindle public interest in colonization by publishing *A True Reporte of The Newfound Landes*, a discourse on the benefits of colonizing North America. … Having never been to Newfoundland, he relies heavily upon the testimony of David Ingram and Spanish settlers.

1610: John Guy and other business investors establish an English settlement at Cupids, Conception Bay, Newfoundland, under charter of King James I.

1620s: Increased interest in Newfoundland in the 1620s leads to several colonies by Henry Cary (Viscount Falkland), Sir George Calvert, and William Vaughan, as well as producing a cluster of justification and promotion works.

1620: John Mason, *A briefe discourse of the New-found-land with the situation, temperature, and commoditiesthereof, inciting our nation to goe forward in that hopefull plantation begunne.*

1620: Richard Whitbourne, *A discourse and discouery of New-found-land with many reasons to prooue how worthy and beneficiall a plantation may there be made, after a far better manner than now it is.*

1622: Richard Whitbourne, *A discourse containing a louing inuitation both honourable, and profitable to all such as shall be aduenturers, either in person, or purse, for the aduancement of his Maiesties most hopeful plantation in the Nevv-found-land,lately vndertaken.*

1623: T. C. *A short discourse of the New-found-land Contaynig[sic] diverse reasons and inducements, for the planting of that countrey. Published for the satisfaction of all such as shall be willing to be adventurers in the said plantation.*

1624: William Alexander Stirling, *An encouragement to colonies.*

1624: Richard Eburne, *A plaine path-vvay to plantations that is, a discourse in generall, concerning the plantation of our English people in other countries. . . . With certaine motiues for a present plantation in New-found land aboue the rest.*

1625: Sir Robert Gordon, *Encouragements. For such as shall have intention to bee vnder-takers in the new plantation of Cape Briton, now New Galloway in America, by mee Lochinvar.*

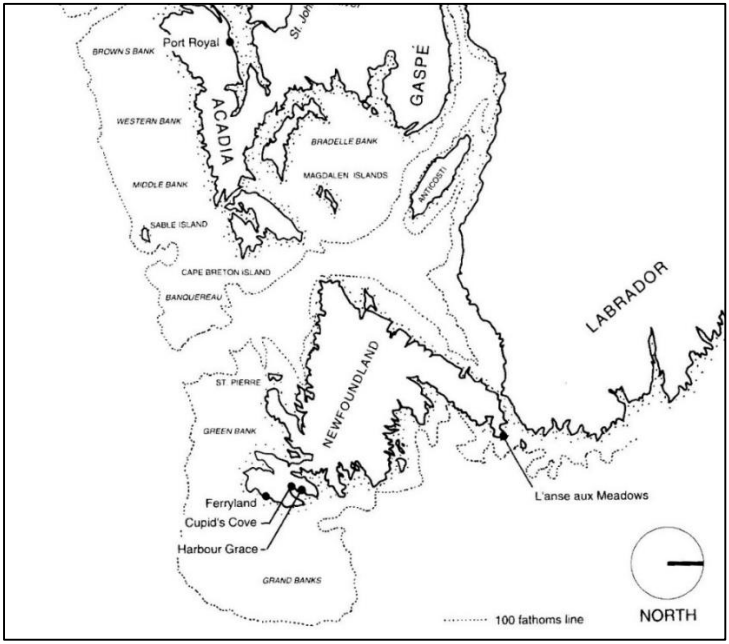
1626: William Vaughan, *The golden fleece diuided into three parts, vnder which are discouered the errours of religion, the vices and decayes of the kingdome, and lastly the wayes to get wealth, and to restore trading so much complayned of. Transported from Cambrioll Colchos, out of the southermost part of the iland, commonly called the Newfoundland, by Orpheus Iunior, for the generall and perpetuall good of Great Britaine.*

1628: Robert Hayman, *Quodlibets, Lately Come Over from New Britaniola, Old Newfoundland*.

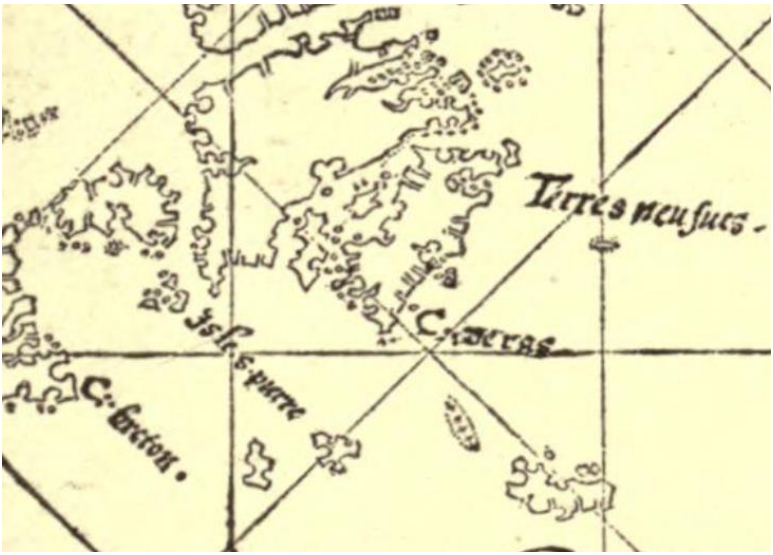
No analysis or discussion of the Discourses should be undertaken without a careful review of Gillian T. Cell's introductions to her volumes, *English Enterprise in Newfoundland 1577-1660* (Hakluyt Society, London, 1969) and *Newfoundland Discovered: English Attempts at Colonization 1610 – 1630* (University of Toronto, Toronto, 1982). References to Whitbourne herein are taken from Cell's *Newfoundland Discovered*.

Alternate views

American Beginnings: Exploration, Culture, and Cartography in the Land of Norumbega, edited by Emerson W. Baker, et. al., (University of Nebraska, Lincoln, 1998) references D.W. Meinig in *Shaping America, Vol. 1*, who posited a new view of North America from a European perspective, the view directly west as one approaches the continent. This is how those early captains *saw* where they were once they got here. Study this extraction of Meinig's map taken from Baker and then look at the 16th century maps opposite (both with west to the top originally).



found in *The Newfoundland Historic Map Archive* at *http://www.nfld.com/archive/*



Pistolet's Map 1587, from Prowse's *History of Newfoundland* at *https://archive.org/stream/historyofnewfoun00prowuoft#page/68/*

Only 30 years before Mason, Pistolet's map has Cape Breton, St. Pierre and Cape Race. North of Cape Race are four small (square bottomed) bays or harbours, the southern-most has a small island off its mouth, probably Renews Island. The one at the north end has three of four islands, probably the *Isles de Spere*, the Tor's Cove archipelago. A large curlicue harbour immediately north of these islands might represent St. John's. At the extreme north end might be Bacalieu Island and Conception Bay with its three large islands. Trinity Bay is shown as a passage open to Placentia Bay with its many

islands instead of ending at the Isthmus of Avalon. The large island north of Trinity Bay might be Funk Island which leaves Bonavista and Notre Dame bays out of proportion at the top.

Alan Williams, in *John Guy of Bristol and Newfoundland: His life, times and Legacy* (Flanker St. John's. 2010), suggested Mason surveyed from Bonavista to Burin in 1616-1617; it appears partly based on the accuracy of the map for the Avalon Peninsula and the English Shore.

Prowse introduced Mason:

> *In 1615 the strongest and ablest ruler of all appeared on the scene – Captain John Mason. The connection of this remarkable man – the future founder, with Sir Fernanado Gorges, of the State of New Hampshire with our Colony has been entirely ignored. Mason made himself well acquainted with his new Government, carried on the fish business in Cupids and Harbour Grace prosperously, surveyed parts of the coast, and must have been specially energetic in defending the settlers' rights, as it was in his time that the petition was made to the king by the western adventurers.*

Regarding Mason's map (Appendix M), Prowse, in a footnote on page 106:

> *A close examination of this map shows that it was not constructed by Mason, all its features being traceable in much older maps, the only contribution or Mason being "the great Lake or Sea"- Fortune Bay, which he probably saw from some hill in Placentia Bay on one of his exploring expeditions. The map belongs to the Anglo-Dutch group, and is mainly of French origin.*

Mostly this book compiles as much information about what Mason wrote as possible in an easily accessible place. If you think Mason is hard to read, try Vaughan and Eburne, they are really hard. Whitbourne published his *Discourse* also in 1620 – he and Mason shared a common purpose – Newfoundland!

Mason's 1620 Discourse with commentary

excerpts from J. Mason	comments by T. Fosnæs
Purpose and scope	
For as much as there bee sundrie relations of the New-found-land and the commodities thereof, Some too much extolling it, some too much debasing it, preferring the temperature of the aire thereof before ours, the hopes of commodities there without paines and mineralles, as if they were apparent (which as I deny to bee a veritie, yet I affirme not to bee impossible) with other narrations dissenting from the trueth, the which although done out of a good affection, yet had they better beene vndone. *I haue therefore (gentle Reader) hoping of thy fauourable construction, set downe in few and plaine tearmes out of that experience I haue gained in three yeares and seuenth [sic] monthes residence there, the trueth, as thou shalt finde by proofe thereof, to the which I recommend thee and vs all to his Grace, that is able and will plant those that feare him in a better Kingdome.*	Mason was in Newfoundland in the spring of 1616, when he replaced Guy as Governor in Cupers Cove. Whitbourne was commissioned to establish law and order on the Island the year before and Vaughan, who was actively planting at Renews, may have commissioned Mason to survey his Avalon Peninsula holdings. Mason might have surveyed the whole Avalon, it was included in the Newfoundland Company grant. It appears he was accompanied by his wife. They may have travelled back and forth each season, this is unclear. Mason mentioned there were those who extolled the Island and noted especially that there might be minerals. He wanted to refute the naysayers and get at the truth. Mason lived in Newfoundland for three and a half years, meaning he returned in the spring of 1620, presumably some of the *Discourse* was written in Newfoundland. His map was not published by Vaughan until 1625 and 1626 but a draft was probably prepared in 1620 if not published then.
Geographic observations	
THE Countrie commonly knowne and called by the name of Newfoundland, albeit it is so much frequented and resorted yearely to, by thousands of our Nation and others, which haue scarcely so much as a superficiall knowledge thereof (onely so much as concerneth their fishings excepted)	All anyone knew about the Island, suggested Mason, was the fishery, and that only by those who prosecuted it; then in full swing for nearly a century, in Mason's time employing 250 English boats and 5,000 men; even more French, Portuguese, Biscayan, and Dutch.

is an Iland or Ilands as some plats haue described it, situate on the front of America,

Earlier maps show it as several islands; sailing past didn't indicate if larger bays were passages between islands or bays with bottoms; as 16th century explorers were looking for a passage to the Orient, the fabled Northwest Passage, they were more interested in getting around the Island than in exploring it.

Mason's map left open the ends of some bays, such as *Bay of Flowers* (Bonavista Bay), indicating his knowledge of them was limited; *Bay of Foggs* is conjecturally Hamilton Sound between Fogo and the mainland as Notre Dame Bay was named the next to the west.

Mason's *Broad haven* could be the coast between Lumsden and Musgrave Harbour. The nearby islands could Peckford Island and the Wadhams. The Funks (Mason's *Penguin Ins*) are in their normal place but far out of proportion to their actual size. Cape St. John and Fleur de Lis (*Port Fleur de Lice*) are more or less correct, but Notre Dame Bay, Green Bay, and White Bay are incomplete and without islands.

What knowledge he did have of the Island's northeast coast west of Bonavista was likely gained from French sources. The Google Earth image shows the part of the northeast coast from Bonavista Bay to Green Bay with north at the bottom.

betwixt 46. and 52. degrees of Northerly latitude,

Cape St. Mary's is 46.5N and Cape Bauld (*C. de Grote* on Mason's map) is 51.5N; 5 degrees of latitude or 300 nautical miles (100 leagues). Whitbourne used 46 to 53, an overestimation.

of the bignes of Ireland,

Ireland is smaller (20th in the world) at 85,000 km^2) than Newfoundland (16th) at 109,000 km^2. Whitbourne repeated this comparison, *as spacious* [and *as near as spacious*] as Ireland. The ranking of world islands has variations, some have Newfoundland as 13th.

the Eastermost side thereof bounded with the Oceane extendeth it selfe nearest North and South: the variation allowed 100. Leagues,

An English league was a common but not clearly defined measurement. Originally the distance covered by a normal walking pace for one hour on land, in nautical application it became the distance to the horizon one could see when standing at sea level (or near sea level, as on a deck), 3 nautical miles; 100 leagues is therefore 300 miles.

the South face deuided from the Iles of Cap. Bretone by the Gulfe of Sainct Lowrence a straigth of 27. Leagues ouer lyeth West.

From the headland forming Cape Breton (the eastern-most point of Cape Breton Island and nearby Scatarie Island) to Cape Ray, is exactly 27 leagues (90 nautical miles); the closest distance between the islands, however, is just under 20 leagues (58 nautical miles) from Cape Ray to Cape North.

and by North northerly, and East and by South Southerly in length 77. Leagues, on the West part imbraced by the Grand-bay stretching it selfe Northeast and Southwest 75. Leagues.

and on the North confined by the Norther arme of the Grand-bay which separateth it from the continent of Noua Francia making a fret of 7. Leagues wide,

& is described by the Rhombe of W. and by North and E. and by S. 25. Leag.

Grand Bay, the early name for the Gulf of St. Lawrence, referred specifically to the area north of a line between Anticosti Island and Cape Ray, the rest was called by Mason *The Gulf of the River of Canada*. *Norther arme* is now the Strait of Belle Isle. The name *Grand Bay* survives near Channel-Port aux Basques.

A *fret* or *fretum* was a strait or narrow bay. The narrowest point between Labrador and the Island is 11 miles widening to 21 miles (7 leagues) between Blanc Sablon and New Ferrole on the south and between Chateau Bay and Pistolet Bay on the north. His distance references are between French places. Grand Bay measures 225 nautical miles (75 leagues) from Blanc Sablon to Anticosti Island and 231 nautical miles (77 leagues) from Flower's Cove to Cape Ray.

A rhumb line is a course that crosses all lines of longitude at the same angle; on a Mercator projection a rhumb (or loxodrome) is a straight line. It was the easiest early way to set a course but not the shortest, which is a great circle route where the heading to longitude changes constantly. A line of 75 nautical miles (25 leagues) between Anticosti and Cape Ray, forms the base of Grand Bay.

Mason has *Ile Ramza* and *Ile Brion* at the Magdalene Islands. There are eight, now named Havre-Aubert, Grande Entrée, Cap aux Meules, Grosse Isle, Havre aux Maisons, Pointe-Aux-Loups, Île d'Entrée and Brion. There are several smaller considered part of the archipelago: Rocher aux Oiseaux, Île aux Loups-marins, Île Paquet and Rocher du Corps Mort.

Mason's *Isle of Diamonds* is St. John Island in St. John Bay with the Port Riche Peninsula (Port au Choix) immediately south (accurate but exaggerated), an area of French prominence and used by them for another 250 years. The north point of St. John Bay is Ferrole Point.

Grand Bay (the Gulf of St. Lawrence) from Google Earth, North down (left).

Almost of a Triangular forme sauing that many bays & Inlets making incroachment haue disfigured the face therof with Scars, eating into the land into 40 leagues space on the South part where we haue searched 30 as good Harbours as the world affords.

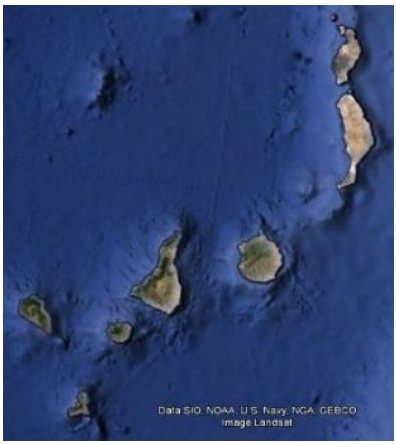
Sizes of Bays
(outer headlands; leagues; width x length)

Bonavista	10 x 9
Trinity	4 x 14
Conception	6 x 11
Trepassey	5 x 3
St. Mary's	7 x 9
Placentia	16 x 20
Fortune	7 x 16

This either initiates or repeats a common, knowledge, "Newfoundland is shaped like a triangle." Bays that *eat into the land* 40 leagues (120 miles) apart on the south coast can only be Fortune and Placentia bays. But Mason didn't sail Fortune Bay as it is considered a lake on his map.

Whitbourne said bays stretch into the land, *one towards another*, more than 20 leagues. The closeness of their extensions aided travel from one coast to another he noted. Whitbourne offered 12 leagues between Trinity Bay and Trepassey Bay, but it is more like 16.

The longitude thereof reackoned from the westermost part of the Insula fortunata is 330 degrees, distant in the Line of West & by the South from our Meridian 45. degrees by common account which i[s] the midle parallell of the difference the Latitude betwixt the lands end of England and the bodie of Newfoundland at 39. one halfe miles answerable to each degree in the same maketh 1764. miles or 588 Leagues.



The Island of Fortune [or Fortunate Island] was associated with the Canary Islands in ancient and medieval times and later with the *Avalon* of ancient Welsh history, being the legendary home of Arthur and a mystical place. Calvert called his colony *Avalonia* based on that legend.

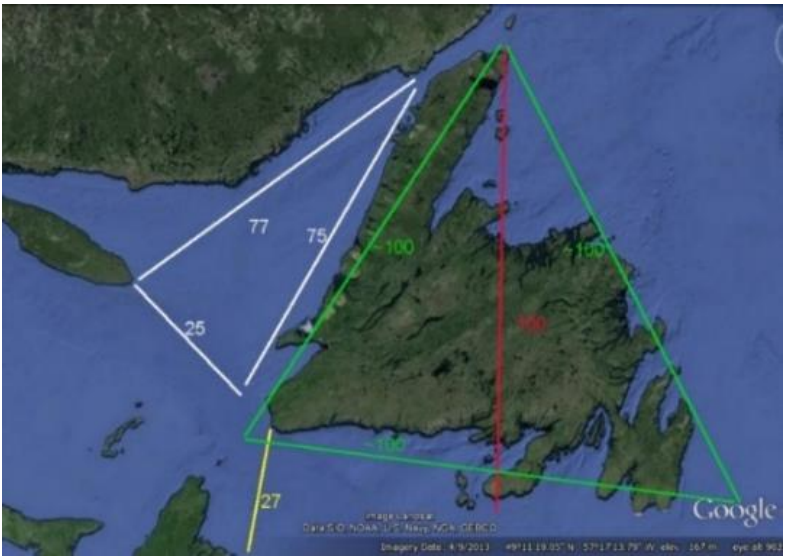
Mason's Insula fortunata would be Isla de la Palma, the westernmost island of the Canary archipelago, at 24N 18W, leaving 35 degrees to the 53W of Newfoundland's east coast. The Canary Islands were considered the Prime Meridian until longitude was figured out and the line was set at Greenwich.

Lands End, in Cornwall, lies 50N 6W; Cape Spear, Newfoundland, is 47.5N 52.5W, 45N 45W is just south of the Flemish Cap (once called the Flase Bank). The Island's center (*the bodie of Newfoundland*) is 49N 55.5W; making almost 50 degrees (2000 statute miles) difference between the longitudes of Lands End and the center of the Island.

The 45th north parallel is nearly midway between the pole and the equator; 100 nautical miles south of Newfoundland in the middle of the Grand Banks and 300 nautical miles south of the British Isles. Biscay Bay on the Avalon and Biscay Bay of Brittany, France, are both 46.5N.

Lines of longitude narrow as they go north, while a degree of latitude is always 60 nautical miles. At the 45th parallel a degree of longitude is, as Mason said, about 40 nautical miles; modern charts have 1840 nautical miles (613 leagues) in a straight line between St. John's and Lands End, 76 miles (25 leagues) more than Mason's estimate.

A Google Map capture showing Mason's geographic distance data for the Island of Newfoundland (next page).



Agricultural observations

Likewise fruitefull enough both of Sommer and Winter corne, an example for our confirmation thereof we haue in Poland one of the greatest corne Countries of Europe & yet as cold and subject to freizing as Newfoundland, as also our owne experience both in Wheate, Rye, Barlie, Oates, and Pease, which haue growen and ripened there as well and als [sic] timely as in Yorkshire in England.

Newfoundland's grain growing potential certainly wasn't as promising as Poland or Yorkshire in modern times; Mason, in reference to *corne* he planted in Newfoundland, and the other Discourse writers deliberately stressed this comparison. In modern times grains and cereals are not commercially grown, although lately there is an annual corn (maize) harvest. Peas and beans always do well in Newfoundland and are staple crops in many farms and gardens around the Island.

And for grouth of Garden herbes of diuers sorts as Hysope, Time, Parsely, Clarie, Nepe, french Mallowes, Buglosse, Collombines, Wormewood, &c.

There is at this present of 3. yeares old of my sowing, likewise Rosemary, Fenell, Sweete marierim, Bassell, Purselyn, Lettise,

Herbs planted by Mason (or Mrs. Mason and or others) were successful. Clarie is *Salvia sclarea* a pot herb good for the eyes. Meadow clary (meadow sage), Parsley and Catnip are not native plants, but the others have variants found on the Island. Wormwood was tarragon. Buglosse is any number of broad-leafed plants used in Elizabethan cooking. Today *bugloss* refers to any of the *Borage* plants, ranging from forget-me-nots to comfrey. The *great root* is probably the water lily

	but an argument may be made for the common Bullrush whose root and flowers were once consumed, by American aboriginals.
and all other Herbes & Rootes: as torneps, Pasnepes, Caretts, and Radishes we haue found to growe well there in the Sommer season.	All root vegetables do well in Newfoundland, in the mid-20th century these were the only crops with an insular self-sufficiency. Whitbourne added cabbage.

Botanical observations

The common wilde herbes of the Countrie are Angelica, Violets, Mints, Scabius, Yarrow, Ferne, Salsaparilla, with diuers other sorts whereof I am ignorant; But suppose would for variety and rariety compose another Herball;	Sarsaparilla isn't native to Newfoundland but is related to the lily plants; nor is scabious (teasels); Mason's reference might be to local plants that reminded him of the Field scabious of north Wales and Scotland
of these kinds wee haue onely made vse of certain great green leaues plentifully growing in the woods, and a great Roote growing in fresh water ponds, both good against the Skiruye,	Yarrow (*Achilles millefolium)*, the second most common plant to dandelion, was known since ancient times for its medicinal properties.
and an other prettie Roote with a blew stalke and leaues of the nature of a Skirret growing in a dry Beachy ground, good meate boyled:	Skirret or crummock is a tuber-like plant similar to parsnips; originally cultivated in China, it came to Europe in medieval times. The flowers are similar to the native Angelica and Cow parsley.
The Countrie fruites wild, are cherries small, whole groaues of them Filberds good, a small pleasant fruite, called a Peare, Damaske Roses single very sweet, excellent Straberries, and Hartleberries with aboundance of Rasberries, and	Pin cherries and choke cherries, hazelnuts and chuckleypears [*Amelanchier*]; wild roses (the hips are a noted source of vitamins); strawberries and raspberries are native, no mention of the native blackberry but *rasberries* might include the hairy plumboy [Arctic raspberry].
	Hartleberries (whortleberries, bilberries) probably included the blueberry; all Vaccinium grow well in Newfoundland. The local name is *whorts* and sometimes *hurts*.
Gooseberries somewhat better than ours in England, all which replanted would be much inlarged.	The wild gooseberry (the smooth gooseberry) was repeated by Whitbourne, who also included, peas, vetch, and unnamed herbs.

There is also a kind of wild Coranies, wild Pease or Feetches in many places which we haue both found good meat and medecine for the Skiruy;

There are four native *Coranies*, the skunk currant the leaves of which emit a foul odor when disturbed but the fruit and leaves lose their disagreeable odour when cooked (left); the smooth gooseberry; the bristly black currant; and the swamp red currant).

Vetches (peas), among the earliest cultivated crops dating back 12,000 years, are native to the Island. *Good meat,* as in the mention to skirret, referred to boiled vegetables.

Of great interest were plants with anti-scurvy properties (anything with vitamin C); also a favorite topic for Whitbourne and Vaughan.

Arboreal observations

The Land of the North parts most mountanye & woodye very thick of Firre trees, Spruce, Pine Lereckhout, Aspe, Hasill, a kinde of stinking wood, the [first] *three formest goodly Timber and most conuenient for Building.*

No Oakes, Ashe, Beech, or Ellmes, haue we seene or heard of;

Newfoundland's native trees

Conifers	Broad leaved
Balsam fir	White birch
Red pine	Yellow birch
White pine	Speckled alder
Black Spruce	Pin cherry
White Spruce	Choke cherry
Tamarack (Larch)	Dogberry
	Black ash (rare)
	Trembling aspen
	Mountain maple

Three centuries later Cavendish Boyle would define Newfoundland as "pine clad hills" and a century of paper-making made good use of the spruce and fir. The native red pine is third in the list indicating it wasn't as common as the other conifers, at least not near the sea-coast.

Lereckhout is the native larch or *juniper*; *Hasill*, may be Alder; he indicated these two and Apse are NOT good timber.

Apse is aspen and the word continues today in place names and vernacular. Birch and mountain maple (left below) are absent from Mason's list. Whitbourne had birch.

Oak, ash, beech and elm are not native nor are the maples (silver, red, sugar, etc.).

Chestnut, oaks, poplar, and other hybrids are cultivated but not naturalized. Fruit trees (apple, damson, cherry etc.) are transplants.

Other writers mention conifer byproducts (myrrh, frankincense, and light tar). Spruce and fir predominated for deal board, lumber and boat building. Ships returning in the fall often carried wood products and, often, live trees for planting back home.

Rinding trees for covering flakes was seen as wasteful as was burning the woods, both were prohibited by everyone but it was little enforced.

Bucolic observations

the greatest parts of the Plaines are marish and boggs, yet apt to be drawen dry by means of many fresh Lakes intermixt which paye tribute to the Sea; and on the brinks of these Lakes, through which the water draines away from the rootes of the Grasse, it florisheth,

Grass (hay) was an important economic resource needed for cattle, sheep, goats, and horses; today self-sufficiency in hay is a mark of success for Newfoundland farmers. Hay was once seen as integral to the Island's economic development and any pastures still operate on flood plains.

The Newfoundland marsh with free flowing water is a *fen*; if the water is stagnant it is a *bog*; barren ground provides moss, grass and sedge, poor grazing for anything but caribou and perhaps sheep and goats.

the greatest parts of the Plaines are marish and boggs, yet apt to be drawen dry by means of many fresh Lakes intermixt which paye tribute to the Sea; and on the brinks of these Lakes, through which the water draines away from the rootes of the Grasse, it florisheth,

The Spring beginneth in the end of Aprill, & Haruest continueth while Nouember, I haue seene September and October much more pleasant than in England; the South part is not so mountanous nor so woodie, for being a little passed vp from the Sea coast the continent hath champion ground for 40. miles together in North and South extent of the like nature of the former, hauing pretty Groues and many fresh lakes replenished with Eeles & Salmon-Troutes great, and in great plentie.

This section is repeated in Vaughan's *Golden Fleece*, without fish and only to 30 miles.

Mason's only reference to freshwater fish. The Island's *pretty groves and many fresh lakes* later became a stock image. *Salmon-troutes* were Atlantic salmon and Arctic char. True trout (*Trutta*) were introduced in the late 19th century.

Whitbourne emphasized the availability of fresh water for supplying ships and processing fish.

Faunal observations

The Beastes are Ellans, Follow-deare, Hares, Beares harmeles, Wolues, Foxes, Beauers, Catnaghenes excellent, Otteres, and a small beast like a Ferret whose excrement is Muske:

Newfoundland's 14 native terrestrial mammals

Keene's Bat	Little Brown Bat	
Muskrat	Beaver	Otter
Vole	Hare	Ermine
Marten		Red Fox
Black Bear	Lynx	Caribou

Wolf (extinct 1930)

The Island had no native amphibians or reptiles

Introduced fauna

Moose, Bison (extinct 1980), 2 Shrews, Chipmunk, Red Squirrel, Rabbit, Mink, Arctic Fox, Coyote, Green Frog, House Mouse, Norwegian Rat, Polar Bear (occasional visitor)

Parckhurst in 1578: *Nowe againe, for Venison plentie, especially to the North about the grand baie, and in the South neere Cape Race, and Pleasance: there are many other kinds of beasts, as Luzarnes and other mighty beastes like to Camels in great likenesse, and their feete were clouen, I did see them farre off not able to discerne them perfectly, but their steps shewed that their feete were clouen, and bigger then the feete*

Ellans are elks; the European elk is the moose, introduced to Newfoundland about 1900. If Mason was reporting hearsay, others perhaps thought caribou were two types. Notably absent from Mason's list are seals.

The African eland wasn't known until the late 1700's but was named by the Dutch using their word for moose. It was *ellan* (French) or *Elend* (German) in the 1600's.

Native British deer, Red and Roe, are very small; three others, larger, are imports, including Fallow deer, a Eurasian grazing animal introduced in Europe by the Romans; a Welsh race of Fallow deer have distinct long fur.

Catnaghenes were pine martens (see Appendix K); Whitbourne used *cattagenes*.

Parkhurst reported venison but probably wasn't able to study caribou closely. He may have mixed them up with reports of moose from the mainland. It was perhaps easy to confuse a moose with a camel (the hump and size) but a caribou looks like a deer.

His *luzarnes* were Lynx; the fur was reserved only for use in the clothing of those above the rank of earl. The *ferret-like* animal is probably the weasel [stoat or ermine]; these were well known in England, used on Royal robes.

Buffes is an unknown word reminiscent of *buffalo* which came into vogue about 1635 for the American bison [from Greek *bison* for *ox-like*] and is related to the French *bœuf* meaning ox or bullock. *Buffe* is also a 17th century Yorkshire word meaning *to bark gently.*

Pigs, goats and sheep didn't naturalize in Newfoundland as in other colonial countries; there isn't an explanation for this except, perhaps, the winter climate. In the mid-20th century there was a naturalized, feral pony in some parts of the Island as on Sable Island.

of Camels, I suppose them to bee a kind off Buffes which I read to bee in the countreyes adiacent, and very many in the firme land.

And the Plantations haue prettie stoare of Swine and Goates

Whitbourne listed Deer, Hares, Foxes (missed by Mason) Squirrels (there were no squirrels until the 1960's), Beavers, Wolves and Bears.

A moose cow showing the distinctive hump at the base of the neck (below).

Avian observations

The Fowles are Eagles, Falcons, Tassills, Marlins, a great Owle much deformed, a lesser Owle, Bussards, Gripes, Osprayes which diue for Fishes into the Water, Rauens, Crowes,

wild Geese, Snipes, Teales, Twillockes, excellent wilde Duckes of diuers sorts and aboundance, some whereof rare and not to be found in Europe, Their particulars too tedious to relate, all good meate,

Partriches white in Winter, and gray in Summer, greater than ours, Butters, blacke Birds with redd breastes, Phillidas, Wrens, Swallowes, Iayes, with other small Birds, and 2. or 3. excellent kinds of Beach Birds very fat and sweet,

& at the plantations English Pigeons.

Tassills were any of the male hawks also called tercels. A Great horned owl might take umbrage at being described as *much deformed* but they are the Island's most notable and largest owl. There are six native owls, Great horned, Snowy, Northern hawk, Boreal, Long-eared and Short-eared.

Grepe (gripe) is the Bald eagle; Buzzards refer to any of the large hawks. *Marlins* are the merlins and kestrels (sparrow hawks). Ravens and crows were both recognized.

Twillockes; twillicks are the greater (or sometimes) lesser yellow legs.

Native and introduced grouse are called *partridge. Butters* and *Phillidas* are tickleaces and kittiwakes; robin *red breasts* are obvious. Domesticated English pigeons (African rock dove) arrived with the first settlers but are thought to have not naturalized before the 19th century, with urban development.

The sea fowles, are Gulls white and gray, Penguins, Sea Pigeons, Ice Birds, Bottle noses, with other sortes strange in shape, yet all bowntifull to vs with their Egges as good as our Turkie or Hens, where with the Ilelands are well replenished.

Whitbourne listed *Land fowl* as Hawks great and small, Partridges, Thrush, Thrussels, Filladies, and Nightingales (not a native bird). Also Ravens, Gripes (which Cell called Vultures but are actually Eagles), and Crows.

Whitbourne's *Water fowl* were Geese, Ducks, Pigeons, Gulls, Penguins (the Great Auk), Godwits, Curlews, and Oxen and Kine (Fulmars) which were both a food source and bait.

Sea birds were prized for their eggs. Bottle noses may refer to shearwaters. Sea pigeons and ice birds are still dovekies. The cormorant (shag) doesn't make Mason's notice, they and their eggs were *too fishy* to eat.

The bountiful sea

But of all, the most admirable is the Sea, so diuersified with seuerall sorts of Fishes abounding therein, the consideration whereof is readie to swallow vp and drowne my senses not being able to comprehend or expresse the riches thereof.

For could one acre therof be inclosed with the Creatures therein in the moneths of Iune, Iulie, and August, it would exceed one thousand acres of the best Pasture with the stocke thereon which we haue in England.

May hath Herings on [sic] equall to 2. of ours, Lants and Cods in good quantity.

Iune hath Capline, a fish much resembling Smeltes in forme and eating, and such aboundance dry on Shoare as to lade Carts, in some partes pretty store of Salmond, and Cods so thicke by the shoare that we heardlie haue beene

Mason extolled the richness of the sea, as did other writers, as the real basis of English enterprise. The bounty was immeasurable, except in terms of its product.

Mason's cod fishery economics was brief and to the point, unlike Whitbourne who detailed catches, oil produced, transportation arrangements. Both use similar assumptions based on the existing fishery of the time.

Bait was essential for fishing and everything was used; fledgling birds, molluscs, squid, capelin and lance being preferred.

Smelts are anadromous, usually caught in estuaries in late fall and winter.

The density of cod was an old story, first reported by Cabot, in 1497 (baskets). Mason suggested you could take cod from the water using a gaff and that they hindered rowing a boat. Shades of Cabot's cod so numerous they slowed the *Matthew*'s passage.

able to row a Boate through them, I haue killed of them with a Pike;

Of these, three men to Sea in a Boate with some on Shoare to dresse and dry them in 30. dayes will kill commonlie betwixt 25. and thirty thousand, worth with the Oyle arising from them 100 or 120. pound. And the fish and Traine in one Harbour called Sainct Iohns is yearly in the Sommer worth 17, or 18. thousand pounds. Iulie, and so till Nouember, hath Macrill in aboundance; one thereof as great as two of ours, August hath great large Cods but not in such aboundance as the smaller, which continueth with some little decreasing till December;

Using the higher values from Mason, the St. John's fish and train oil trade killed 4.5 million fish annually in this period, multiply that by hundreds of vessels in other ports and the annual catch becomes staggeringly great.

Appendix J has more details on the 17th century cod fishery and its economic structures and patterns as found in the discourses.

Newfoundland mackerel and herring were twice as big as those taken in English and North Sea waters and his observation about the varying size of cod throughout the season still holds true, at least where cod remain.

What should I speake of a kinde of Whales called Gibberts, Dogfish, Porposes, Hering-Hogges,

Squides a rare kinde of fish, at his mouth squirting mattere forth like Inke,

Flownders, Crabbes, Cunners, Catfish, Millers, thunnes &c. Of al which there are innumberable in the Summer season;

Likewise of Lobsters plentie, and this last yeare stoare of Smelts not hauing beene knowne there before.

I haue also seene Tonnie fish in Newland; now of shell fish there is Scalupes, Musseles, Vrsenas, Hens, Periwinkles &

Herring hogs (or puffing pigs), are the harbour porpoise and/or the northern pilot whale (also called the pothead); porpoise is the old Newfoundland term for the beluga; humpbacks and minkes are not mentioned; dogfish is a small shark caught for its liver which was rendered for its oil. *Gibberts* is a peculiar term for whales; gibbing is the removal of herring guts (the gib) using a gibbing knife.

Thunnes and *tonnies* probably referred to tuna (modern generic name is *Thunnus)*. Any number of them would have been in Newfoundland waters. Tuna are of the mackerel family; millers are horny skates.

Ursinas are sea urchins; *hens* (or cocks and hens) are single shell molluscs larger than, periwinkles.

Seals aren't mentioned. By 1800 the seal harvest was in full swing and certainly aboriginal populations depended on seals; harbour seals thronged every harbour year round and the spring Arctic pack ice put millions more within range. In the 1660's Yonge described seals as creatures "barking like dogs" indicating he probably wasn't familiar with them.

Whitbourne listed Salmon, Salmon peals, Eels, Herring, Mackerel, Flounders, Lance, Capelin, Cod, Trout, Lobster, Crawfish (unlikely unless meant for shrimp) Mussels, Hens [and Cocks] available in harbours and rivers. The open sea provided Whales, Spanish Mackerel, Dorrelpoles (perhaps halibut? or dorado from the Caribbean?), Herring Hogs, Porpoises and Seals.

Herring, mackerel, capelin and the Newfoundland squid (top to bottom left; not to scale).

Here we see the chiefe fishing with his great commoditie expressed, which falleth so fitly in the Summer season betwixt seed-time and Haruest that it cannot be any hinderance to either.

Mason proposed the fishery fit neatly with agriculture and other natural resource exploitation; a peculiarity shared by Vaughan.

Mason concluded those who decry Newfoundland as a barren wasteland are proven wrong by the riches of the land and sea.

But peraduenture some squeaysie stomake will say, Fishing is a beastly trade & vnseeming a Gentleman, to whom I answere (Bonus odor luti cum lucro) & let them propund the Holanders to themselues for example whose Countrie is so much inriched by it;

others say the Countrie is barren, but they are deceiued, for Terra quae tegit se ipsam tegit Dominum, and the great aboundance of Woodes and wilde Fruites which exceedingly florish there proue the contrary.

Fishing was eschewed by some as a *beastly trade*, but Mason points out the old adage any bad smells resulting from the fishery is really "the smell of money."

Henry Crout, on his way to Cupids with supplies, was detained in Renews for a full season engaged in the fishery; he complained of it but allowed the money was worth it.

Mason concludes with the Latin for "The land that hides itself hides the Lord," meaning what one sees as barren has apparent blesssings in the abundance of its nature. This is not a standard aphorism borrowed from classical Latin; Mason had some Latin from his early studies.

Four reasons to prefer Newfoundland over Virginia for plantation

And what thogh the fertility of the soyle and temperature of the Climate be inferiour to Virginia, yet for foure maine Reasons to be laid downe it is to be parallelled to it, if not preferred before it, the which we will heere propound.

Admittedly, while the Island's soil and climate are inferior to Virginia, Mason gave four reasons why he preferred Newfoundland as a planting site over Virginia. Ironically within a decade he was the Founder of New Hampshire, a place he'd never before visited, proving he was organized and efficient and could follow the money.

This move had shades of Calvert, Lord Baltimore, being eager to go south to Maryland after a while spent in Ferryland. The numerous plantations of the Eastern seaboard were thriving by 1620 unlike the Newfoundland six which were hampered and hindered by politics and West Country merchants' greed.

1 The first reason is the nearenes to our owne home, which naturally we are so much addicted vnto, being but the halfe of the way to Virginia, hauing a conuenient passage for three seasonable Monthes, March, Aprill, and May, which alwayes accomodate faire windes to passe thether, sometime in 14. or 20. dayes, seldome in thirtie dayes. Likewise the commodious returne in Iune, Iulie, August, September, October, and Nouember, sometimes in 12. 16. 20. and now and then in thirtie dayes.

One. It is nearer to England and easily reached from either side of the Atlantic.

The passage west was always longer, beating into the westerly trade winds and the northeast flow of the Gulf Stream. Usually a month from the Azores. The return was as little as 12 days, fully laden, the wind and current speeding the passage along.

Captains coming this way sailed the latitude (as a rhumb line) picking 45N 46N or 47N all with hope of passing over the False Bank (Flemish Cap) and then making landfall on some part of the Avalon.

2. The great intercourse of trade by our Nation these three-score years and vpwards, in no small numbers frequenting the New-found land, and daylie increasing, with the likelinesse thereof to continue, fish being a staple commoditie with vs, and so sellable in other countries yearlie imploying 3000. thousand [sic] Sea-men and breeding new daylie, also fraighting three hundreth Ships in that voyage, and releuing of 20000. people moe [sic] here in England

Two. Many people were already employed in the fishery and great economic benefit accrued from its prosecution. The spinoff of 3,000 people in 300 boats fishing in Newfoundland meant the relief of 20,000 people in England; a 7:1 multiplier.

The fish trade brought in 10,000 pounds in trade revenues through taxation and duties. Elsewhere Whitbourne and Mason suggested that taking fish directly to Europe using English merchants was disadvantageous.

(for most of these fishers are maried and haue a charge of Children, and liue by this meanes not being able to gaine halfe so much by another labour) furthermore the reuenew that groueth to the King by the customes of the French, Spanish and Straights goods imported, from the proceede of this fish trade suppose at the least to the value of ten thousand pounds yearely.

An even greater offense it seemed was English ships and men working directly for foreign masters.

3 The conueniency of transporting plantors thether at the old rate, ten shillings the man, and twentie shillings to find him victual thether, likewise other commodities by shippes that goe sackes at ten shilling per tunne out, and thirtie shillings home, whereas Virginia and Birmooda fraightes, are fiue pound the man and three pound the tunne.

Three. Settlers pay for passage, more settlers means more products to take back; more trade means more money.

Shipping to and from Newfoundland was considerably cheaper (*at the old rate*) than Virginia and Bermuda, of course, Newfoundland was also closer.

4 Fourthly and lastly, Securitie from foraine and domesticke enemies, there being but few Saluages in the north, and none in the south parts of the Countrie; by whom the planters as yet neuer suffered damage, against whom (if they should seeke to trouble vs,) a small fortification will serue being but few in number, and those onely Bow men. Also if any Warres should happen betwixt vs and other Nations, wee neede not feare rooting out. For the Yce is a Bulwarke all Aprill commonlie and after that during the whole Summer wee haue a garison of 9. or 10. 1000 of our owne Nation with many good and warlike Shippes, who of necessitie must defend the fishing season for their liuings sake, as they alwayes formerlei haue done in the Warres with Spaine. And afterwards in the monthes of Haruest and Winter the winds are our friends and will hardlie suffer any to approach vs, the which if they should,

Four. Easily defended from domestic and foreign armies (as the sea is hostile for many months each year). The climate was too cold, especially for the Spanish, he suggested. And, the natives were few, ill-equipped, and tractable. Natives already worked for French and Biscayan interests in the northwest he noted.

In reality Mason and Whitbourne knew only the Avalon Peninsula, and, as everybody knows, the Avalon is NOT like the rest of the Island.

Nine or ten thousand fishermen with warlike ships could always be depended on to protect their interests, as they had always done in the past *Warres with Spaine*; this reiterates the idea that the Newfoundland fishery was a training platform for English seafarers and navy sailors.

His security note concluded with a Latin admonishment to “fortify and be ready even though you think you won’t be attacked.”

the cold opposite to the nature of the Spainard [sic] will giue him but cold Intertainement; neither will the Plantours be altogether puffed vp with careless securitie, but fortifie in some measure knowing that Non sunt securi qui dant sua Colla securi.

The weather

It being a generall rule approued through America that any place vnder the same Parallel of another place in Europe is as cold as those places which are situate in 12. or 13. degrees to the North wards thereof, and the same rule holdeth a like on either side of the Equinoctiall.

Mason goes into a long-winded, pseudo-scientific explanation for Newfoundland's sometimes harsh weather and being inundated by sea ice and icebergs for a part of each year; the gist being that in places of equal latitude in North America and Europe the European side is warmer. He wasn't aware of the benefits of the Gulf Stream on Northern Europe.

Lastly the chiefest reason of the coldnesse in New-found-land in the Winter season is the Yce which beeing congealed into great firme Lands, euen from the North Pole, all alongst the Coast of Gronland, Grenland, The North-west passage Terra de laberador & so towardes the Grand bay, all that tract hauing many Inlets and broken Lands apt as vnnaturall wombes to breede and bring foorth such Monsters, which being nursed in their ruder armes, till the Winter season past, are turnde foorth of doores in the Spring to shift for themselues, and being weary of their imprisonments in those angrie Climes with one accord as if they had agreed with winde and streame take Ferrie into New-found-land, which immuring vs in the months of Febru. & March, both which are subject to northeast winds & blowing from this Yce causeth it very cold. The currant stil setting it southward as a laylor to bring

Then as now people blamed the temperate climate on the ice, rather than for the ice.

Whitbourne went on at some length to explain the ice and fog, and the general coldness of the Island, suggested that while it could be stood, it was a hindrance to orderly settlement.

He had some sense of ocean currents, in particular the Labrador current, and northeast winds which brought icebergs and pack ice but he loaned icebergs a sort of animism, "turned forth of doors … to shift for themselves".

Once they reach the Grand Banks icebergs are *broiled and consumed* by the sun is a pretty accurate picture of what happens [and the warm Gulf Stream] to melt them.

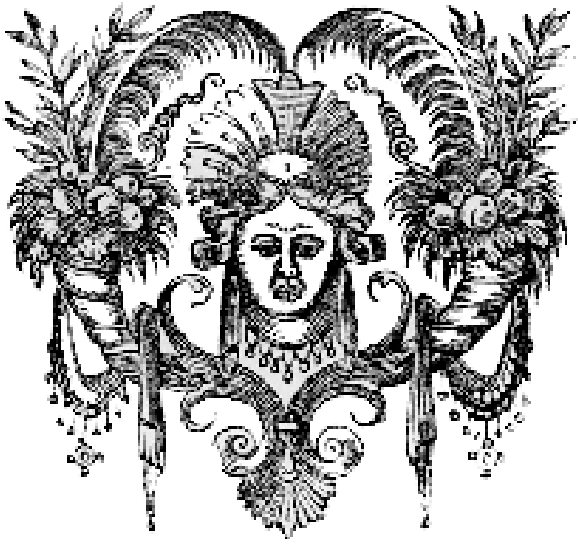
The lack of currrents in bays and harbours and slack winds causes local ice to form, he suggested.

it before the Iudge, neuer leaueth it till with the helpe of the outset of Sainct Lawrence Gulfe it be presented nearer the Sun to be broild by his scorching Beames and consumed. I cannot deny but in some Winters betwixt Christmas and March, Yce is bred in the Harbors and bayes of New-foundland, by reason of the calmenesse of the winds there incident, And the want of streames not causing motion in the Waters

Likewise of the managinge our businesse in our plantations with the descriptions of their situations in 2. places 16. miles distant from other, on the northside the bay of conception, of the manner charge and benefite of our fishings with the seuerall strange formes, and natures of Fishes, projects for making Yron, Salt, Pitch, Tarre, Tirpintine, Frank-Incense, Furres, Hope of trade with Saluages and such like, with many accidents and occurences in the time of my gouerment there, but these may suffice as Verbum sapienti; being of sufficient trueth to remoue errours of conceiuing the Countrie more pleasant by reason of his naturall sight in the Spheare, then it is indeede, also to convince and take away malicious and scandelous speeches of maligne persons, who out of enuy to GOD and good Actions (instructed by their father the Deuill) haue sought to despoile it of the dewe, and blamish the good name thereof.

Cupids to Harbour Grace is 16 nautical miles; these plantations were adapting and producing goods in different ways, Mason said. Plans for making iron, salt, pitch, etc. were made and the colonists were ready to trade with the natives.

His *words of wisdo*m were meant to balance the Newfoundland images (both good and bad) held by Englishmen at the time; one assumes the weather being the biggest bugaboo.



End piece on Mason's Discourse as found at
http://www.mun.ca/rels/hrollmann/relsoc/texts/mason.html

Note about John Florio and Mason's contemporaries

William Cecil, Lord Burleigh, a Welshman from Monmouthshire, was chief advisor to Elizabeth I. Wielding unprecedented power and influence, Cecil, along with Robert Dudley and Henry Percy formed the Society of New Art, an alchemical organization. He was the direct patron of John Dee, the Welsh mystic and a reputed wizard of the Merlin line, who was an associate of Gerardus Mercator and other leading navigation and cosmological scientists.

Cecil was the brother-in-law of Sir Francis Bacon who was associated with Girdano Bruno and his protégé, John Florio. Bacon was a leading proponent of the London and Bristol Company (the Newfoundland Company) with Guy and others. Bruno and Florio were members of the School of Night, a Rosicrucian-type society, founded by Walter Raleigh and George Chapman and based partly in the mystic poetry of Edmund Spenser; the School of Night connection continued through to the Welsh mystic poets Matthew Gwynne and Robert Fludd whose son Sir Thomas Fludd was war treasurer for Elizabeth I.

Gwynne was an associate of Henry Lower who was a friend of William Vaughan. Mason and Vaughan were associated with Raleigh, Guy, Hayman, and Alexander, the founder of Nova Scotia.

Robert Hues, who studied navigation from Raleigh, was a friend of Richard Hakylut and an associate of Samuel Purchas; Hues and the Welsh polymaths and astronomers Thomas Heriot and Lower were patronized by Robert Percy as the *Duke of Northumberland's three magi*, a brain trust of reportedly the smartest men in the world at the time.

Astronomy and celestial navigation was the basis of many of these men's scientific and personal studies and dead reckoning navigation became more sophisticated and accurate in the latter part of the 16th century when incorporating their advances and scientific knowledge; it became the navigation standard until the problem of longitude was cracked in the 18th century.

The Tudors were a Welsh lineage and for all their 118 year dynasty (1485 to 1603; Henry VII, Henry VIII, Edward VI, Mary I and Elizabeth I) they employed Welsh courtiers and learned men as leaders of their courts and governments. William Vaughan's father, and afterwards his brother were the Tudor agents of south Wales, overseeing and controlling the Tudor home ground with direct responsibility to the Throne. Tudor England was described as economically healthier, more expansive, and more optimistic under the Tudors than at any time in the previous thousand years, that is since the withdrawal of the Roman legions.

Thomas Harriot, (Heriot) visited Virginia as part of Raleigh's 1585 colony (under Sir Ralph Lane) and *wrote A briefe and true report of the new found land of Virginia* , a 1590 Discourse that listed the many features of the area. Heriot learned the Algonquian language from captive aboriginals in England, and is credited with bringing the potato to England. He was an astronomer equal to Galileo and he taught an entire generation of explorers and sailors navigation and mathematics.

Appendix A – The Fortunate Islands in myth and reality

Avalon is a derivative of the old Celt word for apple variously (*afal* in Welsh, *avval*; *avalou* [pl.] in Breton) given to places where apples grow, also Elysium. According to Geoffrey of Monmouth (first) and (then) Isidore (*from Wikipedia search isla fortunata*):

> *The island of apples which men call "The Fortunate Isle" (Insula* ***Pomorum*** *quae Fortunata uocatur) gets its name from the fact that it produces all things of itself; the fields there have no need of the ploughs of the farmers and all cultivation is lacking except what nature provides. Of its own accord it produces grain and grapes, and apple trees grow in its woods from the close-clipped grass. The ground of its own accord produces everything instead of merely grass, and people live there a hundred years or more. There nine sisters rule by a pleasing set of laws those who come to them from our country.*

By comparison, Isidore's description of the Fortunate Isles reads:

> *The name of the Isles of the Fortunate signifies that they bear all good things, as if happy and blessed in the abundance of their fruits. Serviceable by nature, they bring forth fruits of valuable forests (Sua enim aptae natura pretiosarum* ***poma*** *silvarum parturiunt); their hilltops are clothed with vines growing by chance; in place of grasses, there is commonly vegetable and grain. Pagan error and the songs of the secular poets have held that these islands to be Paradise because of the fecundity of the soil. Situated in the Ocean to the left of Mauretania, very near the west, they are separated by the sea flowing between them.*

In medieval geographies, Isidore's Fortunate Islands were identified with the Canary Islands. A Wikipedia search for Fortunate Islands gives this:

> *In the* ***Fortunate Isles,*** *also called the* ***Isles*** *(or* ***Islands****)* ***of the Blessed*** *(occasionally rendered as* ***Isles of the Blest****) (μακάρων νῆσοι makárôn nêsoi), heroes and other favored mortals in Greek mythology and Celtic mythology were received by the gods into a winterless blissful paradise. According to Greek mythology, the islands were reserved for those who had chosen to be reincarnated thrice, and managed to be judged as especially pure enough to gain entrance to the Elysian Fields all three times. These islands were thought to lie in the Western Ocean near the encircling River Oceanus; Madeira, Canary Islands, Azores, Cape Verde and Bermuda have sometimes been cited as possible matches.*
>
> *Flavius Philostratus' Life of Apollonius of Tyana (v.2) says, "And they also say that the Islands of the Blessed are to be fixed by the limits of Libya where they rise towards the uninhabited promontory." In this geography Libya was considered to extend westwards through Mauretania "as far as the mouth of the river Salex, some nine hundred stadia, and beyond that point a further distance which no one can compute, because when you have passed this river Libya is a desert which no longer supports a population."*

Plutarch, who refers to the "fortunate isles" several times in his writings, locates them firmly in the Atlantic in his *vita of Sertorius*. Sertorius, when struggling against a chaotic civil war in the closing years of the Roman Republic, had tidings from mariners of certain islands a few days' sail from Hispania:

> *...where the air was never extreme, which for rain had a little silver dew, which of itself and without labour, bore all pleasant fruits to their happy dwellers, till it seemed to him that these could be no other than the Fortunate Islands, the Elysian Fields.*

It was from these men that Sertorius learned facts so beguiling that he made it his life's ambition to find the islands and retire there.

> *The islands are said to be two in number separated by a very narrow strait and lie 10,000 furlongs (2,000 kilometers / 1,250 miles) from Africa. They are called the Isles of the Blessed. [...]*
>
> *Moreover an air that is salubrious, owing to the climate and the moderate changes in the seasons, prevails on the islands. The North and East winds which blow out from our part of the world plunge into fathomless space and, owing to the distance, dissipate themselves and lose their power before they reach the islands, while the South and West winds that envelop the islands sometimes bring in their train soft and intermittent showers, but for the most part cool them with moist breezes and gently nourish the soil. Therefore a firm belief has made its way, even to the barbarians, that here are the Elysian Fields and the abode of the Blessed of which Homer sang.*

Pliny the Elder's Natural History adds to the obligate description—that they "abound in fruit and birds of every kind"—the unexpected detail—"These islands, however, are greatly annoyed by the putrefying bodies of monsters, which are constantly thrown up by the sea"—sounds like dead whales.

Ptolemy used these islands as the reference for the measurement of geographical longitude, and they continued to define the prime meridian through the Middle Ages. Modern geography names these islands Macaronesia.

The extreme westernmost of the Canary Islands is about 18W - 19W, if it is considered as the Prime Meridian, Newfoundland would lie about 34 degrees further west, a close approximation of Mason if the *330* is a typographical error for 33. The Canary Islands, are about 2100 nautical miles (700 leagues) from Newfoundland, the Azores are 1400 nautical miles (366 leagues), but the Azores aren't as notably productive as the Canary Islands. From Wikipedia:

> *Macaronesia is a modern collective name for several groups of islands in the North Atlantic Ocean off the coast of Europe and Africa. They belong to three countries: Portugal, Spain, and Cape Verde. The name (which is occasionally misspelled "Macronesia" in analogy with Micronesia) is derived from the Greek words for "islands of the fortunate" μακάρων νῆσοι makárōn nêsoi, a*

term used by Ancient Greek geographers for islands to the west of the Straits of Gibraltar.

Macaronesia consists of several archipelagos; namely North to South:
Azores
Madeira Islands, including the Desertas Islands, Porto Santo Island, and the Selvagens Islands
Canary Islands
Cape Verde Islands

Appendix B – Excerpt from Eburne on Newfoundland plantations

at *http://www.mun.ca/rels/hrollmann/relsoc/texts/eburne/etitle.html*

Richard Eburne's Discourse took the form of a lengthy Question and Answer interview, with each proposition in favour of plantation being enumerated with reasons for plantation to be undertaken, supported and methods to guarantee success.

Overall, Eburne suggested money was the key with well-supported planters most successful; revenue sources ranged from patronage to taxes, and included trade opportunities once plantations were established. He detailed ideal planters and strongly urged families and mature individuals be encouraged to settle.

Eburne concentrated on the conditions in and benefits to England that necessitated moving portions of the population to a New World, including a re-growth of Empire, necessary since

> *The English lost in France in the time of Henry the Sixth two several parts of that spacious country that had been English near about three hundred years before--that is, Normandy and Aquitaine, in the former whereof, saith an English history, as minding to express the greatness of the loss by the particulars …*

Eburne put a very positive spin on the existing plantations and probably stretched the truth a little as to their success; North Falkland, Ferryland (Avalon), Cupids, Bristol's Hope, and Cambriol. All five were going concerns in 1624 according to him.

> ***The names of such as already have begun a plantation in Newfoundland***
>
> *They are these: first, the Right Honorable Henry Lord Cary, Viscount Falkland, and now Lord Deputy of Ireland, hath begun a great and fair plantation there some few years since and is well pleased to entertain any such as will adventure with him, either in purse or in person, upon very fit and reasonable conditions.*
>
> *Secondly, the Right Honorable Sir George Calvert, Knight, and Principal Secretary to the King's most excellent Majesty, hath also a very large and goodly plantation there, which though it be as yet but in the infancy, viz., of not above five or six years' undertaking, yet doth it already well flourish in a*

place well fortified and secured, wherein are some hundred people or thereabout inhabiting and employed in building of houses, ridding or clearing of grounds for pasture, arable, and otherlike uses, and in making of salt for the preserving of fish and divers other services. And his Honor is likewise well pleased to entertain any that will either adventure with him or serve under him upon very fit and fair conditions.

Thirdly, Master John Slaney of London, merchant, and some others with him have maintained a colony of his Majesty's subjects for divers years past.

Fourthly, divers worshipful citizens of the city of Bristol have undertaken to plant a large circuit of that country and have had people there inhabiting these five or six years with good and hopeful success.

Fifthly, Master William Vaughan of Tarracod in the county of Camarthen, doctor of the civil law, hath also done the like and hath within these two or three years last sent thither divers men and women that do inhabit there and prosper well.

Sixthly, some other worthy persons there are that be adventurers in the said plantation, whose names yet I know not.

Appendix C – Vaughan's 10 reasons for planting Newfoundland

from the Third Part of *The Golden Fleece* at
http://www.mun.ca/rels/hrollmann/relsoc/texts/vaughan/fleece3.html

Vaughan's primary focus in *The Golden Fleece* is nothing more than trade and economic growth. Increased colonial trade would go a long way towards curing the growing malaise and increasing crime rates of England. His own efforts sought not nor received any official sponsorship, he wrote, but he persevered and was willing to expound on his lesson learned. In Part Three he finally got to the reasons for planting in Newfoundland, ten of them, all familiar and repetitious. His estimate of 8000 people employed annually is up from Mason and Whitbourne six years before, indicative of growth, but his list of resources is the same, including the *gooseburies*.

> *For these important reasons arising out of meere necessity, Plantations ought suddenly to be erected. And where with lesser charge then in the Newfoundland? Where can they liue to helpe themselues, and benefit their Country better, then in ioyning to encrease the reuenewes of the Crowne of Great Britaine by the rich trade of Fishing? The Commodities whereof, I will here cursorily repeat.*

The Fishery employs people; ensures greater productivity at home and abroad; fishermen don't waste their money on tobacco and alcohol [a certain naivete on Vaughan's part perhaps, as Kirke licensed more than 30 public houses and rum shops on the English Shore 25 years later]**.**

First, this Trade of Fishing multiplyeth shipping and Mariners, the principall props of this Kingdome. It yearely maintaineth 8000 persons for 6 moneths in the Newfoundland, which were they at home would consume in Tobacco and the Alehouse twice as much as they spend abroad. It releeues after their returne home with the labour of their hands yearely their wiues and children, and many thousand families within this Kingdome besides, which aduentured with them, or were employed in preparing of nets, caskes, victualls, &c. or in repayring of ships for that voyage.

Climate similar to Britany in France and sunshine.

Secondly, It is neer vnto Great Britane, the next Land beyond Ireland, in a temperate Aire, the south part thereof being of equall Climate with Little Britaine in France, where the Sunne shines almost halfe an houre longer in the shortest day in the yeare, then it doth in England.

Listing the bounty of land and sea [he has seven of the 13 native mammals, four of the native trees and no camels]**; uses for forest products** [he noted the forests of home were gone to fire ironworks]**; minerals** [almost an aside, reminiscent of Mason's expectation of minerals]**.**

Thirdly, it will be a meanes for vs to reape the rest of the commodities of that Countrey, which now we cannot enioy for want of people to looke after them, and also for want of leasure, our men there being busied in the Summer about the fishing, or in preparing of their stages and boats, and afterward returning home against winter. The commodities of the Land are Furres of Beuer, Sables, Blacke Foxes, Marternes, Musk-rats, Otters, and such like skinnes, as also of greater beasts; as Deere, and other wild creatures. To this I adioyne the benefit, which may be made by woods, being pine, birch, spruce, Furre, &c. fit for boords, Masts, barke for tanning, and dying, Charcoales for making of Iron. Out of these woods we may haue pitch, Tarre, Rosen, Turpentine, Frankinscence, and honey out of the hollow trees, as in Muscouy, and heretofore in our owne woods before they were conuerted to the Iron Mills. There is great store of Mettals, if they be lookt after.

Expanded presence benefits fishery by ensuring premises and equipment is left in good repair and safe from barbarians and destroyers; livyers can fish two more months than the standard fishery thereby increasing trade in alternate species [predicting many later economic development rationales]**.**

The Plantations well and orderly there once erected, will helpe vs to settle our Fishing Trade farre more commodiously, then now it is. For whereas our Fisher-men set out at the end of February, they may choose to set out before the end March, if euery man hath his stages there ready against their comming, and not by the first commers destroyed most barbarously & maliciously, because their countrymen which come next after them may be behind them a fortnight in building of others. And likewise the Planters themselues may fish for Cod there a moneth before our English men can arriue thither, and also after they are gone they may fish almost all the yeare after. They may fish there for other kindes of fish besides Cod, as Mackerels, Salmons,

Herrings, and Eeles, salting them and barrelling them vp: which will much aduantage this Kingdome being hither transported.

Locally made salt would save money [Making salt from sea water in heated pans or clay pots was a common practice in England, although perhaps more effectively in a less humid climate than Newfoundland]**.**

They may erect salt houses there, hauing woods sufficient for that purpose, which may saue this Kingdome much money, which now goes out to other Countreyes for the same.

Newfoundland had good climactic potential for growing grain [presumably by 1600 England and perhaps western Europe had developed a dependency on grain from the east; Dantzig, on the Baltic, was Poland's marine connection]**; superior fecundity of soil due to its newness.**

The Plantations may in a short time supply vs with Corne here in England, when the same growes deare, as commonly it doth within the space of euery fiue yeares, whereby wee are faine to be beholding to Danzk, and Poland, expending that way much of our Treasure. That Land hauing the vegetatiue salt and vertue of it vnwearied, entire, and fresh, cannot but beare a world of corne, considering also the gummes and liquors which from time to time since the Flood or the Creation haue with the heate of the Sunne distilled out of the trees into the earth, which renders it most fruitfull. The which may be likewise gathered by obseruing the commodities and fruits, which now the earth produceth without the industry of man.

The list of bounties from the earth; [he has the native plants, including hazelnuts; one gets a sense he actually observed these]**.**

No place of the world brings naturally more store of Gooseburies, and those bigger then our Garden ones, Rasburies, Mulburies, Filbirdes, Straburies, Hurtles, Cherries, wilde Pease, and abunndance of Roses.

A reiteration of the potential and benefits of Newfoundland trade [later dubbed the "triangular" trade; Vaughan also notes a Whitbourne abuse – selling Newfoundland caught fish directly to foreign markets – circumventing English mercantilism and Crown taxes]**.**

By this Trading into Newfoundland, no commoditie is caried out of the King-dome, as in other voyages, which is a matter of great consequence. But by the labour of their hands they bring home Fish wet and dry, and Traine Oile; Or else they bring home Salt, Wines, Spice, Sugar, &c. in exchange of their Fish out of France and Spaine, a speciall enriching of this Realme, and an augmenting of the Kings Customes and Impostes.

Health benefits of settled life, good food and housing [Vaughan's first planting failed when the settlers were unable to set up properly and spent the winter in shacks and stages]**.**

The Plantations there will saue many a poore mans life, who falling sicke, as among so great a number some may chance to be, may quickly recouer their healths by fresh victualls and good lodging.

Protection of resources for England from foreign encroachment and an admonishment about outlawry perpetrated by Englishmen, including burning the forests and theft of materials and supplies [shades of Guy, Whitbourne and many others]**.**

> *This Plantation will preuent other Nations from engrossing the Countrey and the Fishing to themselues, as perhaps hereafter some may goe about such a Plot. It will reduce such as resort thither, to acknowledge our Kings soueraignty ouer that Land. It will serue to bridle their outrages, and also the abuses committed by our owne Countrymen about the taking away with strong hand one anothers stages and boates. It will serue to rstraine their insolencies, who now bragging, that they are there West and by Law, doe wilfully set fire on the woods. It will bridle their thefts, which filch at their departure all the railes of other mens stages, together with their salt, which being full laden with fish, they are forced oftentimes to leaue behind them. It will serue likewise to hinder their barbarous casting of their ballast into the harbours, which in a short time will ouerthrow both the hauens and the Fishing.*

Chapter 3 builds on Mason and promotes Alexander's efforts to establish New Scotland. Vaughan's geography is a repeat of Mason with a few small variances. For example, he says Newfoundland is only slightly smaller than England without Scotland, rather than equal to Ireland. He went on to give Mason's four reasons for colonization, including the ambient temperature being inhospitable to those other great New World colonial enterprisers, the Spanish, who, *dare not stay for feare of the Frosts, which perhaps their tender complexions cannot brooke as well as our Northerly Nations.*

In many ways Vaughan's work is nothing new, nor does it answer any of the questions about Vaughan's residency in Newfoundland; like Eburne, he aspired to a life in Newfoundland.

Appendix D – Sir William Alexander attempted to plant in Nova Scotia

Those who decry Vaughan, Calvert, Cary, Guy, and others for their *failures* in Newfoundland shouldn't stop there but apply that derision as well to Alexander's attempts to plant Nova Scotia. This excerpt puts it as succinctly as it can be said. In Newfoundland, the 1637 repeal by Charles I of all the previous grants was preceded by five years by the 1632 return of Acadia to French interests, cutting the legs out from under Alexander's decade of effort.

at *http://www.collectionscanada.gc.ca/settlement/kids/021013-2101.1-e.html*

Of some interest is the two stage plantation effort; the first hurried and ill prepared two years running followed by the third, more successful, five years later. Vaughan tried in 1616 and 1617 and then in 1623. Vaughan and Alexander were pals.

> *In 1621, King James VI of Scotland (James I of England) gave Sir William Alexander the charter for land between what is now called the St. Croix River [the present day boundary between New Brunswick and Maine] and the Gulf of St. Lawrence. This land was given the name Nova Scotia, which is Latin for New Scotland.*
>
> *Sir William Alexander's first attempt at bringing Scottish settlers to Nova Scotia failed. In 1622, he managed to interest only a blacksmith, a Presbyterian minister and some farm labourers. The ship set sail from Scotland in June, was delayed at the Isle of Man, then further delayed by a storm. The ship never made it to the shores of Nova Scotia. In 1623, he tried yet again but met bad weather and the expedition failed.*
>
> *In May 1628, Sir William Alexander set sail again with four ships, carrying around 70 colonists. The ship and the colonists arrived safely at Port-Royal in Nova Scotia.*
>
> *Sir William Alexander began some small settlements on Île Royale (now Cape Breton) and the Baie Française (now called the Bay of Fundy). However, British claims for Nova Scotia were given back to the French in the Treaty of Sait-Germain-en-Laye in 1632. Nova Scotia's name was changed back to its original name, Acadia.*

Appendix E –Captain Edward Hayes description of Newfoundland

from *The Story of Newfoundland*, by Frederick Edwin Smith, Earl of Birkenhead, 1911 at *http://www.gutenberg.org/ebooks/18636.opds*

Hayes commanded and owned the *Golden Hind*, the only one of five ships in Humphrey Gilbert's expedition that returned. Hayes is oft quoted in Newfoundland histories. Remarkably the numbers and descriptions changed little in the next four decades to Mason.

Location and size

> *That which we doe call the Newfoundland, and the Frenchmen Bacalaos, is an island, or rather (after the opinion of some) it consisteth of sundry islands and broken lands, situate in the north regions of America, upon the gulph and entrance of the great river called S. Laurence in Canada. Into the which navigation may be made both on the south and north side of this island. The land lyeth south and north, containing in length betweene three and 400 miles, accounting from Cape Race (which is in 46 degrees 25 minuts) unto the Grand Bay in 52 degrees of septentrionall latitude. The iland round about hath very many goodly bayes and harbors, safe roads for ships, the like not to be found in any part of the knowen world.*

Climate comparisons

> *The common opinion that is had of intemperature and extreme cold that should be in this countrey, as of some part it may be verified, namely the north, where I grant it is more colde than in countries of Europe, which are under the same elevation: even so it cannot stand with reason and nature of the clime that the south parts should be so intemperate as the bruit [a French word meaning rumour] hath gone. For as the same doe lie under the climats of Briton, Aniou, Poictou, in France, between 46 and 49 degrees, so can they not so much differ from the temperature of those countries: unless upon the out coasts lying open unto the ocean and sharpe winds, it must in neede be subject to more colde, then further within the lande, where the mountaines are interposed, as walles and bulwarkes, to defende and to resiste the asperitie and rigor of the sea and weather. Some hold opinion, that the Newfoundland might be the more subject to cold, by how much it lyeth high and neere unto the middle region. I grant that not in Newfoundland alone, but in Germany, Italy, and Afrike, even under the Equinoctiall line, the mountaines are extreme cold, and seeldome uncovred of snow, in their culme and highest tops, which commeth to passe by the same reason that they are extended towards the middle region: yet in the countries lying beneth them, it is found quite contrary. Even so all hils having their discents, the valleis also and low grounds must be likewise hot or temperate, as the clime doeth give in Newfoundland, though I am of opinion that the sunnes reflection is much cooled, and cannot be so forcible in the Newfoundland nor generally throughout America, as in Europe or Afrike: by how much the sunne in his diurnall course from east to west passeth over (for the most*

part) dry land and sandy countries, before he arriveth at the West of Europe or Afrike, whereby his motion increaseth heate, with little or no qualification by moyst vapours, where on the contraire, he passeth from Europe and Africa unto America over the ocean, from whence it draweth and carrieth with him abundance of moyst vapours, which doe qualifie and infeeble greatly the sunne's reverberation upon this countrey chiefly of Newfoundland, being so much to the northward. Neverthelesse (as I sayd before) the cold cannot be so intollerable under the latitude of 46, 47, and 48, especiall within land, that it should be unhabitable, as some doe suppose, seeing also there are very many people more to the north by a great deale. And in these south partes there be certain beastes, ounces or leopards, and birdes in like manner which in the sommer we have seene, not heard of in countries of extreme and vehement coldnesse. Besides, as in the monethes of June, July, August, and September, the heate is somewhat more than in England at those seasons: so men remaining upon the south parts neere unto Cape Rece, until after Hollandtide, have not found the cold so extreme, nor much differing from the temperature of England. Those which have arrived there after November and December have found the snow exceeding deepe, whereat no marvaile, considering the ground upon the coast is rough and uneven, and the snow is driven into the places most declyning, as the like is to be seen with us. The like depth of snow happily shall not be found within land upon the playner countries, which also are defended by the mountaines, breaking off the violence of the winds and weather. But admitting extraordinary cold in these south parts, above that with us here: it cannot be so great as that in Swedland, much less in Muscovia or Russia; yet are the same countries very populous, and the rigor of cold is dispensed with by the commoditie of stoves, warme clothing, meats and drinkes; all which neede not to be wanting in the Newfoundland, if we had intent there to inhabite.

There were "inhabitants"; none in the south as they were driven off by Europeans but those of the north were useful; the cold climate is made up for by the marine resources [the abundance of underutilized species is still an active concern; diversification was recognized in the 1580's]**.**

In the south parts we found no inhabitants, which by all likelihood have abandoned those coastes, the same being so much frequented by Christians: but in the north are savages altogether harmlesse. Touching the commodities of this countrie, serving either for sustentation of inhabitants, or for maintenance of traffique, there are and may be made; so and it seemeth Nature hath recompensed that only defect and incommoditie of some sharpe cold, by many benefits: viz., with incredible quantitie and no less varietie of kindes of fish in the sea and fresh waters, as trouts, salmons, and other fish to us unknowen: also cod, which alone draweth many nations thither, and is become the most famous fishing of the world. Abundance of whales, for which also is a very great trade in the bayes of Placentia, and the Grand Bay, where is made trane oiles of the whale. Herring, the largest that have been heard of, and exceeding the alstrond herring of Norway: but hitherto was never benefit taken of the herring fishery. There are sundry other fish very

delicate, namely the bonits, lobsters, turbut, with others infinite not sought after: oysters having pearle but not orient in colour: I took it by reason they were not gathered in season.

And terrestrial resources.

Concerning the inland commodities as wel to be drawen from this land, as from the exceeding large countries adioyning; there is nothing which our east and northerly countries doe yeelde, but the like also may be made in them as plentifully by time and industrie: namely, rosen, pitch, tarre, sope, ashes, deel boord, mastes for ships, hides, furres, flaxe, hempe, corne, cables, cordage, linnen-cloth, mettals, and many more. All which the countries will aford, and the soyle is apt to yeelde.

The trees for the most in those south parts, are firre trees, pine and cypresse, all yielding gumme and turpentine. Cherrie trees bearing fruit no bigger than a small pease. Also peare trees, but fruitlesse. Other trees of some sorts to us unknowen.

The soyle along the coast is not deepe of earth, bringing foorth abundantly peason, small, yet good feeding for cattel. Roses, passing sweet, like unto our mucke roses in forme, raspases, a berry which we call harts, good and holesome to eat. The grasse and herbe doth fat sheepe in very short space, proved by English marchants which have caried sheepe thither for fresh victuall, and had them raised exceeding fat in lesse than three weekes. Peason [peas are of the Genus Pisum] which our countrey-men have sowen in the time of May, have come up faire, and bene gathered in the beginning of August, of which our generall had a present acceptable for the rarenesse, being the first fruits coming up by art and industrie, in that desolate and dishabited land.

Benefits of settlement include trading sloth and misery at home for adventure and fortune in Newfoundland.

We could not observe the hundredth part of these creatures in those unhabited lands: but these mentioned may induce us to glorifie the magnificent God, who hath superabundantly replenished the earth with creatures serving for the use of man, though man hath not used the fift part of the same, which the more doth aggravate the fault and foolish slouth in many of our nation, chusing rather to live indirectly, and very miserably to live and die within this realme pestered with inhabitants, then to adventure as becommeth men, to obtaine an habitation in those remote lands, in which Nature very prodigally doth minister unto mens endeavours, and for art to worke upon.

Birkenhead provided a standard sort of geographic description in his *Chapter 1: The Land and its People*:

T*he island of Newfoundland, which is the tenth largest in the world, is about 1640 miles distant from Ireland, and of all the American coast is the nearest point to the Old World. Its relative position in the northern hemisphere may*

well be indicated by saying that the most northern point at Belle Isle Strait is in the same latitude as that of Edinburgh, whilst St. John's, near the southern extremity, lies in the same latitude as that of Paris. Strategically it forms the key to British North America. St. John's lies about half-way between Liverpool and New York, so that it offers a haven of refuge for needy craft plying between England and the American metropolis. The adjacent part of the coast is also the landing-place for most of the Transatlantic cables: it was at St. John's, too, that the first wireless ocean signals were received. From the sentimental point of view Newfoundland is the oldest of the English colonies, for our brave fishermen were familiar with its banks at a time when Virginia and New England were given over to solitude and the Redskin. Commercially it is the centre of the most bountiful fishing industry in the world, and the great potential wealth of its mines is now beyond question. On all these grounds the story of the colony is one with which every citizen of Greater Britain should be familiar. The historians of the island have been capable and in the main judicious, and to the works of Reeves, Bonnycastle, Pedley, Hatton, Harvey, and above all Chief Justice Prowse, and more recently to J.D. Rogers, every writer on Newfoundland must owe much. Of such elaborate work a writer in the present series may say with Virgil's shepherd, "Non invideo, miror magis"; for such a one is committed only to a sketch, made lighter by their labours, of the chief stages in the story of Newfoundland.

To understand that story a short account must be given at the outset of the situation and character of the island. But for the north-eastern side of the country, which is indented by deep and wide inlets, its shape might be roughly described as that of an equilateral triangle. Its area is nearly 43,000 square miles, so that it is larger than Scotland and considerably greater than Ireland, the area of which is 31,760 square miles. Compared to some of the smaller states of Europe, it is found to be twice as large as Denmark, and three times as large as Holland. There is only a mile difference between its greatest length, which from Cape Ray, the south-west point, to Cape Norman, the northern point, is 317 miles, and its greatest breadth, from west to east, 316 miles from Cape Spear to Cape Anguille.

On the climate.

Notwithstanding the chill seas in which it lies, Newfoundland is not in fact a cold country. The Arctic current lowers the temperature of the east coast, but the Gulf Stream, whilst producing fogs, moderates the cold. The thermometer seldom or never sinks below zero in winter, and in summer extreme heat is unknown. Nor is its northerly detachment without compensation, for at times the Aurora borealis illumines the sky with a brilliancy unknown further south. A misconception appears to prevail that the island is in summer wrapped in fog, and its shores in winter engirt by ice. In the interior the climate is very much like that of Canada, but is not so severe as that of western Canada or even of Ontario and Quebec. The sky is bright and the weather clear, and the salubrity is shown by the healthy appearance of the population.

Appendix F –M. Anthonie Parkhurst's description of the Island

Parkhurst was in Newfoundland for four years prior to 1578 at *http://ebooks.adelaide.edu.au/h/hakluyt/voyages/v12/chapter35.html#chapter35*.

The bounties of the land.

> *Now to certifie you of the fertilitie and goodnesse of the countrey, you shall vnderstand that I haue in sundry places sowen Wheate, Barlie, Rie, Oates, Beanes, Pease and seedes of herbes, kernels, Plumstones, nuts, all which haue prospered as in England. The countrey yeeldeth many good trees of fruit, as Filberds in some places, but in all places Cherie trees, and a kind of Pearetree meet to graffe on. As for roses, they are as common as brambles here: Strawberies, Dewberies, and Raspis, as common as grasse. The timber is most Firre, yet plentie of Pineapple trees: fewe of these two kinds meete to maste a ship of threescore and ten: But neere Cape Briton, and to the Southward, big and sufficient for any ship. There be also Okes [there weren't any oaks] and thornes, there is in all the countrey plentie of Birch and Alder, which be the meetest wood for cold, and also willow, which will serue for many other purposes.*

And the sea.

> *Seueral sortes of fish.*
> *As touching the kindes of Fish beside Cod, there are Herrings, Salmons, Thornebacke, Plase, or rather wee should call them Flounders, Dog fish, and another most excellent of taste called of vs a Cat, Oisters, and Muskles, in which I haue found pearles aboue 40. in one Muskle, and generally all haue some, great or small. I heard of a Portugall that found one woorth 300. duckets:*

Smelts, squids and capelin [he confuses these, all used for bait, this passage certainly described capelin]**.**

> *There are also Called by Spaniards Anchouas, and by the Portugals Capelinas. other kinds of Shel-fish, as limpets, cockles, wilkes, lobsters, and crabs: also a fish like a Smelt which commeth on shore, and another that hath like propertie, called a Squid:*
>
> *… These also bee the fishes which I may sweepe with broomes on a heape, and neuer wet my foote, onely two or three wordes whatsoeuer they be appointed by any man, so they heare my voyce: the vertue of the wordes be small, but the nature of the fish great and strange. For the Squid, whose nature is to come by night as by day, I tell them, I set him a candle to see his way, with which he is much delighted, or els commeth to wonder at it as doth our fresh water fish, the other commeth also in the night, but chiefly in the day, being forced by the Cod that would deuoure him, and therefore for feare comming so neare the shore, is driuen drie by the surge of the sea on the pibble and sands.*

Capelin taken with shovels; flatfish and lobsters for the taking [as many a Newfoundland lad can attest, this has never changed, the landwash is prolific]**.**

> *Of these being as good as a Smelt you may take vp with a shoue net as plentifully as you do Wheat in a shouell, sufficient in three or four houres for a whole Citie. There be also other fishes which I tell those that are desirous of stange newes, that I take as fast as one would gather vp stones, and them I take with a long pole and hooke. Yea marrie say they, wee beleeue so, and that you catch all the rest you bring home in that sort, from Portugals and Frenchmen. No surely, but thus I doe: with three hookes stretched foorth in the ende of a pole, I make as it were an Eele speare, with which I pricke these Flounders as fast as you would take vp fritters with a sharpe pointed sticke, and with that toole I may take vp in lesse then halfe a day Lobsters sufficient to finde three hundred men for a dayes meate.*

Back to the climate and the riches of the land.

> *Nowe to let these merrie tales passe, and to come to earnest matters againe, you shall vnderstand, that Newfoundland is in a temperate Climate, and not so colde as foolish Mariners doe say, who finde it colde sometimes when plentie of Isles of yce lie neere the shore: but vp in the land they shall finde it hotter then in England in many parts of the countrey toward the South. This colde commeth by an accidental meanes, as by the yce that commeth fleeting from the North partes of the worlde, and not by the situation of the countrey, or nature of the Climate. The countrey is full of little small riuers all the yeere long proceeding from the mountains, ingendred both of snow and raine: few springs that euer I could finde or heare of, except it bee towards the South:*
>
> *in some places or rather in most places great lakes with plentie of fish, the countrey most couered with woods of firre, yet in many places indifferent good grasse, and plentie of Beares euery where, so that you may kill of them as oft as you list: their flesh is as good as yong beefe, and hardly you may know the one from the other if it be poudred but two dayes.*
>
> *Of Otters we may take like store.*
>
> *There are Sea Guls, Murres, Duckes, wild Geese, and many other kind of birdes store, too long to write, especially at one Island named Penguin, where wee may driue them on a planke into our ship as many as shall lade her. These birdes are also called Penguins, and cannot flie, there is more meate in one of these then in a goose: the Frenchmen that fish neere the grand baie, doe bring small store of flesh with them, but victuall themselues alwayes with these birdes.*

The other animals and, finally, minerals.

> *… There bee also to the Northwards, Hares, and Foxes in all parts so plentifully, that at noone dayes they take away our flesh before our faces within lesse then halfe a paire of buts length, where foure and twentie persons were turning of drie fish, and two dogs in sight, yet stoode they not in feare*

till wee gaue shot and set the dogs vpon them: the Beares also be as bold, which will not spare at midnight to take your fish before your face, and I beleeue assuredly would not hurt any bodie vnlesse they be forced.

…

I found also certain Mines of yron and copper in S. Iohns, and in the Island of Yron, which might turne to our great benefite, if our men had desire to plant thereabout, for proofe whereof I haue brought home some of the oare of both sortes.

Appendix G – The Hoskins Letter

Cell, in *Newfoundland Discovered,* 1982, includes on pages 204 – 206 a copy of a letter by N.H. [probably Nicolas Hoskins, a listed Ferryland settler with Calvert]. Short and to the point it gives an interesting list of natural resources, as observed by a practical man living in the area year round. His geography is limited to 10 miles radius of Ferryland Harbour [taking him near Green Hill; Red Hill and Butter Pot].

He decribed the land as pleasant; the air sweet, the water clean and clear and the wood ideal for burning. He described a forest fire that burned for a week between Aquaforte and Fermeuse before being put out by a drenching rain. Wolves and bears are reported, bears were eaten, but neither caused any harm to man. Furs of foxes, cattagenas (pine martens) and otters are reported.

Birds of land and sea.

The Fowles and Birds of the Land are Partriges, Fillidayes, Curlues, Blackbirds, Bulfinches, Larks, Sparrowes … of the Sea, are Goose, Ducks of foure sorts, Capderace, Teal, Snipes, Penguyns, Murres, Hounds,Sanderlins, Redshankes … of Prey are Tercels, Goshawkes, Falcons, Laners, Sparhawkes, Gripes, Ospreis, Owles great and small, Ravens, Gulls, Pitterils …

The fish.

Codfish …, Salmons, Eels, Mackarell, Herrings, Lance, Caplin, Dogfish, Hollibuts, FLowkes, Lobsters, Crabs and Muskles

The fruits of the Earth.

… small Peares, Cherries, Nuts, Resberries, Strawberies, Barberries, Dewberries, Hurtleberries … wilde Roses both red and damask …

Appendix H – The Amulree Report

at *http://www.heritage.nf.ca/law/amulree/chap2_1.html*

13. Situated in the Gulf of St. Lawrence, at the very gateway of Canada, and in the same latitude as Northern France, Newfoundland is the tenth largest island in the world. From north to south it is 316 miles in length; its extreme

width from east to west is 317 miles. The area of the Island is 42,000 square miles; it is thus rather larger than Ireland and rather smaller than England. Its coastline, which is deeply indented and studded with bays and inlets, is computed at 6,000 miles.

14. The Island is not mountainous but consists of rolling lands and ranges of low hills. There are numerous lakes and rivers which together comprise about one-eighth of the area of the country. The principal bodies of water are Grand Lake, with an area of 200 square miles, and Red Indian Lake, with an area of 67 square miles. The Humber River, which empties into Bay of Islands, on the West Coast, is 80 miles in length; the other main rivers flow to the eastern bays. Among these are the largest river in the Island, the Exploits, 200 miles long and navigable for 30 miles; the Gander, 100 miles long; the Terra Nova, 80 miles long; and the Gambo, 60 miles long.

15. By a decision of the Judicial Committee of the Privy Council in 1927 Newfoundland was confirmed in the sovereignty of Labrador, about 1,000 miles running from Cape Chidley at the head of Ungava Bay to Blanc Sablon in the Straits of Belle Isle. The area of Newfoundland, with its dependency of Labrador, is thus 152,000 square miles or nearly three times the size of England.

16. The population of Newfoundland is estimated at 182,000. In 1891 it was 198,000; in 1901, 217,000; in 1911, 239,000; and in 1921, the year in which the last census was taken, 259,000. Details are given in Appendix A. That the rate of increase is not higher is explained by the fact that until recently there was a constant flow of persons leaving for the North American Continent. It is computed that there are as many as 200,000 persons of Newfoundland origin now resident in the United States and Canada. For many years there has been no large movement of people into the Island as immigrants or otherwise.

17. The people of Newfoundland are mostly descendants of settlers from England, Ireland, and the Channel Islands. There is a small number of French extraction and a still smaller number from Scotland and Wales. As their primary occupation is fishing, they are distributed round the coast and it is estimated that no less than 90 per cent. of the population live on the littoral. Apart from the inland towns of Grand Falls, Deer Lake, and Buchans, which will be referred to later, there are few permanent settlements in the interior.

18. St. John's, the capital of the Island and the only large town, has a population of about 40,000. The remainder of the people are distributed among some 1,300 settlements, spread for the most part over the 6,000 miles of coast, with populations ranging from 50 to 5,000. The most important of these coastal settlements, which are known as the "Outports," are Harbour Grace, Carbonear, Trinity, Bonavista, Twillingate, Corner Brook, St. George's, Grand Bank, Burin, Placentia and Bay Roberts.

19. It will be seen from Map No. 1 that the population is unevenly divided, no less than 47 per cent. of the people living on the Avalon Peninsula, which is itself only one-twelfth of the total area of the Island; 77.5 per cent. live on

the east coast, including the Avalon Peninsula, 7.5 per cent. on the west coast and 15 per cent. on the south coast, excluding the Avalon Peninsula. Another feature which should be noted is that the people are divided almost equally into three main religious denominations, Church of England, Roman Catholic and United Church of Canada. The membership of the other denominations is comparatively small; that with the greatest number of adherents is the Salvation Army. If the three main groups be taken, it will be found that the population is distributed in the main in denominational divisions. In the larger centres denominations overlap, but in the country as a whole a district peopled by adherents of the Church of England is followed by a district peopled by Catholics, and this again by a district peopled by members of the United Church of Canada, and so on.

Mackenzie, Magrath and Stavert were appointed as Commissioners to sort out Newfoundland's financial problems in 1933; their first actions involved assessing the situation which they did through public hearings, travelling across the Island by train. The report was released later in 1933 and led to the suspension of responsible government in 1934. The Commission of Government lasted until 1949 and Confederation with Canada.

Appendix I – Modern Newfoundland Geography

Readers will note this 1950 article has no references to natural resources or the weather.

at *http://faculty.marianopolis.edu/c.belanger/nfldhistory/Newfoundland%20geography.html*

Position and structure.

The large island of Newfoundland lies off the east coast of North America between latitudes 46½°N and 52°N. Its capital, St. John's, is in the same latitude (47½°) as Quebec, Duluth, Seattle, Paris, and Sakhalin island in the Pacific; but owing to its oceanic environment the latter region is its sole homoclime. Newfoundland is triangular in shape, about 320 miles across, and occupies an area of 43,000 square miles. It is thus about the size of Pennsylvania, and is much larger than Ireland. It lies on the continental shelf of North America, being separated from Labrador by only 11 miles, and from Cape Breton by 70 miles. In geology and structure it is more closely linked with Nova Scotia than with the great area of undulating ancient granites (known as the Shield) in eastern Canada.

The structure or build of Newfoundland is probably the chief factor in determining the remarkable distribution of settlement in the island. Although settlement was begun more than 300 years ago it is still almost wholly confined to the coasts, except in two small areas near Grand Falls and Deer Lake. This situation may be ascribed to the fact that the island is plateau-like, with steep shores on all sides except the northeast.

Along the west coast is an elongated block of the earth's crust (called a horst) much of which rises to nearly 2,000 feet above sea level. This is called Long

Range on current maps, and it is probably bounded by crustal cracks (faults) on both west and east sides. Somewhat to the east is a fairly wide depression containing Grand Lake and Deer Lake. It is some 20 miles wide, and probably is due to a block of the crust dropping down to form the Grand Lake graben (depression). Not much is known of the geology of the interior, but perhaps Red Indian Lake occupies another shallower graben, since its axis follows the same direction as does Grand Lake. The plateau level descends gradually to the east and north-east, as the section shows. Trinity and Conception bays probably occupy similar grabens, while in the Avalon peninsula the plateau level has sunk to 800 feet or less.

This plateau, with a general level of about 1,200 feet, includes a large part of Newfoundland. It is an elevated peneplain; that is, it has been elevated above sea level in relatively late geological time. The plateau is bounded by fairly straight steep coastlines on the west, south, and south-east, and these coasts are probably determined by crustal cracks (faults) along which elevation has taken place. Scattered over the plateau surfaces are many striking knobs or peaks rising several hundred feet above the general level. The best known is Maintopsail, close to the railway at its highest point. These peaks (tolts) are the last relics of an earlier plateau surface.

It may be pointed out that an elevated land surface of this type, built up as it is of very ancient rocks, is very unlikely to produce good soils for agriculture under the climatic conditions of Newfoundland. For contrast, one has only to journey about 100 miles to the southwest to find another island - Prince Edward Island - where the rocks are younger and the elevation little above sea level, and the density of farm population is almost the greatest in Canada.

Source: Griffith TAYLOR, "Geography", in W. Stewart WALLACE, ed., The Encyclopedia of Canada. Newfoundland Supplement, Toronto, University Associates of Canada, 1949, 104p., pp. 29-33. The maps of the original text, as well as reference to them in the text, have been deleted. The Newfoundland map reproduced in this article is from J. Castell HOPKINS, ed., Canada. An Encyclopedia of the Country, Vol. V, Toronto, The Linscott Publishing Company, 542p., p. 16f. The Labrador map is from W. B. TEMPLE and L. J. HARNUM, Information Booklet of Newfoundland and Labrador, Compiled for the Newfoundland Industrial Development Board, St. John's, 1946, 120p., p. 6.

Appendix J – Local Newfoundland bird names

Local bird and place names tell tales – from Birds I View – by Bill Montevecchi as found at *http://play.psych.mun.ca/~mont/pdfs/Birds%20I%20View%20107%20-%20Local%20names.pdf*

There's many men in summer who
cannot buy salt meat,
They have to trust to sea-birds for
something fresh to eat,
But if they keep this law that's
passed, they will not get a taste

Of bawk or noddy, tinker, tur, and
not a tickleace.
Art Scammell from the
"Shooting of the Bawks"

So it was for the coastal communities of Newfoundland in the 1940s, when the Commission of Government banned seabird hunting during the summer. In protest, Art Scammell's poem, "Shooting of the Bawk", penned on Change Islands swelled a social tempest that swept around the coasts and pressured the commission into reversing its ban. The pen was indeed mightier than the ban.

Imagine a diet enriched and enlivened with bawk, noddy, tinker, tur and tickleace – seabirds were welcomed changes from diets of fish. They were often saved for the Sunday dinner table. Southern hemispheric breeding shearwaters (bawks), eastern Atlantic fulmars noddies), elegant tuxedoed razorbills (tinkers), Olympic Arctic murres (turs) and graceful kittiwakes (tickleaces) provided staples on Change Islands and elsewhere in the outports of Newfoundland and Labrador.

Many of our local bird names vary with place, and many place names are derived from birds. For instance, the bawks of the northeast coast in Scammell's poem are the hagdowns of the south coast in Otto Kelland's lyrical and enchanting song "Let Me Fish Off Cape St. Mary's" where the fog horns wail and the hagdowns sail. Even more discriminately, some fishermen use the term black bawks refer to sooty shearwaters.

Skerwink is name applied to Manx shearwaters as well as to the hiking trail in Trinity. Some time ago when working on an island off the south coast, I asked the lighthouse keeper what he had for lunch? "Liver" he replied. "Beef?" I asked. "Bird" he said. "Chicken?" I queried. "No, hagdown" he confessed with partridgeberry pie for dessert.

Bay Bulls apparently derived its name from bull birds or dovekies. … In Ole Perlican, dovekies have also been referred to as nunchies in reference to their convenient size for lunches. Baccalieu birds are common murres. Grepe and Grebe Heads and Points are likely sites where bald eagles nest or once nested. In St. Mary's Bay grebes were called spirit birds and winkers because they were so difficult for hunters to shoot (Tom Dalton, Bill Furey). In Lake Melville Labrador, scaup are referred to as Walloons (Keith Chaulk).

Some birds are called after their calls like hounds (long-tailed ducks), twillicks (greater yellowlegs) and kittiwakes. Red phalaropes are called whale birds and red-necked phalaropes - gale birds owing to the company and weather they keep. Terns are stearins and paytricks. And while black guillemots are not rock doves, they are called pigeons. And the mourning doves have been paradoxically perhaps from a country and western perspective referred to as love birds? We have tooting owls (northern hawk-owls) and loppers (short-eared owls). The ever approachable pine grosbeaks are mopes. Saddlebacks, mackerel gulls and seal birds refer to great black-backed gulls, Caspian terns

and ivory gulls. Ivory gulls are also referred to as ice partridges, owing to their resemblance to winter plumaged ptarmigan or partridges.

Appendix K – Newfoundland hawks and owls and their common names

American or bald eagle	Grepe or gripe	**Osprey**	Fish hawk
Rough legged	Chicken hawk	**Peregrine falcon**	Duck hawk
Northern harrier	Marsh hawk	**Merlin**	Pigeon hawk
American kestrel	Sparrow hawk	**Gyrfalcon**	Hawk, buzzard
Sharp shinned hawk		**Northern goshawk**	Goose hawk
		Great horned owl	Cat owl
Boreal owl		**Snowy owl**	Arctic or white owl
Northern hawk owl		**Short eared owl**	Lopper

Appendix L – The 17th century cod fishery economics

> **Mason on the fishery**: *Of these, three men to Sea in a Boate with some on Shoare to dresse and dry them in 30. dayes will kill commonlie betwixt 25. and thirty thousand, worth with the Oyle arising from them 100 or 120. pound. And the fish and Traine in one Harbour called Sainct Iohns is yearly in the Sommer worth 17, or 18. thousand pounds.*

One presumes that Mason's fishing season counted for 30 days of effort, bad weather and bait collection took some more days (did they work Sundays? were there holidays or days off?). Whitbourne suggested everyone fished on Sundays although it was frowned upon.

Arriving in April-May, building flakes, setting up a salt store, and other preparations meant fishing was concentrated in June and July; in August and early September fish was wet salted as it didn't have enough time to dry cure. Most ships left Newfoundland by mid-September, stogged tight with dry fish, wet fish, train oil and lumber. A standard season in Newfoundland was about therefore 100 to 120 days.

Three men in a boat caught 1000 (other sources give 1200) fish a day yielding dried fish and oil. In St. John's, Mason suggested, at 18,000 pounds value produced, would account for 150 boats; depending on the size of the vessel there could be as many as 6 or 8 boats on a vessel; but the average seems to be 3 to 5 boats per vessel. A thousand fish a day of average 6 pounds each live makes for 3 tonnes; and in 30 days of effort 180,000 pounds of live fish per boat.

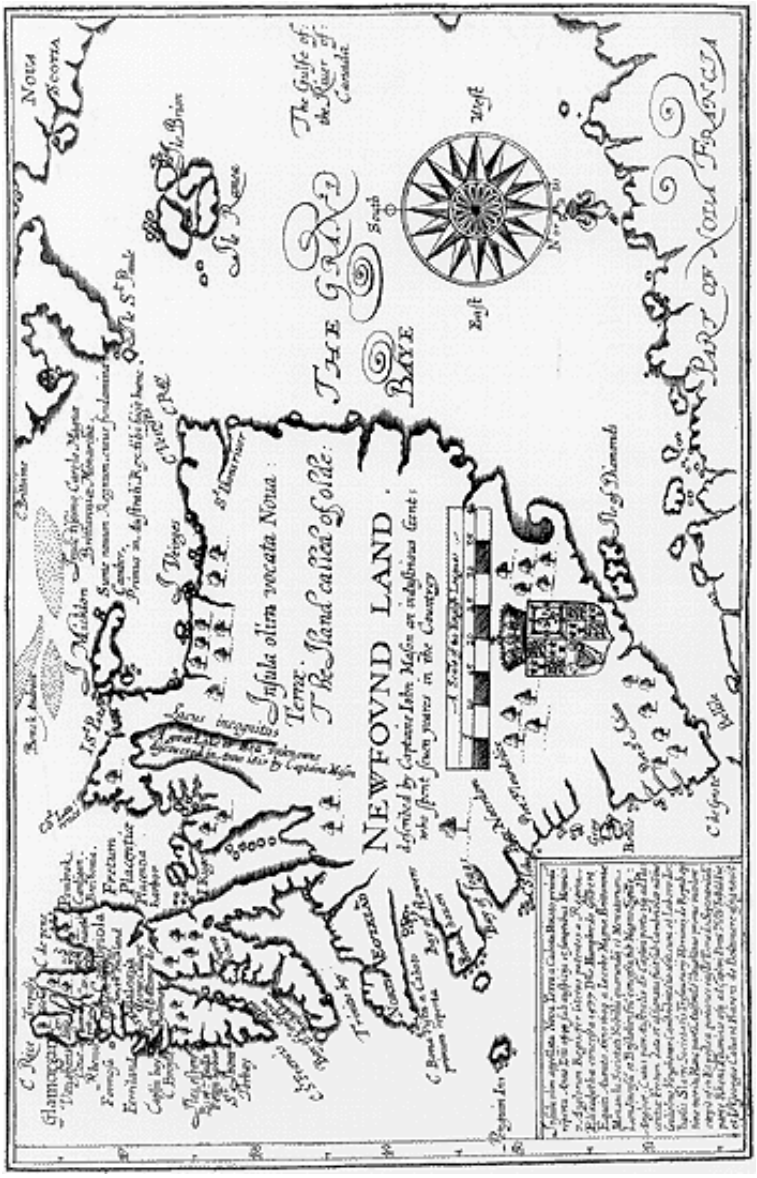
> **Whitbourne on the fishery**: *there were then on that Coast, of your Maiesties subiects, 250. saile of Ships great and small. The burthens and Tunnage of them al one with another, so neere as I could take notice, allowing euery ship to bee at least threescore tunne (for as some of them contained lesse, so many of them held more) amounted to more then 15000. tunnes. Now for euery threescore tunne burthen, according to the vsuall manning of Ships in those voyages, agreeing with the note I then tooke, there are to be set downe*

twenty men and boyes: by which computation in 250. saile, there were no lesse then fiue thousand persons. Now euery one of these ships, so neere as I could ghesse, had about 120000. fish, and fiue tun of Traine oyle one with another.

[Marginal Note: What the value of the fish contained in most ships did amount vnto.] So that the totall of the fish in 250. saile of those ships, when it was brought into England, France, or Spaine, (being sold after the rate of foure pound, for euery thousand of fish, sixe score fishes to the hundred, which is not a penny a fish, & if it yeeld less, it was ill sold) amounted in mony to 120000. pound.

Now, as I haue said before, allowing to euery ship of 60. tunne, at least fiue tun of Traine oyle, the totall of all that ariseth to 1250. tunne; each tunne, whether it bee sold in England, or elsewhere, being vnder-valued at twelue pound. So as the whole value thereof in money, amounteth to the summe of 15000. pound, which added to the fish, it will appeare that the totall value of the fish, and Traine oyle of those 250. saile of ships that yeere, might yeeld to your Maiesties subiects better then the summe of 135000. pound, omitting to reckon the /13/ouer-prices which were made and gotten by the sale thereof in foraine Countreys, being much more then what is vsually made at home, and so the like in other yeeres.

Appendix M – Mason's map; west up



Appendix N – Old Gaelic names for pine marten

at *http://newfoundlandmarten.ca/Volume2Issue3Oct2003.pdf*

Thank you to John Maunder for compiling the following information.

You've heard them called marten, pine marten, tree cats, wood cats, and marten cats. But have you heard them referred to in this way before?

John Mason, in his "A Briefe Discourse of the New-found-land" (Mason , 1620 in Cell, 1982: 94):*

"The Beastes are Ellans1 [=moose], Follow-deare [=caribou], Hares, Beares harmeles, Wolves, Foxes, Beavers, Catnaghenes excellent [=pine marten], Otteres, and a small beast like a ferret whose excrement is Muske [=ermine]:..."

"Catnaghenes " = (the variant) "Cattagenas" in Whitbourne (1623): from the Standard Gaelic "catcrainn"= pine marten ("literally tree cat") – see: Anon (1978: 101)*; and further: "cat na gcrainn" = cat of the trees – reference: Charles Horwood and Aloysius O'Brien, St.John's, Newfoundland, personal communications, 1991.*

Appendix O – Train oil

as found in the Dictionary of Newfoundland English at
h*ttp://www.heritage.nf.ca/dictionary/d7ction.html*

Train oil is any oil rendered from the blubber and livers of marine mammals and fish. As seen below, the Discourses used the term equally for oil from whatever sources although they appeared to use whale oil for that rendered from whales and train for that rendered from fish.

Until recent times cod liver oil was a primary by-product of the cod fishery, hundreds and hundreds of wooden barrels containing cod livers rendered out in the sun in community after community. The stories of people dipping out a cup to drink on the spot are numerous, the most famous being Gerald S. Doyle who refined and bottled it for sale to generations of Vitamin D starved Newfoundlanders; in the mid-1950's outport school students were distributed bottles of cod liver oil as part of a government nutritional improvement scheme and to battle tuberculosis. Seal oil and cod liver oil and halibut liver oil filled gelatin capsules are readily available, Omega3 fatty acids are often added to the Vitamin D.

train² *n also* ***traine, trayne, train-oil*** *OED ~ sb³ obs (1497-1802), ~ oil (cl553-1895), EDD 'fish-oil' Co, DAE ~ oil (1637-1866) for sense 1; OED ~ fat (Nfld: 1698-), ~ oil lamp (1865) for combs. in sense 2.*

1 Oil rendered from the blubber of whales; oil from other marine creatures, esp fish; COD OIL, OIL. Attrib ***train-oil****.*
[1580] 1895 PROWSE 84 It is agreed this day betwixt Wm Massie and

Thomas Tetlow, merchants of city of Chester, of the one part, and Wm Dale, master of ye good ship called ye William of London, of the other part, and cloth bargain and sell 34,000 Newland fish, merchantable at 10s. the 100, current money in England, also four tonnes traine at £12 per tonne. [1583] 1940 Gilbert's Voyages and Enterprises ii, 406 [Hayes' narrative] Abundance of Whales, for which also is a very great trade in the haves of Placentia & the Grand bay, where is made Traine oiles of the Whale. 1610 Willoughby Papers l3a/99 Yf you would by store of trayne oyle at [£]8 or under 9 the tonne yt would yeeld good Proffitt. 1611 ibid 1/3, 83 [inventory] 6 pipes of traine in ou[r] stage. 1620 WHITBOURNE 2 They are ready to assist them with great labour and patience, in the killing, cutting, and boyling of Whales; and making the Traine-oyle. 1626 [VAUGHAN] The Golden Fleece, pt 3, p. 24 But for the Fish, specially the Cod [Newfoundland] is most wonderful, and almost incredible, unlesse a man were there present to behold it. Of these, three men at Sea in a Boat, with some on shoare to dresse and dry them, in thirty days will kill commonly betwixt five and twenty and thirty thousand, worth with the Traine oyle arising from them, one hundred or sixe score pounds. 1720 FISHER 61 At a Penny a Fish, with the Train Oil at five Pounds, comes to a hundred and thirty Pounds. [1766] 1971 BANKS 135 Lastly Let us remember their Train Oyl for by that name they distinguish it from Whale or Seal oyl which they Call Fat Oyle Which is sold at a Lower Price being only usd for the Lighting of Lamps than the train oyl which is usd by the Curriers. 1802 Trans Soc Arts xx, 212 The cod-oil, or common train, brought from Newfoundland. [OED] 1842 BONNYCASTLE i ~ 189 Train-oil, per ton, export ... £22/8.10. 1937 DEVINE 53 ~ Cod-oil—generally heard in the phrase 'train oil.'

2 Attrib ***train bucket****: wooden container for rendered oil of whale blubber.*
1612 Willoughby Papers 16a [receipt] 3 boate bucketts 4 holes 1 trayne buckett 8 fisher kniues.

train-fat: *see train vat below.*
[1634] 1745 OSBORNE 785 Fifthly, That no person cut out, deface, or any way alter, or change the marks of any boats or train-fats, whereby to defraud the right owneres. [1663] 1963 YONGE 57 A train fatt is a great square chest the corners of which are frythed athwart, the liver is thrown into the middle, which melting, the train leaks through this fryth and is by tappe drawn out and put into cask. [1693] 1793 REEVES ii ... and liberty to go on shore on any part of Newfoundland, or any of the said islands ... for making of oil, and to cut down wood and trees there for building and making or repairing of stages, ship-rooms, train-fats ... and other necessaries for themselves and their servants, seamen, and fishermen.

train house: *structure on fishing premises in which cod livers, seal and whale blubber are rendered, OIL HOUSE.*
[1676] 1895 PROWSE 205 [He] forced several Masters of Shipps, even their admiral for one to build up again their trayne houses, themselves had cut down contrary to their order.

train-oil lamp: *lamp fuelled with whale, seal or cod oil.*
[c1875] 1977 Evening Telegram 14 Feb, p. 6 All at once, the traine-oil lamp began to flicker and wane until, according to the minister, they had only a

'dim religious light' that the poet Milton described.

train vat: *large box-like trough in which whale blubber, cod livers, etc, are placed to render oil.*

1895 PROWSE 59 [Men were] left behind every winter to cut timber for building cook-rooms, stages, train vats, wharves, and for the construction of boats.

Appendix P – John Mason

The Dictionary of Canadian Biography has a rather lengthy entry, given his period. He matriculated from Magdalen College, Oxford, and appears to have been somewhat well to do. Interestingly, he died before he was 50 having accomplished quite a lot.

at *http://www.biographi.ca/en/bio/mason_john_1E.html*

> ***MASON**, **JOHN**, sailor, explorer, cartographer, colonizer, second governor of the first English colony in Newfoundland and founder of New Hampshire; b. 1586 at King's Lynn, Norfolk, son of John and Isabella Mason; d. in London, 1635.*
>
> *Nothing is known of Mason's life before 1606 when he married Anne, daughter of Edward Greene of London, although there is a possibility that he may have been the John Mason of Hampshire who matriculated from Magdalen College, Oxford, in 1602 (Dean, pp. 34–35). His career becomes more certain from 1610 when he was commissioned by James I as commander of four vessels to assist Bishop Andrew Knox in reclaiming the Hebrides. This suggests that Mason, although not yet 30, had both considerable naval experience and private means, for he bore the expedition's costs of over £2,000 himself. In recompense, the Scottish Privy Council awarded him the assize of herring in the northern seas but the Dutch fishermen refused to pay, while the Scottish fishermen had him imprisoned. When next heard of, in 1615, Mason was regarded as a pirate by the Scots and imprisoned in Edinburgh. There is no evidence of a trial but in August he surrendered his ship to the deputy treasurer for Scotland.*
>
> *About this time Mason became governor of the colony at Cuper's Cove (now Cupids), Newfoundland, in succession to John Guy. There is no satisfactory explanation of his appointment; it has been thought that it was a reward for his service to the king in the Hebrides, but it seems unlikely that anyone but the council of the Newfoundland company would make the appointment. No doubt Mason's naval experience did influence the company, which was perturbed by the frequent attacks made on the island by pirates. By June 1616 Mason was at Cuper's Cove and had already begun those explorations which enabled him to produce the first known English map of Newfoundland, based on personal survey. In August 1617 he wrote to Sir John Scot that "as huswives have many lett^{s} to good housewifry, Frontlett^{s}, bracellet^{s} partlet^{s} etc.; – so have Inlett^{s}, outlett^{s}, bayes Coves &c through their discovery, ben so many obstacles and hinderanc^{s} to my duty" (National Library of Scotland, Advocates MS 17. 1. 19, ff.221, 222v) and so the map did not appear until 1625 when William Vaughan's* Cambrensium Caroleia *was printed; it was al-*

so included in Vaughan's The golden fleece *(1626). Mason appears to have lived continuously in the colony until October 1619, when he left for England to persuade the company to have the scope of their patent enlarged so as to give the colonists greater authority over the visiting fishermen. During Mason's governorship the conflict between settlers and fishermen, that is, between London and West Country trading interests, had flared up and a series of charges and counter-charges had been presented to the Privy Council. His fellow-colonists did not know whether Mason would return, since his wife, who had probably been with her husband during most, if not all, of his residence there, had left in September.*

While in England, Mason probably supervised the publishing of his A briefe discourse of the New-found-land *which appeared in 1620. This rare and attractive little work described the geography and climate of Newfoundland, its flora, fauna, and natural resources realistically, for it was Mason's intention to correct previous exaggerations. His motive seems to have been to interest his Scottish acquaintances in the plantation of the island and much space was devoted to proving how profitable and relatively easy settlement would be. He was apparently successful for, in a petition which the Newfoundland company presented to the Privy Council in March 1620, asking that Mason be appointed king's lieutenant in the island to suppress piracy, "the Scottish vndertakers of the plantations" are mentioned; Sir William Alexander, Earl of Stirling, promoter of the settlement of Nova Scotia, certainly held land in the south of the island.*

In May Mason received a commission from the lord admiral to command a vessel against the pirates and he probably did return to Newfoundland that year for the last time. About 1621, for a reason now unknown, Mason relinquished his connection with Newfoundland in favour of New England. Unfortunately there is very little documentary evidence on which to base an assessment of Mason's career in Newfoundland. It does appear, however, that the colony was still reasonably successful: in 1620 the Privy Council had given the company permission to transport iron ore to Newfoundland for smelting there. This would suggest, as do letters written by a colonist, Thomas Rowley, that there were still a considerable number of settlers. It was after Mason's departure that effort seemed to flag.

In his New England ventures Mason acted in co-operation with Sir Ferdinando Gorges who was a commissioner for the regulation of the Newfoundland fisheries. In 1622 Mason received two grants of land in New England; one between the "Naumkeck" and "Merimack" rivers; the other, held jointly with Gorges, was the future province of Maine. He had not entirely abandoned his interest in Newfoundland for, in 1623, his agent there was trying to obtain certain fish due to him. The outbreak of war with Spain in 1624 and with France two years later distracted Mason from colonial affairs. In 1625 he was made commissary general, responsible for victualling the Cadiz expedition and, in 1626, became treasurer and paymaster of the English forces. Peace was made in 1629 and that year Mason was granted the area to be known as New Hampshire. Furthermore, in association with

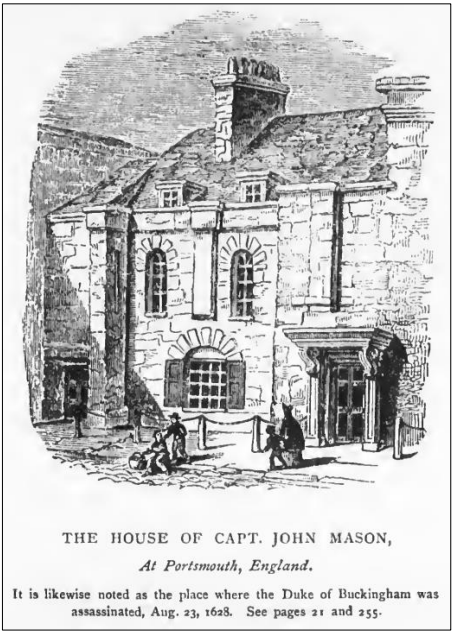
Gorges and others, he established the Laconia company to develop land on Lake Champlain. In 1630 a successful colony was set up on his land on the Pascataway (Picataqua). He became a member of the Council of New England in 1632 and, later that year, vice-president. He received further grants of land in 1635 and, when the council surrendered its patent, Mason was created vice-admiral of New England.

Meanwhile, in England, he had organized a scheme to encourage the fisheries in home waters at the expense of the Dutch. In 1633 the king granted a charter for "An association for the three kingdoms for a general fishery"; Mason was treasurer. The following year he was made captain of Southsea castle and inspector of all forts and castles on the south coast. Mason was making preparations to visit New Hampshire when he died in December 1635, bequeathing his vast estates in New England to his wife and then to his four grandchildren. So ended an extraordinarily active career to which his achievements in New England were a fitting memorial, even if those in Newfoundland were transitory.

Gillian T. Cell

Most of the letters, papers, and grants in the PRO and elsewhere relating to Mason have been printed in Capt. John Mason, the founder of New Hampshire, including his tract on Newfoundland*, ed. J. W. Dean (Prince Soc., XVII, Boston, 1887). Other manuscript sources: Bodleian Library, Malone {{mss}}, 2, ff.lv–13v, 130–38v. National Library of Scotland, Advocates MS 17. 1. 19, ff.221, 222v. Nottingham University, Middleton {{mss}}, Mi X 1/1–66.* See also*: PRO,* Register of the P.C. of Scotland, 1610–13, 1613–16. *Sir W. Alexander,* An encouragement to colonies *(London, 1624). PRO,* CSP, Col.*, 1574–1660.* DNB*. Insh,* Scottish colonial schemes*. J. Mason, A* briefe discourse of the New-found-land *(Edinburgh, 1620). R. A. Preston,* Gorges of Plymouth Fort *(Toronto, 1953). Prowse,* History of Nfld*. Sir W. Vaughan,* Cambrensium Caroleia *(London, 1625; another issue, 1630);* The golden fleece *(London, 1626)*.

Capt. John Mason, the founder of New Hampshire: including his tract on Newfoundland, 1620 : the American charters in which he was a grantee : with letters and other historical documents. Together with a memoir by Charles Wesley Tuttle; edited with historical illustrations by John Ward Dean. Prince Society.Boston. 1887. at *https://openlibrary.org/books/OL23345862M/Capt._John_Mason_the_founder_of_New_Hampshire*



THE HOUSE OF CAPT. JOHN MASON,

At Portsmouth, England.

It is likewise noted as the place where the Duke of Buckingham was assassinated, Aug. 23, 1628. See pages 21 and 255.

Dean's introduction has Mason "a churchman and a Loyalist" and noted the Puritans disliked this aspect of his character to the extent he was never given full recognition by the Puritan leaders of New England. He has Mason born in Lynn Regis, the first or one of the first, commercial ports on the east coast of England; its cosmopolitan atmosphere supposedly led to his becoming a seafarer after he matriculated at age 15.

Dean said Mason became governor of the Cupids colony as early as 1615 and stayed for about six years. He concentrated on New Hampshire and New England as Mason's legacies, little mention is made of his Newfoundland years, aside from the Discourse, which, Dean said, was what inspired Alexander to start Nova Scotia.

Appendix Q – What others have written

Every history of Newfoundland usually starts with the Island's location and physical features. These four from the late 19th century follow the pattern and have little new or unique. Oh, maybe the figures are more accurate and the positions more clearly defined, but otherwise they all include some mention of the weather [it was noteworthy for the past 500 years apparently) and the natural resources. All are available online.

The History of Newfoundland: From the Earliest Times to the Year 1860. Charles Pedley Longman, Green, Longman, Roberts & Green, 1863.

Newfoundland: As it Was, and as it is in 1877. Philip Tocque, S. Low, Marston, Searle, & Rivington, 1878.

Newfoundland: Its History, Its Present Condition and Its Prospects in the Future. Joseph Hatton, Moses Harvey Doyle & Whittle, 1883.

Newfoundland *in 1900: A Treatise of the Geography, Natural Resources and History of the Island, Embracing an Account of Recent and Present Large Material Movements.* **Moses Harvey, South Publishing Company, 1900.**

Appendix R – Joey's look at agriculture

This interesting 1925 Socialist rant on Newfoundland's agricultural potential is from *Tramping 100 Miles on the West Coast* by J.R. Smallwood. at http://www.ucs.mun.ca/~melbaker/jrs/jrs.html

English Officers Farming

One of the most interesting of all the things I learned on the tramp through this beautiful country was at Black Duck Brook, where Mr. Edward Chaffey was telling me about some Englishmen who are farming about two miles inland from the railway. There are five of them altogether - Captain Victor Campbell, ex-R.N., Colonel Taylor, Captain F.H. Beckerman, ex-R.A F., Captain Neville, and Major D. Wise. They have a farm each, having started last year and this year. They have hundreds of acres of land, and are getting much of it under cultivation, employing modern machinery and crews of men for the purpose. They employ men with their families and pay them monthly wages and find them and their families …

But the most astonishing fact I learned in this connection was about the farm owned by Mr. Charles D. White, formerly of St. John's. There now some ten years, Mr. White has actually 115 acres under cultivation. Last year he

shipped to Corner Brook, Port aux Basques, Grand Falls, St. John's, Fogo, etc., ONE HUNDRED AND SEVENTY-SEVEN CARLOADS OF FARM PRODUCE. The produce consisted mainly of turnips, cabbages, carrots, parsnips, etc., and 100 tons of hay. He does not go in much for growing potatoes, I heard.

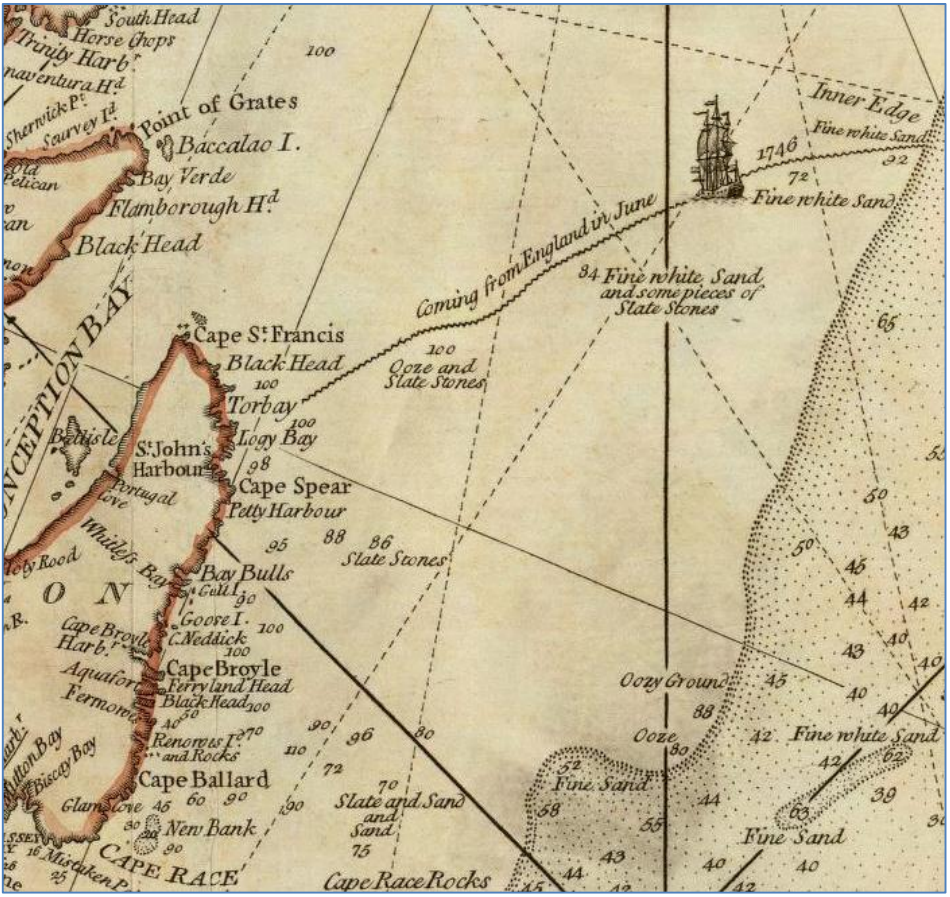
What's Wrong With Agriculture

These facts opened my eyes. If, as has been so nobly demonstrated by these men, farming can be so successful over in this part of the country why in the name of all that is sensible is not farming carried on upon a bigger scale than it is? I am thoroughly convinced that there is room for 1000 new big farms over here, and what they could mean to Newfoundland any child can see. The land is the mother of all wealth, and it is kindly and fruitful. How much longer will we neglect farming in Newfoundland?

Take, again, the matter of sheep and cattle raising. Will someone explain to me why sheep ranching is not gone in for in Newfoundland? The average farmer over here has a few sheep, maybe a dozen, or twenty. That is a paltry number to have. There is no insurmountable obstacle in the way of having 1,000,000 sheep on this coast alone. But it is too big a thing for the individual farmer unaided. Why cannot the Government in Newfoundland do what governments do in Australia, New Zealand, and other countries? Does anyone suppose that those countries have become great farming and stock-raising lands by chance or luck? No, indeed. It is largely because of judicious, sound help from the governments. It is time the government held out the helping hand to agriculture. Every cent expended would come back a hundred-fold.

There are two ways in which a government could be of very great assistance to the farmer or stock-raiser, not to speak of the dairyman. One is in the matter of marketing; the other concerns capital.

Appendix S – A typical passage from England to Newfoundland



From *A Chart Of The Banks Of Newfoundland, Drawn from a Great Number of Hydrographical Surveys, Chiefly from those of Chabert, Cook And Fleurieu, Connected and Ascertained by Astronomical Observations. London. Printed for & Sold by Robt. Sayer & Jno. Bennett ... 25th March 1776.* at www.davidrumsey.com/

ODE TO NEWFOUNDLAND

When sun rays crown thy pine clad hills,
And summer spreads her hand,
When silvern voices tune thy rills,
We love thee, smiling land.
We love thee, we love thee,
We love thee, smiling land.

When spreads thy cloak of shimmering white,
At winter's stern command,
Thro' shortened day, and starlit night,
We love thee, frozen land.
We love thee, we love thee
We love thee, frozen land.

When blinding storm gusts fret thy shore,
And wild waves lash thy strand,
Thro' spindrift swirl, and tempest roar,
We love thee windswept land.
We love thee, we love thee
We love thee windswept land.

As loved our fathers, so we love,
Where once they stood, we stand;
Their prayer we raise to Heaven above,
God guard thee, Newfoundland
God guard thee, God guard thee,
God guard thee, Newfoundland.

This book is dedicated to everyone ever born on the Island;
"Sure, ye're a damn fine bunch."