

Re Anticosti x

Pictou 28 Sep 1856

Dr George & Lemaire

In my last I promised to give you some amount of Anticosti's Island. I have to redeem this promise I do not know for what day sailing about several days in sight of it, I never set a foot on its shores and it is as yet without a history.

All that the Geographers & Gazetteer Writers say of it is - That it is about 130 miles long by 30 miles wide - of course about the size of N S Island, but unlike the latter as they say it is desolate, barren, rocky, swampy & wady, occupied by Bears, Foxes, Wolves, Wild Cattle, Pantwigs and a great variety of other quadrupeds and birds, but having only two families of men who are to keep the Light Houses and take care of ship-wrecked people, when cast upon its desolate shores.

I am sure now if you would like

to live there, and hope your Paper
will never be tempted to make
Explorations there for Specimens

In further describing Anticosti,
it may be said to lie lengthways nearly
East & West. — The Channel between
it and the Labrador Coast is about
20 miles wide. — on nearly the same
as the Straits which separate P. & E.
from N. & S. coasts, while the Straits
between it and the Gaspé Land
is about double the width of the
North Channel. — There is no
good Harbour yet known in
Anticosti which is probably the
Cause why it is not inhabited.
There are some excellent Fishing
Stations around its shores which
are much resorted to by fishermen
from the U States and foreign men.

I said that Anticosti was yet
without a History. This is true
with the exception of some Melan-
choly tales of Shipwrecked Seamen
and others who have either been

Ground on its Shores, on Decks
Miserably of Cold & Famine after
being down on Shore, I may
also add with the exception of
its Geological History which will
some day be collected by some
fortunate Explorer, and published
for the information of the World.
If you want to know ^{or know} any more
about Anticosti, tell Papa to show
it to you on the map, and he
will tell you a great deal more
about it.

The two Brothers Schooner
which has some things on Board
for Pa Pa will likely be beating
about Anticosti to-day as she
has had fine fair Wind to take
her there ever since she left this,
but the Wind is dead ahead
of her to-day, and will likely
be washing over her Decks.

In my next Letter I will tell you
more about Gaspe Land &

a Natural place called Cape Chart.
and the Terrible Shipwrecks that
some times happen there.

Give my Love to little W. Bell
and do not forget to write

Grand papa

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