

The Canadian Arctic Journal of Capt. Edward Fenton, 1578

Introduced and edited by WALTER A. KENYON

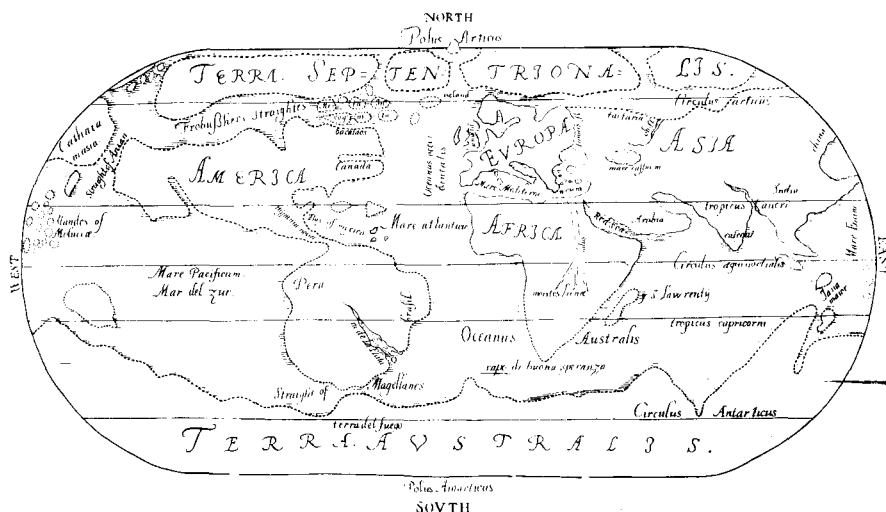
On Martin Frobisher's third voyage to the Canadian Arctic in 1578, his second in command—or Lieutenant General, as he was called at the time—was Edward Fenton, Captain of the *Judith*. Fenton was already an experienced arctic captain, having sailed with Frobisher the previous year in command of the *Gabriel*. As he helped his General assemble a fleet of fifteen ships and a complement of 400 men, he had every expectation of a brilliant and profitable future. For it had been decided that he was to establish a settlement in Frobisher Strait, far to the northwest, and spend the winter digging gold from the bowels of that rich but desolate land. When the rest of the fleet returned to England, heavily laden with gold-bearing ore, Fenton would remain there with three ships, the *Judith*, the *Gabriel* and the *Michael*, together with 100 of the men. To house the wintering party, and to protect it from the crafty and hostile savages who inhabited the region, they carried with them a large pre-fabricated house.

Frobisher had first sailed from Blackwall on 15 June 1576 with 39 men in three small vessels, the *Gabriel*, the *Michael*, and an unnamed pinnace of only ten tons. The objective was to find a passage that would lead around to the north of the "firm land of America", as it was then called, and through to the broad Pacific. And once that had been accomplished, the fabled riches of the Orient would fall within the grasp of the merchants and venturers of England. Frobisher knew, however, that finding such a passage would not be a simple task, for, as Richard Willes had pointed out the year before, "the way is dangerous, the passage doubtful, the voyage not thoroughly known". Yet neither of them realized how long that search would take, nor how many ships and men would be lost in the high northern latitudes, before that passage would finally be navigated.

Frobisher lost his pinnace and her four man crew somewhere off the east coast of Greenland. And during the same storm which swallowed up the pinnace, the *Michael* decided to scurry home to the safety of England. Although he was now alone, and with his main-mast sprung, and his ton-mast blown over the side, Frobisher continued to the northwest, where he finally sighted two bold headlands. Between them was a broad, ice-choked passage stretching far to the west.

Frobisher fought his way through the ice for some 50 or 60 leagues, he tells us, with the firm land of America on his left, and the continent of Asia on his right. But it was too late in the season for further exploration, and the ice was a constant threat, so he decided it was time to return. He took with him some souvenirs—or “tokens of possession”, as he called them—which would prove that he had indeed discovered some strange and distant land. His “tokens” were impeccable, including even an Eskimo and his kayak. As no one in England had ever seen such an odd sight before, people flocked from far and wide to gaze at the fur-clad figure and his strange boat. Of more enduring interest, however, was a piece of black rock which one of the men had picked up from a small island in that distant land, and which Frobisher brought home merely as a curiosity. When he showed it to Michael Lok, his principal backer, however, Lok decided that it was too heavy to be a simple piece of rock, and must therefore contain some mineral or metal. He took it to a series of assayers, or “gold finers”, as they were called at the time, who each assured him that the rock was totally worthless. He persisted, however, till finally (as was bound to happen), he found an assayer who reported that the sample contained valuable quantities of precious metals—mainly gold.

With that magic word at his disposal, Lok had little difficulty in raising support for a larger expedition. He even enlisted the support of Queen Elizabeth I, who offered the venturers the use of one of her tall ships, the *Aid*, a vessel of some 200 tons. With the *Aid* as his flagship and with the support of his two old vessels, the *Gabriel* and the *Michael*, Frobisher sailed from Blackwall on 26 May 1577. This was a well-equipped expedition with a total complement of 141 men. Its objective, however, had changed. The distant lure of the Orient had been dimmed by the dazzling prospects of immediate wealth. Frobisher was to load his vessels with the gold-bearing ore he had found on his first voyage, and carry it back to England.



Bear's Map of the World (1578)

When he returned in the fall, he had some 200 tons of ore in the holds of his ships. He told glowing tales of a broad strait that stretched far to the west, and presumably led to the Pacific. He reported that the richness of the land surpassed all expectations. On the Asiatic side of the strait, Frobisher discovered a fair sound which he named after the Countess of Warwick, the wife of his patron, Ambrose Dudley, Earl of Warwick. Within the sound was a small island richly laced with broad veins of ore, and this, too, he named after the Countess of Warwick. Dionyse Settle, one of the gentlemen who accompanied Frobisher, reported that "the stones of this supposed continent with America, be altogether sparkled, and glitter in the sun like gold".

The merchants and venturers who had backed Frobisher were elated with the results of the voyage, even though they had fully expected it to be successful. In anticipation of that success, they had already organized themselves in a more formal manner. An application to the crown was favourably received, and on 17 March 1577, a royal charter was granted to "The Adventurers to the Northwest for the Discovery of a Northwest Passage". A joint stock company modelled after the Levant and Muscovy Companies, it was usually referred to as "The Company of Cathay". At a meeting in London, the stockholders elected Michael Lok governor, and appointed Martin Frobisher to the position of High Admiral of Cathay, as well as of all the newly discovered lands and seas. As the bubble of enthusiasm expanded, no one noticed that the enterprise had not yet produced a single fleck of gold.

The new ore, meanwhile, was routinely assayed, and with amazing results. One assay reported that the ore contained precious metals to the value of £53.10s.3d; another assay reported a value of £67.1s.8d. Juggling such figures was an intoxicating process, and produced spectacular results. For example, it was estimated that an expedition capable of bringing back 2,000 tons of ore could be fielded for £20,836.13s.4d. At only £30 per ton, that quantity of ore would yield a gross return of £60,000, and a net profit of £39,163.6s.8d. Or in round figures, such a venture would yield a net profit of £20 per ton. With such glowing prospects, the Company of Cathay had little difficulty in raising the necessary capital for a third voyage. Even Queen Elizabeth, who was notoriously cautious with a shilling, invested £1,000.

The fleet which was assembled for the third Frobisher voyage is the largest arctic expedition that has ever been fielded. It sailed from Harwich on 31 May 1578, taking the southern route around the British Isles, then headed north-west-by-west across the Atlantic. Aboard the *Judith*, Capt. Fenton kept the ship's log, recording the course and distance of each day's run, together with wind direction and velocity. In arctic Canada, he kept a detailed chronicle of events, a chronicle which constitutes the body of this report. On the return voyage, he again kept the ship's log, with wind direction and velocity. Fenton's journal was never published. Fortunately, however, it found its way into the possession of Samuel Pepys, who preserved it as part of his remarkable library.

Edward Fenton¹ came from an old Nottinghamshire family, and was probably born in the 1540's. He was apparently well educated in spite of the rather

1 *Dictionary of National Biography* 6, p. 1184ff. and E.G.R. Taylor, ed., *The Troublesome Voyage of Captain Edward Fenton, 1582-83*, The Hakluyt Society, Second Series, 113 (London 1959).

pedestrian quality of his prose, for he published a book in 1569. This curious volume was largely a translation of an earlier compilation of Greek and Latin writings which had been published in French by Pierre Boaisteau Launay. In English, it appeared as *Certaine Secrete wonders of Nature Gathered out of divers learned authors, as welle Greeke as Latine, sacred as profane*.

Fenton's first public service was in Ireland, where he apparently served as a commander under Sir Henry Sidney in the successful repression of Shane O'Neil's rebellion of 1566. He appears next, as captain of the *Gabriel* in 1577, and of the *Judith* in 1578, during Frobisher's second and third voyages to what is now Arctic Canada. Following his northern venture, he returned to Ireland where he apparently spent about a year and a half. Then in April, 1581, he was selected by the Earl of Leicester to lead a fleet of four ships on a commercial voyage to the Orient by way of the Cape of Good Hope. The expedition sailed in May, 1582, and turned into a complete fiasco, largely, it seems, through the incompetence of Fenton himself. At one point, he announced to his astonished colleagues that he was going to seize the island of St. Helena, and proclaim himself king. His fellow officers wisely rejected that scheme; and after some desultory trading along the coast of Sierra Leone, and some ineffectual attempts at piracy in Brazil, he returned to England where he anchored in the Downs on 27 June, 1583.

Although he had sufficient favour at court to avoid complete ruin, he was still in disgrace for a few years. It was not till 1588 that he again appeared in the public service, this time as captain of the *Mary Rose* in the fight against the Spanish Armada. He then settled down in Deptford, where he died in 1603. He was buried there in the church of St. Nicholas.

The Frobisher voyages in which Fenton participated were remarkably well documented at the time. By the end of 1578, the year of the third and last Frobisher voyage to the Canadian Arctic, three reports had been published by members of the expedition. These early reports were reproduced by Vilhjalmur Stefansson in 1938 in a monumental work which reprinted every known source that pertained directly to the Frobisher voyages, as well as a wide variety of peripheral material.² Since that time, the only additional information on the Frobisher story—apart from the Fenton Journal which is reproduced below—was collected during the Royal Ontario Museum expeditions to Frobisher Bay in 1973, 74 and 76. Most of these data were published in 1975.^{3 & 4}

EDITORIAL NOTE

*The Fenton journal is now catalogued as Manuscript no. 1125 in the Pepys Library, Magdalene College, Cambridge, England. The journal was made available to the editor through the courtesy of Mr. R.C. Latham, M.A., Pepys Librarian, and is published by permission of the Masters and Fellows, Magdalene College, Cambridge.*⁵

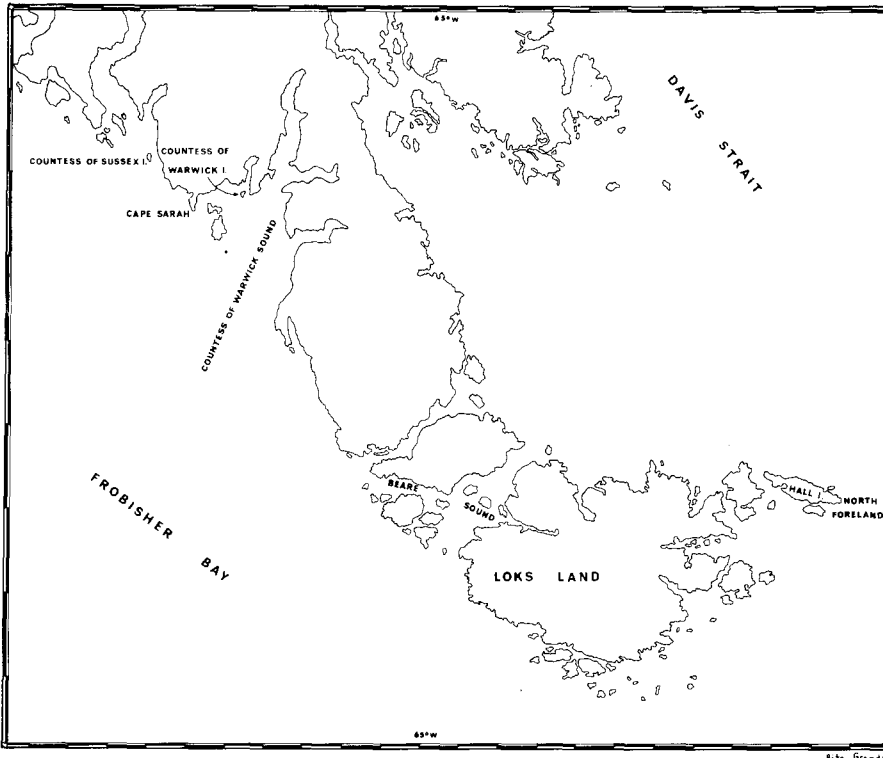
2 *The three voyages of Martin Frobisher in search of a passage to Cathay and India by the northwest, A.D. 1576-8. From the original 1578 text of Geo. Best* (London,).

3 W.A. Kenyon, "All is Not Gold that Shineth", *The Beaver* (Summer 1975): 40-46.

4 W.A. Kenyon, *Tokens of Possession, The Northern Voyages of Martin Frobisher* (Toronto, 1975).

5 In preparing this manuscript for publication, I enjoyed the assistance of Franca Leeson, Janice O'Connor and Felicia Cukier. With infinite patience and skill, they transformed my jumble of notes into neat piles of cleanly typed pages. For this, I am extremely grateful.

The 68 page manuscript falls rather neatly into four parts: 1 (pp. 1-12) consists of equipment lists, a prayer, and a navigation table; part 2 (pp. 13-20) is the ship's log for the outward voyage; part 3 (pp. 21-56) is the chronicle of events in Arctic Canada; part 4 (pp. 57-68) is the ship's log for the return voyage. When I received a microfilm copy of the journal from Mr. Latham, I had a typescript prepared by Ann Quick and Dr. Mary Catherine Bodden of the Centre for Medieval Studies, University of Toronto. They reported that ". . . Fenton's hand is easy to read. The writing is clear and the abbreviations few and, for the most part, standard. The manuscript, so far as one can judge from a Xerox copy of a microfilm, is in good condition; there appear to be no damaged portions, and there are no large blots, tears, or erasures, so that the whole text is quite readable."



Frobisher Bay

In the portion of the Fenton manuscript which is reproduced below, the original spelling and punctuation have been preserved throughout. All crossed out letters and words were also reproduced. However, in those instances where Fenton crossed out a word and then inserted the correct word in the space above the line, the caret which indicated its position was deleted, and the correct word was dropped into its proper place in the line of type. With the exception of the ampersand, all abbreviations were expanded. Editorial punctuation and comments were placed in square brackets to avoid confusion with Fenton's frequent parenthetical remarks. There were problems, however. It

was impossible, for example, to distinguish between Fenton's capital *W* and small *w*; and it was often difficult to distinguish between his capital *L* and small *l*. On all such occasions, I have simply followed modern English usage.

Occasionally, Fenton would repeat a word that occurred at the end of a line or, more frequently, at the end of a page. These few repetitions I have simply deleted without editorial comment. His word divisions, however have been retained—e.g., “a long”, for “along”; “a head”, for “ahead”; “ann other”, for “another”. Similarly, his frequent elisions have been retained—e.g., “thayde”, for “the ayde”; “thend”, for “the end”; “thest”, for “the est”. A major problem was Fenton's use of the terminal “e”. He ended many words with a small squiggle or flourish, and it was very often impossible to distinguish between them and a terminal “e”. And because of the orthographic peculiarities of the period, there is no standard to which we might refer. As a result, I was forced to make a series of arbitrary decisions which might or might not be supported by further palaeographic studies.

THE JOURNAL OF CAPTAIN EDWARD FENTON

- Julie 1 Tewesdaie the first of Iulie at 12 of the clock at middaie it was calme and the winde was northerlie and almost rownde abowte.¹ Then at 4 of the clock in the afternone the winde cam northerlie and north northest till betwene 5 and 6 of the clock. We made [i.e. saw] then the Northlande perfectlie being west and by north and northwest 9 leagues, from it At ix of the clock we fell with much ize and were environed all to the southe, being a good gale of winde north northest. Woulde faine have borne with the other shippis, but coulde not for thize. We turned all the night with the winde north northwest and northwest We gatt through thize at viii of the clocke and the winde was west southwest and at 10 were in them againe, going northwest as we might for thize. We did see bothe the sides of the Straits verie well at the middaie. The Northlande being north & by est from us And the Quenes foreland west southwest.
- 2 Wedensdaie: the iide daie at Middaie the winde was south southwest. We wente northwest and by weste and west northwest, being amongst much ize as much as possiblie we coulde cleare. The Fleete wente from [us] in by the southe side about 8 or 9 of the clock at night. The winde cam south southeast with so much winde as the sailes coulde carie in the bolts.² And being thus in daunger of it, we did turne in thize all the night, and in the morninge it did shutt upp altogether, and we were fayne to putt into it And abowte 4 of the clock in the morninge we were in great daunger to loose Shipp and ourselves (if god of his greate mercie and providence had not wonnderfullie delivered us) after lying thus tossed and shutt upp in the ize with much winde and a greate fogg, after our hartie prayers made to god, he opened unto us (as to the children of Israell in the brode sea) a litle cleare [i.e., a clearing] to the northwest wardes, wherinto we forced our shipp with vyolence. And thus having given our selves to the mercifull handes of god, he of his greate goodnes sente us presentlie faire weather, wherby we gayned some plaine to turne in all the foreparte of the daie

1 That is, the light wind was unsettled, blowing in turn from different directions.

2 The bolt-ropes which reinforced the edges of the sails.

- 3 Thursdaye the iiide daie at Middaie it was verie foggie and thicke the winde westerlie yet faire weather (notwithstanding the thicke most dangerous) beinge not well hable to see a bow shoott from us In the afternoone abowte 1 or 2 of the clock, it cleared upp so that we saw bothe the shoores, being but litle shott into the Straites And turninge upp and downe viewed so much ize as it was ympossible further to gett into the Straites In thende one [of the men] in the Topp sawe some waie to the Southwardes and also behelde the Quenes forelande southwest and by southe from us, directing our course with it: the winde beinge westerlie and west and by north That night we gayned within 5 leagues of it And the winde beinge west northwest we laye of and on³ of the Quenes forelande, being (god be thanked) eskaped owt of the ize which were most dangerous And thus lyinge all night of and on, thinking the nexte daie to finde some harbour, bothe to refreshe ourselves, to provide water, and also to make our shipp stiffer, being by reason her lightnes not skarvhable⁴ to carie any saile.
- 4 ffrydaie the iiiith daie we behelde an open greate Sounde nigh the Quenes forelande, trusting there to finde some harbour and after the making of manie bordes⁵ turned into it And sawe it go verie farr in, envyroned with a greate sorte of Ilandes: and at night the sea or currunnte cam so stronglie owt of the same sownde that we coule not gett in lying of and on all the night But in the morning at the fludd we entred into the same, being verie gladd and in greate hoope to finde therin some good place to ancour And sailing 3 leagues into it, did sownde it over and againe, and founde 100, 60, 40, and 30 fathome till we cam to 15⁶ along the north shoore, being ~~fladd~~ flatt grownde and sholde water But so rockie and harde grownde as it was not to ancour in And being so 3 leagues into it west northwest and nothwest and by west we behelde iii waies into the sea and into the Straites, so that I iudge certeinlie the Quenes forelande but an Ilande: But the ize being manie coule not goo thorow
- 5 Satterdaye the vth daie, it did flow 10 of the [clock] or therupon, for it flowith southest and northwest The tide of fludd beinge spent, we sett saile repairinge owt of harbour againe, and having passed 1 league owtwardes, tooke in all our sailes (saving the spritt saile) to amende our foresaile being much dekayed with the fowle weather paste, and thus cominge owt of thentraunce of the Sownde, did sett our saile and turned into the shoore sownding, and founde 34 fathoome streemie⁷ grownde and there did ancour. I departed with my boote to the shoure accompanied with certein shott [?], bothe to view the nature of the grownde and also to seeke for oare, which I there fownde in sorte like that in the Countesse of Warwiks Ilande The land altogether without any earth upon it, or habitacion that I coule discerne [.] ffylled there ii toones⁸ of snow water and brought ii botesfull of stone for ballice and so departed to borde againe, being supper time. And being a high water at 2 of the clock in the morninge, sett our sailes from the mouthe of the harbour which was

3 Back and forth, or off and on, as sailors say.

4 Serviceable.

5 Tacks, or the act of bringing the bow of the vessel through the eye of the wind.

6 This number is very indistinct in the manuscript, but is probably 15 fathoms.

7 Made up of small, unconsolidated particles such as silt or pulverized shells.

8 "Tuns" were large casks or barrels for holding liquids. As a measure of quantity, a tun is 4 hogs-heads, or 252 gallons.

betwene the Quenes forelande and Cape ~~fenton~~ Leicesstrie The sounde lieth west northwest in and going through, beinge devyded with 3 greate Ilandes besides so manie smale Ilandes as I coulde not tell them.⁹ The winde was westerlie and we wente to the north northwestwardes havinge runne 4 or 5 leagues the winde cam southeast with very fayre weather at Middaie We sawe much ize in the Straites [,] But viewing a waie to passe amongst them bare through them.

- 6 Sonndaye the vith daie at 4 of the clock in the afternone we were somewhat troubled with the ize, and all night it was verie calme, the winde was northeast In the morninge we were within 3 leagues of lackmans sownde, but beinge verie calme coulde not gett no nigh it, till it was 12 at middaie, and beinge a tyde of thebb did loose fast to the southwardes againe
- 7 Monndaie the viith daie, at Middaie the winde being north and by est with verie litle winde, we were environed with much ize, so that we remayned fast therin to our greate daunger and trouble manie times; But in the afternoone about 2 or 3 of the clock there cam a litle gale of winde north and by est, wherby we did borde it upp and downe with a reasonable cleare waie amongst thize, with contynuall and earnest prayer to god for a better harbour About 11 of the clocke in the night it was a high water being within ii miles of (lackmans) sownde and the winde at southeast and calme: we layde it of [i.e., off] towardes the northeast and by est towing our Shipp a heade with our boote till midnight Then we layde our grapnell upon a greate peice of ize settinge a longe the shoore and by the number of ize in the eveninge the tide sett into the shoore, that about ii or iii of the clock in the morninge we departed from our ancor on thize, and did our best to towe our Shipp from the shoore into the sea, and much ize in the waie to offende and trouble us. So that in thende they shoote us upp, and most vehementlie caried us downe a longe the shoore, being in the laste quarter of thebb driven 4 leagues about a pointe of lande from (lackmans) sownde And being thus about the pointe we were forced with a slake water into a rownde Baye amongst maine Ilandes and sonke rocks which we named the Baye of Distresse, bearing in to the midst therof, bringinge the south pointe est northeast of us, and the north pointe, northeast and by northe, driving so within a falcon shott of the shoore, being environed with muche ize wherby (as a cheif providence of god) we were kepte from the shoore And being thus in all show without hoope of deliverie, having fullie yelded our selves to the mercie of the most highest. Sounded for grownde findings 30 fathums, yet not withstandinge, attending death either by thize or Rocks. Laye thus tossed betwixte hoope and feare the space of 4 or 5 howers till it was a high water, wherupon thize openinge and breaking a sownder, there was no other refuge but to comme to ancor or els to drive on the shoore: we espied a cove in one of the Ilandes where [we] determyned to putt in the Shipp or to ancor, and sending our boote furthwith to view the place, ymmediatlie there cam a litle winde at weste southwest, wherupon we called our boote a borde againe, which cam to us againe with greate daunger to be loste, thize shooting them from us And in the meane time having hoysed our yarden, (and the bote recovered to our shipp) there was one of the [men on the] foreyarde to cutt the saile, who being not verie readie, the boye goinge upp to helpe and beinge half the

9 Fenton had apparently sailed through Graves Strait which separates Edgell and Resolution Islands. This would have put him in Gabriel Strait, just east of the Lower Savage Islands.

shrowdes upp, the saile fell downe and smoothe the boye over borde into the sea, who (by gods good providence) gatt holde of the foresail sheathe¹⁰ and was recovered againe with no greate harm, saving his face brooken and his brest brewed with the block of the sheathe

- 8 Tewesdaie the viiith daie, at Middaye the foresaile being cutt as aforesaid, we bare owt of the Baye of Distresse with verie litle winde, and went not half a mile before the winde shifted to the northwest and north northwest that we coulde not laye it owt But in thende (god sendinge a good freshe gale, we adventred to go owt betwene ii Ilandes where we cam not in [but] more to the southwardes And having obtayned againe the Straites we haled for (Iackmans) sownde & with the Countesse of Warwiks sownde, with mynde (if god woulde so permitt) to gaine either of them: But in the eveninge it becam calme and we were at 6 of the clock amongst much ize, [and] the fludd and thebb meeting did cawse thize to meete and shutt us upp that we coulde not steare, wherby we laye all night without winde In the morninge [when] there cam a litle gale of winde at north northeast, we cawsed our men to sett thize from our shipp with pikes and owers, and so in thende (god be prayesd) gatt owt to the southwardes with much trouble, putting againe to the sea, for that we coulde gett no harbour for ize, and thus from the morninge till middaie we sailed downe the Straites with the winde at northeast, haveinge brought the Quenes forelande south and by et from us In our departing from the Baye of Distresse, we viewed descending from the topp [of] an Ilande iii of the countrey people, which (we supposed) cam to view us. These Ilandes within the Baye seamed to be more covered with earth then any erst seen by me, and therefore as well by that occasion as thaptnesse of the place to fishe in (I iudged) those Ilandes much inhabited with the people: Being right sorie that the greatnesse of our daunger, forced our departure thence without further view of the same
- 9 Wedensdaye the ixth daie the winde was at est northeast with litle winde We stooode to the south shoore wardes from Middaie till 4 in the afternoone, and falling calme were amongst much greate ize, wherupon we mored our shipp by the grapnell upon a greate peice of ize, wanting winde to chaze her, we rode there all night till the nexte daie with litle winde est southeast, and so extreeme thick and foggie that we coulde not see one mile from us: we abode there still (hoping) of cleare weather at the Middaie, at what time it cleared a litle wherbie we sawe the South shoore being the Quenes forelande which did beare southeast, beinge driven into a baye and fast locked in with thize that we coulde not gett owt
- 10 Thursdaie: the xth daie, from Middawie it fell thick and foggie againe till aboute 2 of the clock in the afternoone, at what time we espyinge a glade to the northwardes, sett our saile, but in one half hower we were shutt upp with thize, were forced to laie our grapnell upon a great peice of flatt ize, to defende the other ize from us, (being verie thick and foggie) were in greate daunger, prayinge to god for mercie and deliveraunce And thus environed with the ize, purposed notwithstanding to go to the sea, having the winde at southeast, a verie harde winde to putt us to the sea withall, yet in respect of our late perill, we rather chewsed to holde our determynacion (if god woulde) then putt any more into the Straites: But the winde beinge at est southeast we rode there all night drivinge to the west shoore wardes, and hooped at Middaie for cleare weather but it contynued thick still

10 "Sheets" on a square-rigged vessel are attached to the lower corners of the sails, and are used to haul them astern.

- 11 ffridaye the xith daie, it was calme at middaie with litle winde esterlie, abowt 2 of the clock we did sett saile having a freshe gale (trusting) to gett from the shoore to the northwardes. But being environed with much ize we ronned to the north northest, and sailing betwixt ii greate peices of ize, where we saw rowme enough half a quarter of an hower before, the waie was presentlie growen so narrow, that thize strake the Shipp on bothe her bowes passing through them, striking a hoole on the larborde side bowe a foote longe, were forced to laye our shipp by the lee, and putt a peice therin of 25 ynches longe, and that being amendid used the starborde boe in like sorte having a hoole therin 5 or 6 ynches long and 3 ynches brode, and thus in 4 howers having amended them bothe, the winde beinge at southest and by est. In the eveninge abowt 10 of the clock it was litle winde at est southest. Woulde gladlie have sailed to the northestwardes but being environed with much ize, espying a greate peice of yze, were forced to caste our grapnell theron, and rode by it all night (hoping) the nexte daie for cleare weather, still drivinge to the west shoore with litle winde est southest, rode there still to the Middaie, desiering god to sende us a better harbour
- 12 Satterdaie: the xiith daie, it did cleare upp a litle that we saw the west shoore being within one league therof, the winde was Northe and we were nigh the Baye of Distresse, being 5 leagues from Iackmans sounde We sett saile to thestwardes, earnestlie desiering of god, to deliver us from that Baie beinge latlie in greate daunger therin Stoode est and est northest of [i.e. off] with litle winde, but reasonable cleare of ize till 5 of the clocke, being calme tooke in our sailes, by reason it was verie foggie, towed with our boote to a greate peice of ize, which we were forced to chowse (as next to god) our chois ancour holde; being for the space of 4 or 5 daies not 2 leagues or litle more from the shoore with greate fogg and no winde at all being abowt 5 or 6 of the clock at night and so contynued all night In the morninge at 6 of the clock we loosed our shipp from the ize, and towed her est northest 2 leagues Then the winde cam at est and by north and we stooede to the southwardes 2 leagues and then to the northwardes And at Middaie were abowte 5 leagues of from the shoore, which made us right gladd, for the foreparte of the daie it was foggie and at Middaie cleared upp
- 13 Sonndaye the xiiith daie, the winde was esterlie: and it was cleare on the northe shoore (Halls Ilande being est from us, The Countesse sownde northest¹¹ and thize reasonable cleare, so that we made manie bordes therin Abowte 2 of the clock in the afternoone we espied the Michaell beinge southest from us: we made a good saile and fetched her upp abowt 3 of the clock in the afternoone, (being verie gladd to see her in saffetie) The winde was northest and by north and some time northest. We stooede to the north northwest till 8 of the clock, and then appeared [so] much ize unto us right on heade, that we layde it abowt to thest southest, and in the latter parte of the night were amongst much ize, being bothe calme and foggie as it coude be all night with much Raine In the morninge we turned to the northestwardes, and founde a cleare wherin we spent the foreparte of the daie, contynewing foggie with the winde northest
- 14 Monndaie the xiiiith daie, at Middaie we stooede to the north northwest till one of the clock when appeared [so] much ize, that we coude hardlie passe through them for the greatnes of the fogg with smale raine, so that we

11 Again, there is no closing parenthesis.

were forced to laye it abowte to thest southeast, striving to kepe the cleare we were in for feare of more ize At 4 of the clock we founde much ize to thestwardes so that we layde it to the northeastwardes. The winde being est southeast, and finding much ize at 5 of the clock were constrained to ride on an ize by our grapnell and the Michaell also, ridinge there all night expecting cleare weather in the morninge, being at 8 of the clock somewhat cleare that we behelde the north shoore within 3 leagues of us. But encreasinge presentlie foggie againe, were by the great abowndaunce of ize constraind to ride there still till middaie being not hable to sett saile for the number of ize which had environed us, having been much troubled befor by them to our greate daunger The ize we rode by was in effect 200 yardes broode with a hill in the midst of it

- 15 Tewe daie the xvth daie It was so foggie at middaie we were forced to ride there still all the afternoone and all night, and abowt 6 or 7 of the clock in the morninge the sonne did appeare somewhat cleare, so that we sawe both the Shoores The Countesse of Warwicks sownde beinge northeast and by est from us The winde (though litle) at west southwest, being neither cleare nor thick: We sett saile at 8 of the clock and bare est northeast 1 league x di [i.e. 1 league and a half] thinking to gett harbour in the (Countesse sownde) the winde being west and west southwest And at Middaie the winde cominge at north northeast we layde it abowt to the ~~north northeast~~ northwest with litle winde and foggie
- 16 Wedensdaie the xvth daie. We wente northwest at Middaie one league or thereabowts, and it becam calme, so that we were forced to take in our sailes and towed with our boote to a greate Ilande of ize, wheron we anchored with our grapnel and brought the Michaell to the same, being verie calme but reasonable cleare of ize (onlie it was thick with the fogg) were abowte 3 or 4 leagues from the Countesse of Warwicks sownde southwest and by west We rode there still till the next daie at Noone, the weather contynewing foggie with no winde: yet neverthelesse, the daie clearing upp we were driven over to the west shoore, which at Middaie we verie well viewed, the est shoore being covered with fogg coulde not verie well see it Lackmans sownde being from us southwest All the night there was but smale stoore of ize abowte us, but [at] Middaie we were to daungerfullie environed therwith, that there appeared no waie for us to gett owt of them, (till it woulde please god to open the same) The ize were so monstrous that some of them were by estimacion an acour broode and verie deepe in the water, so that we laie in verie greate daunger
- 17 Thursdaie the xviith daie The weather at Middaie being verie calme and the winde southerlie we drove northwardes into much ize, so that we saw no waie to cleare them being verie straunge, for that the last yere on the same daie and monthe, there was litle or no ize to be seen within 8 or 10 leagues of that place And whereas it was supposed we might have gott into the Straites cominge thither in Maie, I see it wilbe much ado to gett in there in the begynninge of Auguste (as this yere we have made daungerfull proofe therof) in thende of which monthe we shoulde reatorne againe home Wherefore to make any discoverie there, it is not liklie to be performed where a man shalbe bothe in contynuall daunger of thize, and also subject to calmes and contynuall fogges, which we have made good proofe of, finding in xlii daies travail paste ~~there~~, but ii of cleare weather, but most

daungerous to suche as shall attempte the same At 4 or 5 of the clock in the afternoone there was litle winde, but it was cleare, so that we might see the weste shoore, and all the north shoore thick with fogg, and contynewed so all night, that we were not hable to sett saile for the number of thize, if we had been forced on the shoore; And at 5 of the clock in the morninge, the winde beinge at southest and by southe, it blew a preetie gale of winde setting us to the west shoore, but unhable to sett saile, by reason we were so environed with the ize, contynewinge so till 10 or 11 of the clock, [it] became calme, and we were almoste within 3 leagues of the west shoore. At Middaie the winde was uncerteine, but enclyned esterlie

- 18 ffrydaie the xviiiith daie, it was calme at Middaie, and so contynewed till 4 or 5 of the clock in the afternoone and also all night till the next daie at noone with no winde & thick, we rode still at the ize.
- 19 Satterdaie the sixth daie, it was calme with a litle cleare at Middaie, it contynued so till night, and then cam a litle winde southerlie, so that about 8 or 9 of the clock in the eveninge we sett saile beinge somewhat cleare weather and the ize not verie thick standing for the Countesse of Warwicks sownde est southest. But before midnight the winde cam about upon manie pointes to thest and est northest and southest: we turned of and on all night, having Gabriells Ilande but 2 leagues north northest from us and manie other Ilandes with much ize about them Wherof Gabriells Ilande and an other Ilande lying north and by west from it laie in this sorte, as we bare est with the Countes sownde.



Gabrielle Ilande



The other Ilande

The winde beinge upp the straites we were much hindred by the ize which were thick to gett by turninge, and at foure of the clock in the morning it was litle windesouth southest, [and we] were forced to towe with our boote to thestwardes and so contynued till the Middaye with greate labour, yet therby gayninge 3 or 4 leagues towards the Countesse of Warwicks sownde which was 3 leagues from us est and by southe

- 20 Sonndaie the xxth daie, at Middaie we cam to ancor upon a greate ize, being verie calme & our men utterlie wearied with towing, having used that exercise from 4 of the clock in the morning till middaie At that instante we were environed with much ize, being also verie thick to the shoewardes, that we much feared we coulde not gett harbour for them, otherwaies we had presentlie gayned harbour But about 4 or 5 of the clock in the afternoone the ize were somewhat seperated that we might passe towards

the shoore and the Countesse sownde, (where we labored and desired too) Our men in respect of the greate daunger and contynuall toyle they were in (having then a calme) entred afreshe there boote and towed the shipp, 1 or 2 leagues nigh the shoore towards the Countesse sownde, being then within 4 or 5 leagues of the same, bearing est and by south from us; contynewing towing so till 10 or 11 of the clock in the night. The winde southerlie & south southeast but very litle; and then beinge againe envyroned with ize, were constrayned to ancour againe of [off] an other Ilande of ize which we had passed by almost a falconett shott. Spente there the rest of the night, till 3 or 4 of the clock in the morning at what time the weather bothe somewhat cleare and thize opened blowing a preetie gale of winde at the northwest We sett saile and bare with the Countesse sownde, fynding not the waie so cleare for ize but that we abode some knocks (which were not daintie to us) And about 6 or 7 of the clock it fell somewhat calme, that we were gladd to two afreshe with our boote, being then not farr from the shoore Were by 9 or 10 of the clock within one league of the shoore, and 2 myles to the northwardes of the Countesse sownde. We then soundinge founde, 26 fathoms of faire sande and shells, going in still were within 2 miles of the shoore [where we] founde the grownde still faire, cam there to ancour. The Master wente with the boote presentlie to the north pointe¹² of the Countesse sownde to view for ize which we much feared, but god be thanked fownde verie few there: and there he also sounded the more saffellie to bringe in our shipps there, the winde being at northwest The south side of the sounde was so much pestred with ize that we coule not well gett in there: But if we had attempted that waie, we must have goone 2 leagues to the south, and 2 leagues back againe to the northe, which by reason of thize, woulde have been performed with greate difficultie, wheras the travaill of 1 league gayned the other waie into the harbour, wherunto (god be praised) we passed saffellie, though finding some ize in the entraunce therof

- 21 Monndaie the xxith daie, at Middaie, we (thanked be god) anchored in the Countesse of Warwicks sownde verie nigh to Winters furnace (an Ilande verie apte to ancour by) bothe for the fairnesse of the grownde and nearenesse of the shoore, being at a high water about 15 fathoms and at a low water 9. It doth high at a full sea, about 5 or 6 fathoms And being thus anchored (gave hartie thanks to god for his gracious and mightie deliveraunce from so manie greate and daungerfull perills) wente to dynner, and in the afternoone, I tooke the Master with certein soldiours, and went to (Winter furnace.) as well to serche for the people (whom we founde not there) as to view the Straites for our Shipps which we coule not see. But the Straites were very full of ize, and we right gladd we were delivered from them. Then we wente to the Countesse Ilande to view the same wherein our judgments) all things remayned at [as] we left them in so much as we founde divers osmondes¹³ which we lefte uncovered lying in their places untooched of [by] the people and we reaturned to our Shipp
- 22 Tewsdaie the xxiith daie: We did receive the Communion¹⁴ altogether, contynewing that daie in prayer and thanks givinge to god, aswell for the

12 Cape Sarah

13 "A superior quality of iron formerly imported from the Baltic."

14 This, the earliest recorded Anglican communion service in Canada, was celebrated by the Reverend Robert Wolfall.

delivering of us from the daungers paste, as also for his greate goodnes in placinge us in so saffe an harbour. Desiering him of his mercie to contynue this his greate good favour towardes us This daie it blew verie much winde at the northwest

- 23 Wedensdaie the xxiiiith daie, I marched with the Master and to the number of 26 soldiours to the Mayne on the north northwest side, aswell to view the nature of the grownde, as to serch for oare, and to finde (if I coulde) some dwellings of the people, which I founde upon our first landing but newlie departed by sonnndrie things they had new killed [such as] bothe fishe and deare: And marchinge 9 or 10 miles into the Countrey, founde the soyle therof most craggie and barraine, yelding no kinde of woode or fruite, neither any sorte of grasse but in some valies where the snow had covered the same, the soile was become marishe lik but of no depthe of earthe: therupon feedes the raine deere¹⁵ which we sawe to the number of viii, with some partriges, bigger than ours, ruffooted with white wings and the rest of their feathers like unto a graye plover.¹⁶ We killed one of them We also founde divers vaines of the same oare as in the Countesse Ilande, wherof the vaines seame to lie northwest and by north and southest and by south; And being thus at the furthest parte of our iorney for that time we sawe Gabriells Ilande thwarte of us, and (as it seemed a goodlie sownde beneath us to the northwards¹⁷ The lande seeming to us all brocken and full of Ilandes and sonke rocks upp into the Straites, so that it appears not navigable, aswell for the number of Ilandes, as sonke rocks lyinge from Gabriells Ilande into the Straites northwardes & to the Northwestwardes as on this side the same towardes the Countesse sownde In our reatorne home, we founde a greate freshe betwixte twoe mountaignes, and some marishe grownde at the south ende therof, the water wherof had his course into the sea over against the place where we rode with our Shipps, and such a fall as is sufficiente to tourne two milnes: and wadinge over the ende thereof we passed upp an other hill, where below us we saw an other fresh growen by thabowndance of snowe distilling from the Mountaignes, at thende wherof, was some plaine grownde of better nature & soile then erst we had fownde before, not altogether marishelik but disposed to a better sorte and kinde of pasture, we departed thence, and reatorne to our Shipps againe, not finding any of the people The winde was southerlie
- 24 Thursdaie the xxiiiiith daie, parte of our companie went on shoore to washe there lynnenn, and in the afternoone I with the Master and certein soldiours went with our boote to Pembrookes Ilande¹⁸ to view the Manner of the Straites for ize which remayned therewith well replenished, but by reason the late northwest winde were fallen on the northest shoore We also cheiflie looked for our Generall and the flete whom we coulde not see. In our travaill of that Ilande we fownde where the people had been after our departure the last yere, by certein sailes [seals?] & fishe they had left there, & a piece of a hoggesheade which they had taken of ours, and heaped manie stones therupon, that the winde shoulde not blowe [it] into the sea, and also founde there, the Stepp of the maste of the Pynnasse we sonke in the Countesse sownde the laste yere, which (we supposed) to be splitt by some greate ize falling theron, and some parte thereof gotten by the people.

15 Barren ground caribou, *rangifer tarandus groenlandicus* (Banfield, 1974, p. 388)

16 Ptarmigan, probably the rock ptarmigan, *Lagopus mutus*

17 This, the modern Wiswell Inlet, was named Vincents Sound by Frobisher (see page , below)

18 Willow Island

We had serched for it before and coulde not finde it We killed a hare there of a blew and white cooler and also iiii partridges, and so reaturned againe to our Shipp The winde southerlie

- 25 ffrydaie the xxvth daie. The winde was north west and by west, it blew much winde in the morninge and brought manie ize into the sownde about our shipp, but (god be thanked) they did us no hurte. The Master cutt owt Canvas and made therwith a for saile and Bonett¹⁹ we coulde do no other worke, for that our tooles were all (by thindescrecion of the purser) shipped in the Thomas Allin, and noone in my shipp or any of the twoo Barkes, I went to winters forname to looke for the fleete, but could not see them



Royal Ontario Museum camp, Countess of Warwick Sound (W.A. Kenyon)

- 26 Satterdaie the xxvith daie, the winde in the morninge was esterlie, with a greate fogg snow and Raine till 4 of the clock in the afternone, [when] the winde cam to the northwest with much winde and varie colde weather, that the sownde in the night was in effect frozen over of a preetie thicknes [and] by reason of the fowlenes of the weather we were not hable to go abrode
- 27 Sonndaie the xxviith daie, the winde was at north west and blew a greate gale and some times rownde about as at west southwest [,] and southwest

19 "Bonnetts" were strips of canvas that were lashed to the bottoms of square sails to increase the sail area.

[,] and west northwest, the weather notwithstanding reasonable faire, the Master and Master Wulfall²⁰ wente to Winters fornaice to looke for the Generalls cominge; but could not see him or any of the Shippes where upon a point of that Ilande they founde some parte of the pynnasse sonke the last yere before, and also certein osmondes of iron caried thither by the people of the Countrey.

- 28 Monndaye the xxviiiith daie the winde being at west southwest [,] it rayned in the morning, nothwithstanding I marched with xxviii persons and [with] ensigne displayed, upon the northeast parte of the the maine v or 6 leagues, aswell to serche for oare as to view the nature of that parte of the lande which I founde most craggie and full of stones, altogethor without earthe or any greenesworde, and in my reatorne home, cam by a goulf we named the laste yere Seate goulf²¹, to serche there for some apte place for habitacion, where I founde the soyle therof some what inclyned to grasse, and some twiggs of birche growing there a handfull from the grownde. But by reason the place was subject to twoo greate mountaines, from the which distended sonndrie freshes by thabondance of snowe falling theron, we founde it verie unfitt for our dwelling and so departed to our Shippes. The same daie I sawe a crane, with deare in sonndrie places, but not above ii or iii in a place We founde on the Maine a myne of the black oare trending southwest & by west and named the place Skipwith Mounte
- 29 Tewesdaie the xxixth daie, I with my Master tooke our boote and rowed 3 leagues to the southwards to a low pointe of lande called (Corbetts pointe) where I entred with v other persons on lande and serched therin 4 or v miles for oare, and woulde have passed further into the lande, but that I was lett by a greate fresh of water, verie deepe to wade, and so forced to reatorne to my boote, findinge by the waie a myne of black oare which I named (fentons fortune) not much unlike thoare brought home by the Generall the firste yere: And within a league of the same northwardes, founde a hoole in a clif hable to containe 20 or 30 persons, of the same substance of the black oare, wich I named (lackmans Cave) The same hoole I verie well viewed, aswell for the nature of the oare, as to make a place there for habitacion (if neede shoulde require) being defendid from all weather but the west windes, but in thende I founde the place most unfitt for habitacion, beinge bothe brickle [?] of it self, and also subiect to water distilling through divers vaines into the same: from thence I cam to an Ilande which I named Iones Ilande, where in like sorte I founde of the black oare, and from thence I reatorned to the Shippes, by reason I harde a greate peice of ordinaunne discharged by them, [and] feared the people had betrayed some of my Companie washinge on the shoore. But it grew by occasion that i or ii of our companie supposed to see some of our Shippes, and for that cawse they shott of [off].
- 30 Wedensdaie the xxxth daie, the Master and I with our boote wente to serche a sownde²² going a longe Ionas Mounte, and rowed to the ende therof which trended northeast and by north, and northeast 2 leagues from the Countesse sownde. We founde there wher the people had latelie been by sondrie things they had lefte behinde, amongst the which, Master Skipwith founde one of their darts, the foreparte wherof, we iudged to be

20 The Reverend Mr. Robert Wofall

21 Napoleon Bay

22 Napoleon Bay

the horne of one of the fyshes we brought home the last yere²³, which we preserved And in our waie homewardes we cam by (Ionas Mounte) where I serched for oare but coulde finde no certain vaine there, but some show of litl peices of thoare I founde there the laste yere: from thence cominge towards our Shipps we discovered one of our shipps at the sea bearing with the Countesse sownde, the winde beinge at south southwest, to whom we rowed with all dilligence and founde it the Hopewell, for she brought us newes of vi more of the fleete at hande, wherof some [were] in our own view, for ymmediatlie the Generall cam aborde us with his pynasse who cam in to the harbour by the northwest²⁴ of whom we were right gladd; I presentlie dispatched my Master and the Master of the Michaell in the Generalls pynasse to bringe in the rest of the Shipps with the Ayde into the Countesse of Warwicks sounde, and after we had anchored the hopewell, the Generall sopped & laie aborde with me that night



One of Frobisher's mines, Countess of Warwick Island (W.A. Kenyon)

- 31 Thursdaie the xxxith daie, there cam into the Countesse of Warwicks sownde thies shipps following viz. the Beare, the ffraunces of ffoye, The Sailomon, The Armonell, The Burse of Bridgwater and the Ayde, who having anchored all night without the sounde by reason the winde skanted the night before; and in the waighing of their ancour the next morning, before they coulde fische the same, and notwithstanding they rowed with their boote to tow the shipp on heade the winde at estnorthest and verie litl, she fell to lee warde of a greate yze, and with the after bill of her ancour made a greate hoole in her, so that they were in greate daunger, onlie they stopped the leeke with a peice of beis and with their pompes and

23 A Narwhal, *Mondon monoceros*

24 Through the unnamed strait between Cape Sarah and Newland Island.

Bucketts in thende freedde the Shipp being commed with the winde at est into the Countesse sownde, where the leeke was better amended and stopped, wherin the Generall used greate dilligence, and in the meane time, I wente to Winters furnace to sett upp a tente, where we made triall of some oare; it blew that daie much winde with greate Raine.

August

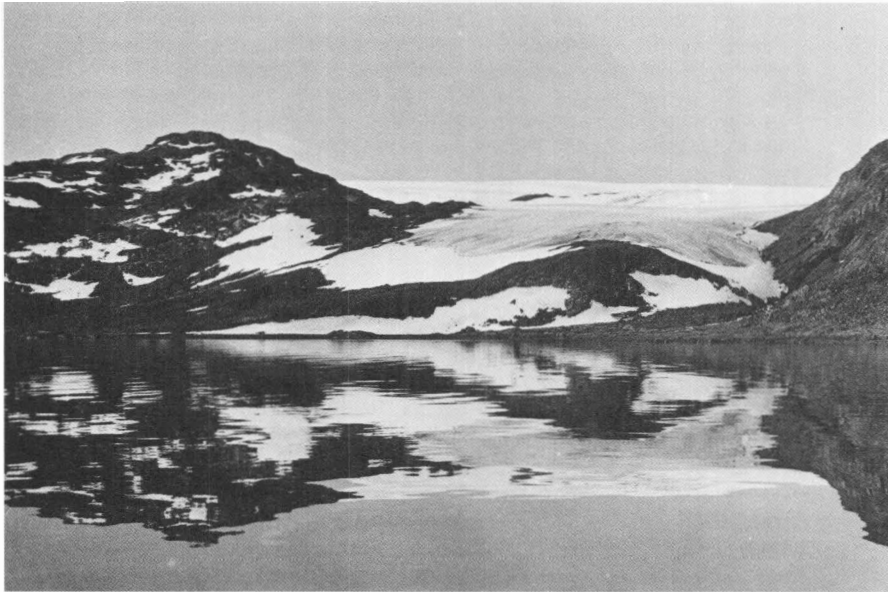
- 1 ffrydaie the firste daie of August, the winde was at north and by est with raine, notwithstanding the Generall and I repaired to the Countesse of Warwicks Ilande with divers Pyoners²⁵ to unbare & make readie the mynes, and there wrought that daie and began to make upp lodgings for our pyoners and soldiours, making that night some assaies of the oare
- 2 Satterdaie the iide daie. The winde was at est northest with fogge but reasonable faire weather; verie erlie in the morninge the Generall with twoo litle Pynasses departed to Beares sownde to fetche some of the oare there, and reatored the same daie againe to us, bringing divers sorte of oare with him, which we made triall of that eveninge: all that daie I followed the Pyoners in digging of oare The Gabriell cam into the Countesse of Warwicks sownde about xii of the clock in the night, Master hall being in her, and having lefte the Thomas Allin (wherof he was Pilott) in a harbour nigh Leicesters Cape.
- 3 Sonndaie the iide daie the Generall and I wente erlie in the morning to (Winters furnace) to view the Mynes there, which we founde to lie so uncerteinlie and crabbedlie to gett, as we founde smale hoope of anie good there, the winde all abowte and disposed to Raine At after dynner he and I with Capten Carew and Capten Philpott in the presence of Christofer Hall Charles Iackman and Androo dyer, sett in consultacion aswell towching such instructions as we had receavid from the LL²⁶ of her Maiesties counsaill, for the better order and government of this accion, as also to establishe certein necessarie rules meete for the good order of our people and disposing of the cawses as we had, in hande; the manner wherof will appeare by a booke of Register booke kept for that purpose
- 4 Monndaie the iiiith daie. The winde was southwest and by west litle winde with some fogg. The Gabriell departed againe by the Generalls commaundmente towards Leicesters ~~pointe~~ Cape to convoye the Thomas Alin to the Countesse sownde; Certein necessarie orders for government of the whole fleete was proclaymed, and ymmediatlie after the Generall departed with divers soldiours to (Ionas Mounte) to seeke for the Myne there, he brought home divers sortes of oare wherof triall was made. In the afternoone the winde was all about I followed the pyoners on the Countesse Ilande One of the soldiours killed a younge ffoxie in cooler a duskie white or Russett
- 5 Tewesdaie the vth daie. The winde was esterlie, in the morninge with greate fogg but reasonable faire weather My Generall and I departed to (fentons fortune) to view the myne there, where we founde greate store of oare,

25 Pioneers are literally, those who go before the main body (of an army or civilization) to remove obstacles, and prepare the way.

26 Probably "Lords".

black, mixed with a white stone like the flinte: the vaine wherof cometh from the Maine and lieth est and west. In our reatorne home we serched (Dyers) sownde for harbour for our shippinge which we founde verie good, and by the waie sought in divers places for oares; but founde litle we like of and so reaturned to the Countesse Ilande.

- 6 Wedensdaie the viith daie. The winde in the morninge was southerlie with much fogg and a greate froste [.] the Generall and I made upp a reckoning of certain oares wherof we had made triall, the ~~g~~-valew wherof was registred; and by reason the greatnes of the fogg we were forced to sett a drom to sownde to direct our bootes cominge from the shippes to the Countesse Ilande, lest they hapned to misse therof, wherof some were in daunger to do and to row to the sea: albeit that some of our shippes ridd within one mile & lesse of the Ilande and the other but ii miles of: Towardes ix of the clock in the eveninge the winde cam at thest and blew much winde



Terra Nivea Glacier, Jackman Sound (W.A. Kenyon)

- 7 Thursdaie the viiith daie. In the morninge the winde was at est and by north and blew verie much winde. The Generall notwithstanding with Capten Randall and Capten Courtney departed in their pynnasses with divers pyoners and soldiours to (fentons fortune) to gett oare there, and I following with a new pynnass called the Serche with fyve or six and thirtie pyoners in her, had not sailed from the Countesse Ilande above one mile and a half, but I bare my maste and sailes over borde, in casting abowte to meete the Generall, who was forced by the extremitie of the winde to reatorne back againe, and Capten Courtney with his companie in greate daunger of drowninge, who in the night dreamed he was sinking in the sea, and so troubled therwith in his sleepe, that he cried with such lowdnes,

Jesus have mercie upon me, that we in the other tents were awaked therewith [and] mistrusting a larom, yssued owt to understande the cause Thus for this daie we were forced eftsones to ympleie our soldiours and pyoners in the Myne, on the Countesse Ilande, notwithstanding abowt 4 of the clock in the afternoone it began to Raine and the winds contynued at est blowing all the night extreemlie with much Raine

- 8 ffrydaie the viiith daie. In the morninge the winde was at est with much winde and Raine till ix or x of the clock and then it began to cease. We discovered the Thomas Allin and Gabriell, who cam to harbour in the Countesse sownde abowt 2 of the clock in the afternoone; we tried sonn drie sorts of oare, the places and goodnes wherof remayneth in the Booke of Register provided for that purpose
- 9 Satterdaie the ixth daie, being verie calme and faire weather the winde at northwest, the Generall sente certein Pyoners and soldiours to (fentons fortune) to digg for oare, and provyded for an other companie to departe in the afternone to Beares sownde to digg for oare there In the meane while we entred into consultacion for the disposinge of the habitacion²⁷ and how the same might be performed, which after some conference herd touching the same, it was founde a matter ympossible to be brought to passe, aswell by reason we had but xxvi daies to deale ~~their~~ for the settinge upp of our howse (having then but ii partes therof in harbour) and our carpenters not hable to builde the same under vi weiks if the Timber had beene pute on lande, as also for wante of Beare [beer] and other necessaries which then remayned in three Shippes on the sea, viz. The Anne ffrauncs, The Thomas of Ipswich and the Moone, in the which was one parte of our howse & 84 toons of Beare besides other victuall and necessaries for our buildinge. So that every circumstance well waighed it was not possible (without supplie of those things) to have lefte there ten men, havinge at that instante not beare 24 toons sufficiente to convoye my self and companie into Englande being there 98 persons of the C²⁸ that were appointed to inhabitt there, neither could I be howsed for 60 men, with which nomber I made offer to abyde there, suche was the shortnes of time the wante of timber and spoile of bordes ^{wh}²⁹ amongst the Shippes in thestremitie of yze, that there was not sufficient to have covered a proportion of dwelling for 40 persons In the afternoone the Generall departed with the Michael and Gabriell and things to furnishe his companie appointed to worke in Beares sownde And founde the winde southerlie and litle, so that he cam to ancour nigh Corbetts pointe, where he bothe tooke in some Pyoners working at (fentons fortune) and lefte some victualls for such as remayned there [and] thither in like manner I sente Capten philpott with certein of myne owne Companie so manie as the Gondelo woulde convoye, and I remayned still at the Countesse Ilande, bothe to oversee the companies there, and to provide to sende more pyoners to (fentons fortune) in the morning.

27 Frobisher had planned to leave a party of 100 men in the Countess of Warwick Sound to mine and stockpile ore during the following winter. The party was to be under the command of Captain Fenton. To house the men and their gear, they brought with them a structure in frame, to be assembled in the sound.

The structure was apparently a fort, for it is described in the Fenton ms. (page 9) as "a howse of timber heare framed for our lodginge and storehouses conteyning 132 foote in lengthe and 72 foote in breadthe with ii [bastions or flankers?] at either ende therof. . ."

28 C = 100

29 W^{ch} was the standard abbreviation of "which".



Countess of Warwick Sound (W.A. Kenyon)

- 10 Sonndaie the xth daie. The winde was at southwest in the morninge faire weather, after prayer I with Capten Yorke departed with certein of my Companie to (fentons fortune) to digg for oare, which companie I lefte under the charge of Capten Philpott whom I appointed to attende that service: because I was to reatorne to the Countesse Ilande to oversee such as remanyed there and to dispose of other matters as occasion fell owte: Onlie I and Master Denham viewed the manner of the Myne in (fentons fortune) and founde the same to proceede from the Maine lying est and west

- 11 Monndaie the xith daie. The winde was south and to the estwardes, in the morning foggie and disposed to raine In the forenoone Master Denham and I made proves of certeine black and redd oare founde the daie before by the Masters of the Ayde and ffrances of ffoye, which we founde answerable to some othe [i.e., of the] oares we wrought upon, and therfore In the afternone Capten Yorke my self and Denham wente to view the same, which lieth to the Northwardes from the Countes sownde 2,³⁰ leagues or there abowtes and adioynge to the Maine; we liked the greatness and goodnes therof so well, that I appointed Capten Yorke with certein workmen to go thither in the morninge to uncover the vaine therof, whilst we made a new prooffe therof. My Generall wrote to me for Denham to comme to Beares sownde, whom I was forced to staie [i.e., keep]; ~~a daie~~ longer by this ther occasion
- 12 Tewesdaie the xiith daie The winde litle but in the morning southerlie and faire weather, having made prooffe of such oares as we brought from the Countesse of Sussex Myne ([] for so at my requisit the Generall named it []) the goodness wherof remayned in the booke of regester kept for that purpose. I sente Denham to Beares sownde to the Generall, and after departed my self to (fentons fortune) to view the workes there, and so reaturned late that night to the Countesse Ilande, with some oare to make prooffe of with the Gondelo laden with oare for the Shipp
- 13 Wedensdaie the xiiith daie In the morninge faire weather with the winde southerlie. I wente to the Countesse of Sussex myne to view the manner therof and how the [i.e., they] wrought in the same, where I founde sonndrie sorts of oare which I brought to the Countesse Ilande to make prooffes of; cam from thence over lande against the place where our Shippes rode, being one league and better, the winde beinge then at north northwest and blew a greate gale and so contynewed all night
- 14 Thursdaie the xiiiith daie. In the morninge faire weather but it blew much winde at north northwest so that I coulede neither sende for the Companies remayninge at (fentons fortune) whom I mente this daie to have sente for and placed them in the Countess of Sussex Myne, nor yet gett well to the same: In the eveninge the weather calmed, all this daie I spente in making of prooffes of sonndrie sorts of oare gotten in the Myne, but by reason Master Denham was absente coulede not devide the same, who then remayned with the Generall at Beares sownde
- 15 ffrydaie the xvth daie In the morninge faire weather and litle winde westerlie I dispatched pynnasses to (fentons fortune) to bring those companies awaie and to convoie them to the Countes of Sussex Myne because the oare there rose as good and more plenifull then thother: And I departed in the morninge to view the workes there where I spente all that daie, and abowte xii of the clock at middaie, we discovered a mile or ii from us twoo of the Countrey [people] in their bootes, who made with the place where we wrought; I commaunded all our companies there not [to] make any showtes or cries at them, neither yet to show them selves to them people, lest therby they should take cawse of feare and so retire them selves without conference with us, and Capten Yorke and I tooke our weapons, and went a mile from our myne to a place where we thought they woulde lande to trafique with them, but they rowinge verie swifflie

30 The comma after 2 is obviously misplaced; it should follow "leagues".

and cloose under the shoore were commed almost to the Myne before we [saw] them or they us: Onlie having viewed us neare at hande they retired them selves without any staie of conference with us albeit we offered them trafique and showe of all the courtesie we could devise, which by no meanes could allure them to staie, but so rowed from us into a sownde a league of [i.e., off.] I reatorninge from the Myne about viii or ix of the clock in theveninge to mak certein proofes of oare [and] discovered the Gabriell and Michaell coming into the Countesse sownde laden with oare from Beares sownde, the winde being then at south and to thestwardes

- 16 Satterdaie the xvth daie In the morninge faire weather, litle winde south and by est My Generall cam to the Countess of Warwicks Ilande, ~~where~~ and after the parting of sonndrie assaies we had made, he departed to (Dyers sownde to view a Myne there which he named (Denhams Mounte) and I in like manner repaired to the Countesse of Sussex Myne to follow those companies there and in the eveninge repaired againe to the Countesse of Warwicks Ilande with certein oares to make prooffe of, it blew a good gale of winde at est and by south, we had lyke to have been caste awaie upon a rock which the pynnasse strooke upon laden with oare and at entring into the Countesse of Warwicks Sownde, the winde contynued all the night and blew extreemlie This daie was buried owt of Thayde one Phillipp Ellarde a gent and one laborer, and one owt of the Armanell

- 17 Sonndaie the xviith daie. In the morninge faire weather, but blew much winde at est and by south The Generall cam in the morninge to me to the Countesse of Warwicks Ilande, where (after prayers) we entred to make certein proofes of such oare as [we] had founde the daie before on (Denhams Mounte) which falling not to be performed in such shortnes of time we looked for.³¹ In the afternoone the Generall and I departed to the Countesse of Sussex Myne (where he desiered to be having not before seen the same) spente the afternoone there, and reatorned to our shippy by lande, and by waie of marche fownde in a valey, the midwaie betwixte the Countesse of Sussex myne and the Countesse of Warwicks sownde, a peice of grownde rent and shaken in forme of an earth quake, the proportion or forme wherof standing firme seemed to be not unlike the shape of a wind milnes hill. But so shaken and rent it was holowed like a vaunte [vault?] the earth substauce wherof underneath was of massive and thicke ize, thearth growing above (before the breaking therof) one foote and better bedecked with sonndrie sorts of herbes such as the Countrey yeldeth, the circuit whereof (I iudge) was 40 or 50 passes: to this place we were brought by (Capten Carew), who had before fownde the same: I cam aborde Thayde with my Generall with whom I stayed for that night, not hable to recover the Countesse of Warwicks Ilande for the greatnesse of winde

Margin Note: ayd that the Ayde had not for her provicion above 7 toones of beare being 115 persons

Monndaye the xviiith daie. In the morninge foggie with some raine the winde at northest and to thest wardes: Being in our boote to departe for the Countesse of Warwicks Ilande where Denham remayned making proofes of the oare brought from his Mounte, he encowntred us with the same, putting from the Shipp side wherupon we entred aborde againe, and tooke view and prooffe therof and fownde iiiii sortes wherof to holde in goodnes equall in effect with any thother mynes before discovered And therefore we departed to the same Myne with sonndrie the Masters of the

31 The meaning, here, is not at all clear. Fenton has probably dropped an entire phrase.

Shippes, as well to make prooffe of the harbour where their shippes might ride there (being harde at hand the Myne) as also for expedicion of lading and plentie of oare which was like to fall owt there: and after view taken every waie therfore we reaturned back againe (having much raine) to the Countesse of Warwicks Ilande to make a further prooffe of the oare they shoulde lade of, because the same rose in one sorte more plentifull then the rest

Margin Note: ayd that this daie was not shipped nour gotten 300 toones of oare towards 1000 & odd

- 19 Tewesdaie the sixth daie, I departed erlie in the morninge aborde the Generall with certein prooffes made of the Countesse of Sussex Myne of the wourst sorts of oare there which held be the Gould and silver not much inferiour to any of the Mynes; afterwarde I departed to the Countesse of Sussex Myne to view and follow the workes there, the winde being at south southwest, the Gabriell & Michaell departed to Beares sownde to fetch oare from Sussex Ilande to lade the Ayde with all and the Salomon wente in like manner thither to take in her ladinge, and the hopewell into Dyers sownde to lade of the oare of Denhams Mounte There dyed owt of teh ffrauncs of ffoye one Iohn Pope a sailour It was Raynne with some slite and snowe

Margin Note: ayde that thayde had not for her provicion but 3 firkins butter & half a kilderkin



The harbour, Dyers Passage (W.A. Kenyon)

- 20 Wedensdaie the xxth daie. The winde was at est norhest with fogg and some Raine I wente erlie in the morninge to the Countesse of Sussex Myne to follow the workmen there and to see [to] the lading of such oare as was brought from thence to the shippes The Generall bestowing that daie in serching oare at Denhams Mounte and making prooffe therof. Late in the eveninge I reatored to the Countesse of Warwicks llande to see the ordninge of such provision of meale and other things as were to be bestowed in the grownde there.³²
- 21 Thursdaie the xxith daie, reasonable faire and cleare weather in the morninge, the winde at north northwest. The Generall departed to Beares sownde and I to the Countesse of Sussex Myne to follow the workmen there. The Beare departed [from] the Countesse of Warwicks sownde to Dyers sownde to lade of Dyers³³ Mounte
- 22 ffrydaie the xxiith daie. In the morninge some what clowdie with much winde at north northwest I departed from the Countesse of Warwicks llande to the Countesse of Sussex Myne and by the greatnes of the winde had much to do to row on heads and to recover the Myne: and being owt of the point of the Countesse of Warwicks sownde, I might discrie a pynasse ~~towar~~es up into the straits northwardes to Gabriells llande and [which] bare in towardes the Countesse of Sussex myne whereat, I had for the sodaine some marvaile to view a pynasse that waie: and entring into ymmaginacion what pynasse it should be, in thende (I iudged) the same to be the (Anne ffrances) pynasse and yet could not ymmagin how she shoulde be putt together (knowing that the provision for that purpose rested cheiflie with us) and then fearing the losse of their shipp, thought that necessitie had forced them to devise some waie to sett her together, (iudginge with all that Capten Best was in her) And as I was thus ymmageninge therof with my self, might discerne them to be within a mile of the Countesse of Sussex Myne and with all might well discrie Capten Philpotts Ensigne spredd upon the topp of the Myne, to give Capten Best tunderstand their being there, who presentlie upon the view of thensigne and show of our companies made to them with his pynasse, cam to lande half an hower before me, where he was ioyefullie received of Capten Yorke Capten Philpott and their companies and lastelie of my self, who considering how mightelie god by his greate & wonderfull providence had bothe delivered us owt of manie greate and sonndrie daungers, and also of his spirituall favour & mercie given us sight one of an other: And conferring with Capten Best for the state of his Shipp he delivered unto me that she rode in a sownde nigh Oxfords Mounte where they were tryninge [?] her ~~fors~~ and stopping a greate leake she had receavid being in greate daunger to be caste awaie upon a rocke: There rode with her in like manner the Mone, the Capten whereof ~~was~~ whose name was (Master Upcoote) cam in the Pynasse with Capten Best; who had made a verie daungerfull attempte in serchinge for us in that sorte, the Pynasse being sett together but with a few nailes[,] wanting knees and all other matter that necessarlie shoulde have served for her strength and their saffeties: he brought with him certein black oare fownde nigh the Quenes forelande, whereof ~~afterw-~~ Master Denham drew an assaie or twoo my Generall being then at Beares

32 They were burying surplus provisions and other items, intending to use them the following year.

33 This is obviously an error. It should read "Denhams Mounte"

sownde, and the same night reaturned late home to his Shipp and so did I from the Countesse of Sussex Myne; Master Denham showinge me what he had done with [the] sorts of oare Capten Best had brought. The assaies wherof I did not verie well like and therefore cawsed him to go in hande to make 4 prooffes more of the same sortes of oare. The Gabriell cam from Sussex Ilande laded for the Ayde of the best Myne.

- 23 Satterdaie the xxiiiith daie. It was [such] a verie greate froste, that the sownde where we rode was frozen with a thynn ize over, but the weather [was] verie faire and calme The winde all aboutes In the morninge tooke order with Master Denham to hasten those assaies he had in hande of the oares Capten Best had brought, and departed to the Ayde with Capten Best where we fownde my Generall aborde, with whom bothe I [,] Capten Yorke and Capten Best remained that daie to consider, both of the goodnes of the oare brought by Capten Best and other cawses of ymportauce towchinge the service in this accion and ordring of the same. About 4 of the clock in the afternone we discried a Shipp bearing into the Countesse of Warwicks sownde, the winde being at north and to thest wardes; My General supposinge her to be the Thomas of Ipswich, sent his Master and pynnasse to meete her who founde her to be the Salamon which cam from Beares sownde, having taken in the moste parte of her lading from Sussex Ilande, and tolde the Master that there was good stoor of oare there redie digged and that 4 or 5 of bootes the greate bootes of [that?] the Countrey people used [were] there aboutes: my General therfore blamed Capten [Randal] his cominge awaie with the Shipp till an other had repaired thither for garde of the Companies there Master Denham having made an ende of the prooffes of Capten Bests oare brought the same aborde Thayde, where my Generall and I sawe triall therof, the same holding bothe gould and silver, the vawle wherof remaineth in the registre booke of register kepte for that purpose The Michaell cam laded with oare from Sussex Ilande of the best for the Ayde.
- 24 Sonndaie the xxiiiith daie. In the morninge the weather was foggie and raynie and the winde northerlie The Thomas Allin departed to Beares sownde to take in the rest of her lading [.] she waited at Sussex Ilande, and so also do the Generall with his pynnasses, and Capten Best [went] to his Shipp, who had order to lade her and the Mone of the oare he had brought from the Quenes forelande. I bestowed this daie at the Countesse of Warwicks Ilande to take order aswell for providing of victuall for suche of my Companie as I was to bestowe in other Shippes, and also to hasten and view the ordring of suche provicion as we were forced to burie and leave behinde us there: and further to follow the to finishing of a litle watche Tower I cawsed to be builded in the hight of the same Ilande with lyme and stone being xiii foote in length and viii in bredthe with a litle rooffe covered with borde; this I did to prove what the vehemencie of winde and weather would do therwith this winter, to thende, that if the nexte yere habitacion shoulde be performed there, that then by this litle begynninge, a iuste occasion and experiment should govern how we shoulde deale in building greater howses In the afternoone it blew much winde at northeast
- 25 Monndaie the xxvth daie In the morninge reasonable faire weather with a litle froste, the winde west northwest I wente erlie in the morninge to the Countesse of Sussex Myne, to view the worke of suche as wrought there (which was then but my owne and Capten Courtneys companies) and that daie (I iudged) there remayned (with that already gotten) sufficient oare

above grownde to lade and dispatch both our shipp, either of them wanting but 20 toones I reaturned that night back againe to the Countesse of Warwicks Ilande, aswell to provide bootes to fetch the oare awaie the next daie, as the gentlemen and others which remayned at the Myne.

- 26 Tewesdaie the xxvith daie. In the morninge faire and cleare weather with some frost the winde at west southwest. I spente this daie in the countesse of Warwicks Ilande, abowt the burying of tymber and other things there, and the furnishing of the Gabriell and Michaell of victualls and other things they wanted in thevening the Generall reaturned from Beares sownde.

Margin Note: ayde That This daie thayde had but a Butt et demi of Beefe a hogeshead of marabones & a hogeshead of Porke.

- 27 Wedensdaie the xxviith daie In the morning frost with faire and cleare weather, the winde at west and by south, I with Thomas Morris Master of the ffraunces of ffoye wente on lande on the south side of (Ionas Mounte) directing our course est southeast and having past 4 or 5 miles we in thende discovered the northe sea and made an Ilande therin being of this forme in the margent, lying south est and by est from us, and in computacion an viii leagues from us, and at that instante we iudged our selves within ii leagues of the north sea, which seemed to us to trende to the north est, having abowt this Ilande divers greate Mountaines of ize And after we paste to Dyers sownde to see how nigh the Shipps were laden riding there, finding the Beare departed with her lading to the Countesse of Warwicks sownde, and the hoopewell and the Manuell riding there still not fullie laden, detemyninge the nexte daie to comme from thence and go for beares sownde to take the rest of their lading at Sussex Ilande, I reaturned to the Countesse of Warwicks Ilande, finding the Thomas Allin coming into the sownde there from Beares sownde laden: and [the] Generall departed into the straits towardes Gabriells Ilande to take some of the people if he coulde My companie having laded my Shipp cam from the Countesse of Sussex Myne to the Ilande where I remayned The winde towardes night at southeast.

- 28 Thursdaie the xxviiiith daie In the morning the weather was foggie and Rayne and blew much winde at est northeast with snow haile & slite. In the morninge the Anne ffraunces cam to ancour in the Countesse of Warwicks sownde, having bestowed the most part of the howse in a sownde where they rode nigh the Quenes forelande; we well hooped to have receivid of her xxv toones of stronge beare which she had in charge to conveye for us that were to inhabit (wherof we had greate need). But being come to ancour the Master coulde not make accompte unto me of above vii toones & demi of our provicion and none remayninge of his owne, the reason wherof grew (as he saith) by the evill casking of our Beare. But (I suppose []) rather by his owne negligence and the lewede abuse of his Manners (who without straight government) seeke the spoile of all things they have in charge, whose loosenesse of behaviour in this accion hath been well discovered, but sloolie punnished This daie in the eveninge the Generall reaturned owt of the straights, without taking of any of the people, the weather being so fowle and tempestious that he was forced the rather speedelie to reatorne againe, having been vii leagues or there abowts, namely [to] the sownde next the Countesse of Sussex Myne, (Vincents sownde) and an Ilande ~~Satterdaie~~ in the mouthe therof (Essex Ilande)³⁴ he sawe in that mouth therof travaill but two of the Country people

34 One of the Summer Islands.

Margin Note: litle stone dyed

- 29 ffrydaie the xxixth daie The winde contynued at est northest tempestious with snow & raine. The hopewell Manuell departed from Dyers sownde erlie in the morninge to take in the rest of her lading at Sussex Ilande. And in like manner did the Manuall hopewell, but she rode that daie before the mouth of Dyers sownde and departed no further In the morninge the Generall, Capten Yorke and Capten Best cam to the Countesse of Warwicks Ilande to me, to view the things I was buryinge and the litle howse I had made being then in effect finished, which I named (fentons watche tower) This daie I disposed of the moste parte of my companies into such Shippes as they were to reatorne home in, victuallinge every one of all things necessarie for ix weekes following That night was verie tempestious with the winde as before and fell much snowe
- 30 Satterdaye the xxxth daie In the morninge verie tempestious weather with greate snowe and the winde at northest, so that the winde would not suffer my boote to come from the shippes to us: I followed the despatch of all my things on the Countess Ilande in the forenone, preparing to go on borde And my Generall cam to lande to me, and helped of my stufte aborde with his pynnasse, with whom I tooke order to sende more bootes ashooore for to convoe us aborde, which he did reatorninge him self againe for that purpose And thus havinge dispatched all my busines I cam from the same Ilande late in the eveninge to my shipp The winde being then at est northest somewhat calmed and reasonable cleare weather

Margin Note: This daie at night Iohn Graye Master mate of teh Anne ffraunces reatorned from the seeking of the Thomas of Ipswich who was sente for that purpose abowt the quenes foreland and escaped in his Pynnasse hardlie with his life back againe to the Quenes sownde

- 31 Sonndaye the laste of Auguste. In the morninge faire & cleare weather, the winde westerlie, the sownde was frozen over with a preetie thicke ice My Generall sett saile to Beares sownde to take in some oare at Sussex Ilande, and with him The Thomas Allin, the Gabriell, the Michaell, the ffraunces of ffoye, the Armanell, the Salamon; The Anne ffraunces and my self with the Iudith, stayinge till the ~~after none~~; she morninge for she was not readie by reason she had but new stopped her leeke, and manie of her things [were] on shoore, and I for that I was forced to sende my Pynnasse to the Countesse of Sussex Myne to fetch a Bonnett of Thayde lefte there and to burie divers things ~~lefte there~~ And the weather beinge calme in the afternone, forced the shippes that departed with the Generall to ancour all night at Corbetts pointe

September

- 1 The first daie of September: We sett saile in the morninge from the Countesse of Warwicks sownde to follow the fleete to Beares sownde:(The fleete at that instaunce setting saile for the same place from Corbetts pointe.) the winde being at northwest and at middaie at north with litle winde and in effect calme, I tooke the proportion of Pembrookes Ilande being 4 leagues from it the same lying north and by est and on the west wide of the thentrie of the Countesse sownde rising in the forme conteyned in the margente will ii other Ilandes the one lyinge north northwest and the other north and by west, and one other clif called gullis clif lying north northest



Gull Cliff (W.A. Kenyon)

At night we cam to Beares sownde, and founde the fleete anchoring one league from the same; who waighed in the evening being 8 saile and departed thence. We did ancour there for that the tide of thebb was comme which setteth through Beares sownde & manie other places: Besides that at viii or ix of the clock in the night it blew a good gale of winde at north northwest, and therefore woulde willinglie have waighed but coulde not without losse of ancour and cable, wherby we were forced to ride it owt till the fludd (at what time we purchazed our ancour) And as [we were] there [, there] sanke an olde Pynnasse at our sterne. So blowing mutch winde in the morning at north northwest we putt for the Quenes forelande.



Pembrooks Ilande



the other ii Ilands



gulles clif

- 2 The seconde daie of September Bearing over with the Quenes forelande it blew much winde at north northwest with some snow and sleete, woulde have taken in our boote, which being brought along the shipp side and in to our tackles, by the greate rowling of the seas a hoole brocken in her and did presently sinke with daunger also of the losse of our boteson and one of the quarter maisters. And thus setting saile with our forecourse before the sea, having a greate pynasse at our sterne, she followed the Shipp with such swiftnes, that she brake in her sterne three greate hooles & at the nexte encowntre strooke her self in ii peices and sanke or otherwais she had comed into the shipp Thus having lost ii pynnasses and our boote (not without daunger of the loosse of our shipp) about 4 or v of the clock in the afternoone we cam to the Quenes foreland, and there founde the Gabriell and the Generall aborde her, being commed that daie from Beares sownde with a Pynnasse and 26 men in her like to be caste awaie; there was also in view iii other shippes, viz., the Michaell the Anne ffraunces, and the Moone, who for that she seemed to make saile awaie from the rest, the Generall sente his Pynnasse to will her staie, but she paste the faster awaie so that there was daunger to loose the Pynnasse and men in her, wherupon the Generall willed us to make sail to save theim (if it were possible) which we willinge performed. But they being iii leagues before us (and the night drawing on) were forced to leave theim sailing nigh to the Moone (as we immagyned) not farr from whom we might discrie v sailes more passing on there course to Englande: and so we reaturned backe againe to the Generall lying of an on of the Quenes foreland, attending for Thayde and Thomas Allin, which we supposed to be behinde, spente all the night in this sorte before we mett with him
- 3 Wedensdaie the iide daie of September. We mett with the Generall erlie in the morninge, and told him what we had donne, he sente unto us from the Gabriell a xi men which we received, because the Barke was neather hable to victuall nor conteyne theim, being over charged with other men besides her coplemente And afterwarde we bare into the straits againe to see if we could meete the Ayde or any other of the shippes (which failing of) the



The North Foreland (W.A. Kenyon)

Generall deternyned to passe home in the Gabriell willing me, that if I mett with the Thayde to entre into her and to take the charge of her; and in the meane time to passe home wardes (if we failed that night of the shippes,) the winde was in the morning at northwest and in the afternoone at southwest. We spente the daie of and on of the quenes forelande according to his appointmente, and abowt vi of the clock in the afternoone it grew foggie with snowe good store, we caste abowte making our course southeast and by south est³⁵ from the quenes forelande, and so did also the Gabriell and Anne ffrauces, who in casting abowt were on the sterne of us, which was the best course we colde holde for 200 leagues to passe into warmer climate.

Margin Note: ayds that if we had not receaved in a xi of their companie & as manie into the Anne ffrauces Bothe the Generall & reste in the ii Barks had perished for wante of victuall

35 This word, “est”, is inserted in error. The correct course is southeast by south.

Résumé

Un manuscrit rare d'un journal provenant de la collection Pepys de l'Université Cambridge fut publié pour la première fois. L'extrait, reproduit plus haut, concerne exclusivement les eaux canadiennes. L'introduction de l'éditeur explique pourquoi le journal de 1578 d'Edward Fenton est tellement important pour notre compréhension de l'exploration de l'Arctique et la nature des contacts établis par les navigateurs anglais au 16^e siècle.