

The "King of Anticosti"

ALTHOUGH HIS REIGN IS ABSOLUTE, UNCLE SAM DOES NOT REGARD HIS PRESENCE IN AMERICA AS A MENACE TO THE MONROE DOCTRINE



Storehouse Used by Fishermen



Along the Coast



ALTHOUGH the American state department, in its capacity of chief expounder and jealous defender of the Monroe doctrine, has ignored thus far the absoluteism established by M. Henri Menier, the famous chocolate manufacturer, on Anticosti, the large island at the mouth of the St. Lawrence river, it is nevertheless a matter of considerable interest. If M. Menier had seen anxious to evade the consequences of trespass against the great protective doctrine so dear to the heart of the patriot American, he could scarcely have selected a field less subject to interference than Anticosti, which has been practically No Man's Land ever since the discovery of the continent.

The old geographies described Anticosti as a barren and rocky island, standing sentinel at the mouth of the great tidal river. Under M. Menier's sway it has already become one of nature's beauty spots and a veritable paradise for the sportsman. Previous to the energetic Frenchman's occupation it had always been a thing of mystery to sailors and gulf fishermen. They were often lured to its alien shores by the abundant catches of cod and herring which might be obtained, but they felt no curiosity in regard to its interior.

The earliest ruler of the island of whom there is any record extant was a French gentleman of the time when the illes of France still waved proudly over the citadel of Quebec, a certain Sieur Joliet. This proprietor never felt an inclination to visit his estate, being quite ready, apparently, to coincide with the popular opinion that it was not worth even the minimum of consideration. His heirs were equally devoid of curiosity. The island seemed to have passed from the minds of men until the beginning of the last century when attention was called to it once more by its sale to an English syndicate, the island of Anticosti, limited, for \$1,000,000. That was a very large sum in those days, and the transaction



French Settlers in Anticosti



M. Henri Menier



Village Street in Anticosti

gave Anticosti a wider reputation than it had ever before enjoyed. The colonization scheme of the syndicate collapsed before it had expanded fully, and in 1895 the owners of the terra incognita were glad to transfer the title to M. Menier for \$160,000, about 6 cents an acre.

At last Anticosti had found its master. Here indeed was a man who would stand face to face with the mysteries of his unexplored empire. Before six months had passed he had made himself familiar with every feature of his new possession, even though it was 130 miles in length and over thirty in breadth. Nothing escaped him; not even the presence of a colony of wreckers living in a half dozen

wretched shacks on the south shore. He resolved instantly that they should go and gave them notice to that effect. He had purchased a kingdom, but no

mention of subjects had been made. Subjects he must have, but they must be of his own choosing. M. Menier had already achieved a

reputation as well as a great fortune. Long the leading manufacturer of chocolate in Europe, he was much more than that; he was an arctic explorer who had contributed valuable knowledge to science, and he was known all over the civilized world as an intrepid lover of adventure. Anything that he undertook inspired interest and curiosity. For that reason his purchase of Anticosti became a subject of much speculation. From his position at the mouth of the great river the island could, if fortified, control the navigation of the St. Lawrence and its tributaries. It began to be whispered that the purchase had been made in the interest of the French government. It was regarded by many Canadians as a matter demanding international inquiry. Viewed superficially, the transaction had an ominous look.

M. Menier could afford to keep silent and enjoy this international uneasiness, and he did. He proceeded without delay to develop his principality. It is not likely that he had any idea at first of what the island would eventually mean to him. He could scarcely have realized from the beginning that it was

going to develop into the greatest hobby he had ever ridden. Beside it, his passion for arctic investigation was to grow dim and all his yachting schemes were to suffer almost total eclipse. One of his first steps was to import a large colony of French workmen and their families. These skilled laborers began immediately to construct a model village. Into the island's dark interior excellent roads were made and fresh consignments of subjects were sent inland to form new settlements. Along the shores of the island railroad communication was established, harbors were improved and more model villages were built. Factories, schools and churches followed in rapid succession, and as a crowning feature a noble residence for himself.

M. Menier is possessed of an indomitable will and a tireless activity in carrying out his purposes. He is a man of middle age, of great physical strength and endowed with unusual executive ability. As an evidence that he regards himself as the lawful ruler of Anticosti may be recorded the fact that he sent M. Commetant from Paris to act as his viceroy during his absence from the island. At the time of Queen Victoria's death M. Commetant sent from Anticosti a cablegram of condolence couched in such terms of equality that Lord Minto, the governor general of Canada, refused to accept it, holding that to do so would be equivalent to acknowledging the independence of the island. Still another instance of M. Menier's absolutism is furnished by his decree in regard to the use of spirituous liquors. Total abstinence must be observed by every person on the island, except those of pure Gallic origin. This partisan prohibition affects a number of English and Scotch families from Canada as well as the more numerous habitants who have come in from the maritime provinces. There has been no explanation of this irritating discrimination

beyond the mere statement that M. Menier has so willed it.

One of the fads of the so-called "king of Anticosti" was the establishment of the most extensive game preserve in the world. To this end his agents began negotiations with all the noted hunters in Canada and trappers in the Northwest Territory. As a result, the island fairly swarms with fur bearing animals of all kinds. Red deer, caribou and moose have been set free in the densely wooded interior, and the native brown bears have multiplied greatly. The beaver, the otter and the red fox have become plentiful. One of the features of the preserve is a fox park twenty acres in extent and surrounded by a wire inclosure twenty feet in height.

The waters in the vicinity of the island abound with cod, herring and mackerel, and M. Menier has established facilities for turning this natural product to commercial account. The best lobsters to be found in American waters are absurdly plentiful, and the revenue from this source alone is already very large. A large portion of the island is covered with a forest growth admirably adapted to the manufacture of pulp, and the enterprising owner has made arrangements to build one of the largest pulp mills in existence. M. Menier has demonstrated during the twelve years of his sovereignty that, instead of being the barren waste of the old text books, Anticosti is actually surfeited with natural wealth.

RUSSELL HASTINGS.

High Dignitaries Use the Telephone.

THE emperor of Austria cannot be personally communicated with over the telephone by the general public. The Vienna public telephone book gives the numbers of the "office of the lord steward of his royal and imperial apostolic majesty" and in it for the "chamber of his majesty the emperor and king," but the emperor personally is not put down as a subscriber. On the other hand, the crown prince: "Nos. 15, 16. Franz

Ferdinand of Austria-Este, his royal and imperial highness and his serenity the archduke." The future emperor of Austria and apostolic king of Hungary, then, is in this respect much more democratic than the president of the French republic. To be sure, whether "Franz Ferdinand of Austria-Este, his royal and imperial highness and his serenity the archduke" himself comes to the telephone when he is rung on No. 15 or 16 is doubtful. But, thanks to the information in the telephone book, he can be "rung up." Other members of the house of Hapsburg-Lorraine

have no objection to figuring in this place in company with other partly blue and partly red-blooded mortals. Thus, opposite No. 5,440 in the Vienna telephone book is to be read: "Adelphus, her royal highness the archduchess, duchess of Modena." But one thing distinguishes these telephone owners from the rest of telephoning humanity—the portentous titles with which the telephone management describes them. It is noticeable, however, that the management is thus lavish of titles only with members of the royal family. All other subscribers to the telephone system, however high their rank, however long their genealogy, however famous their name, are set down in a compass the brevity, dryness and unadornedness of

which must fill even the most fanatical republican with satisfaction. An instance of this is the following: "No. 2,355. Guttauro, v. Reburdono, Eugene, prince." That is exemplary laconicism? First name: Eugene. And then, "prince." Is that the rank or the occupation? Perhaps it is both. The Vienna telephone book gives the subscribers both by name and by number. The Paris and Berlin registers lack this arrangement. They give the subscribers only by name. As regards the giving of titles, republican France and monarchical Germany are exactly alike. On the list of telephone subscribers all men are equal. "1,998, v. Buglow, prince, chancellor, residence W. 8, Wilhelm strasse 77." Thus curtly and compactly is the

highest official in the German empire put down. In a single respect the Berlin telephone book is still more exclusive than the Paris, not to mention the Vienna one: the head of the state and the members of his family are not named at all. Though the kaiser frequently makes use not only of the telegraph but of the telephone (conversations over the telephone, for instance, often take place between the emperor and the empress), and the telephone connections are everywhere at his command, he is not named among the telephone subscribers, either personally or impersonally like the president of France. The kaiser cannot be "rung up." Only various ones of his court and other officials

can be. The same is the case with the crown prince and the other sons of the kaiser. The kaiser and his family have a telephone, yet they are not in the telephone book.—New York Staats-Zeitung.

RUBBING IT IN.

"The late Thomas Beecham, the famous pill man," said an advertising agent, "spent over a million a year on ads. He wrote, up to the age of 75, his best ads himself. He was a witty old gentleman. They tell a story about him and a grocer."

"The grocer was guilty of some rather sharp practice on Mr. Beecham one day, and the latter stamped out of the shop roaring." "You're a swindler, and I'll never enter your doors again." "Next day, though, he came back and bought five pounds of sugar." "Dear me," said the grocer, smiling in a forgiving way, "I thought you were never going to enter my doors again." "Well, I didn't mean to," said Mr. Beecham; "but yours is the only shop in the place where I can get what I want. You see, I am going to pot some bulbs, and I need sand."

Ask your grocer to send you Royal Bread. It is made in a clean bakery and the crown label is on every loaf.

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THOUSANDS AND THOUSANDS OF DOLLARS WORTH OF SUMMER READY-TO-WEAR GARMENTS TO BE DISPOSED OF AT THIS GREAT REMODELING CLEARANCE SALE.

MILLINERY, COATS, SUITS, WAISTS, KIMONAS, HOSIERY, GLOVES, PARASOLS, CORSETS, HANDKERCHIEFS, NECKWEAR. REDUCED FROM ONE-HALF, ONE-FOURTH, ONE-THIRD &

One Half Less Than Regular Price!

The Extensive Remodeling and Alteration of the interior of our store, the installing of the New Electric Elevator, old Counters being replaced with handsome plate glass cases, the workmen constantly demanding more space to carry on these improvements and furthermore our greatly increased business compelling us to carry a tremendous stock and with the backwardness of the season playing havoc, we now find ourselves with an overstock, it is now our intention to give the public the benefit of the existing condition—a condition bringing about Reductions of the most positive nature, making this

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The Most Extraordinary Values Ever Offered.

Profits on cost of goods not considered, its simply handing you out the most Seasonable Merchandise at a price which represents but the merest fraction of the actual value of the goods, the entire stock must go, and go quickly. Every department is replenished in this great Clearance Sale, it is unnecessary to go into long descriptive details, you simply have got to attend the Sale and be convinced.