

Where Columbus Landed.

Governor Blake, of Newfoundland, throws light on the subject.

In a recent lecture, Governor Blake, of Newfoundland, gave a graphic sketch of the memorable voyage of Columbus, in which he dwelt on the difficulties he had to contend with, having only three crazy canoes—only one of which had a crew—a crew of 120 men, nearly all of whom had been forced into the enterprise and hated it, and were ever ready to mutiny; in the heroic courage of the man who had in the depth of his own soul thought out the great project and in faith sailed forth into the unknown abysses of ocean, animated by his noble resolve and trust in God, and was at length rewarded by first sight of a new world, in the form of a green island, beautiful exceedingly, its shores lined with the children of an unknown race.

It is far from being, hitherto, a matter of certainty on which island Columbus planted the flag of Spain. The difficulty of determining this point has arisen, to a large extent, from the fact that the Lucayan, the aboriginal inhabitants of these islands, were carried off by the Spaniards to work the gold mines of Hispaniola, and through cruelty, and hard toil, all perished miserably. For a hundred years afterwards the islands were left uninhabited, so that no vestige of a tradition remained to guide to the spot on which Columbus landed. The island has been variously identified with Turk's Island, by Navarette (1825); with Mayaguana by Vanhagen (1864); with San Juan, by Fox—an American (1880); with Cat Island, by Washington Irving (1828); and also by Humboldt (1836); and with Watling's Island, by Munoz (1898); by Beecher (1856); by Peschel (1857); and by Major (1871).

Not one of all these writers ever visited the spot or made a personal examination of these islands. His Excellency had gone carefully over the whole of these islands and compared their appearance with the account of Columbus, and had also studied the mysterious currents and tides which make the Bahama banks so dangerous; so that his conclusions carry with them great weight. He was led by the irresistible weight of the evidence thus accumulated to the conclusion that the island upon which he landed was Watling's Island, and the beautiful coral beach represented in Mrs. Blake's picture was the very spot at which the great navigator set his foot.

ON THE SHORES OF THE NEW WORLD. I cannot, of course follow him through his lengthened and conclusive argument, in which, quoting the diary of Columbus, he shows, by great exhaustion, comparing each island in turn with his description, that Watling's island alone corresponded with the account contained in his diary, and that the correspondence, in his case, was perfect, while all the others entirely failed to present any features to warrant identification. Watling's Island is thirteen miles long, about eight miles wide, one-third of its area being occupied by a lake or lagoon of brackish water; it is very fertile and beautiful, is almost entirely surrounded by a coral reef, except at Graham's harbor, formed by a great sweep of the reef, and about seven miles long and four miles wide, with a narrow entrance and a promontory close by. Every one of these features is mentioned in Columbus' diary, so that the question may be regarded as settled, for there is no escaping from His Excellency's conclusion. As the centenary of Columbus' discovery is to be observed in 1892, and it is said Spain will invite the European nations to send each a warship to the spot for some celebration on a grand scale, the question in regard to the exact scene of his landing is likely to be hotly debated. Governor Blake has now made a most important contribution to the settlement of the question.

The latter part of the lecture was devoted to an account of the history, productions, inhabitants, with their manners and customs, scenery, etc., of the Bahama Islands, and very picturesque and charming was the description. His Excellency, it may not be generally known, has won a name in the literary world by his numerous contributions to the leading reviews, magazines and journals. On subjects connected with Ireland especially he has written largely.

Local Notices.

CAPE COD Cranberries at Beer & Goff's. feb25-31
BE SURE and see L. E. Prowse's stock of new Hats. Hats from 25 cents up. feb27
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Two hundred and twenty-five hats, worth from \$1 to \$2, selling for 25 to 35 cents at D. A. Bruce's. feb25 dy wy tf

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LAND SALE, THE Subscriber offers for sale that valuable FARM OF LAND now in the occupation of Joseph Kennedy, on the Brackley Point Road, in Lot 33, containing 150 Acres of Land. An excellent title guaranteed. Price low, with easy terms of payment. Possession given on the 1st April next. For further particulars apply at the office of Messrs. Bayfield & Blanchard, Solicitors, Charlottetown. feb17-wky tf EDWARD BAYFIELD, Trustee, &c.

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MORTGAGE SALE, To be sold by Public Auction, on FRIDAY, the 2nd day of March, A. D. 1888, at the hour of Twelve o'clock, noon, in front of the Court House in Charlottetown—

ALL that tract, piece or parcel of Land situated, lying and being on Lot Number Fifty-one, in King's County, Prince Edward Island, bounded and described as follows, that is to say: All that tract, piece or parcel of Land situated, lying and being on Lot Fifty-one, commencing on the south-western side of the road leading from the Ferry Road to Montague Head, in the western boundary of fifty acres now or formerly in possession of Augustine McDonald; thence south three degrees east along said boundary to the rear boundary of farms fronting on that section of Montague River; thence following said line westwardly ten chains; thence north three degrees west to the Ferry Road; thence east along the same to a continuation of the east boundary of three and three-quarter acres sold to Hugh McPherson; and in the possession of Charles D. Pooke; thence northwardly along the same to the Montague River; and thence south easterly along the same to the place of commencement, containing eighty acres and one-eighth of land, a little more or less.

The above sale is made under and by virtue of power of sale contained in an Indenture of Mortgage, bearing date the Twenty-first day of February, A. D. 1883, and made between Alexander Leimon of the one part and Duncan McPherson of the other part. For further particulars apply at the office of Messrs. McLeod, Morson & McQuarrie, Solicitors, Charlottetown. Dated this 15th day of February, A. D. 1888. BUNCAN MATHESON, Mortgagee.

World's Dispensary Medical Association, 603 Main St., BUFFALO, N. Y.

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