

## A "SALVATION" ISLAND.

## Reported Purchase of Anticosti Recalls Odd Colonizing Plan.

The report that General Booth, the head of the Salvation Army, is about to purchase the island of Anticosti from Henri Menier, the Parisian chocolate manufacturer, directs the world's attention to one of the most extraordinary real estate transactions of modern times. Ten years ago M. Menier purchased Anticosti for \$150,000, and sought to make himself monarch of all he surveyed. Now he has tired of the scheme, which, moreover, did not work satisfactorily, and although he spent nearly \$2,000,-

## M. MENIER'S FISHING ESTABLISHMENT ON ANTICOSTI ISLAND.



steamboat facilities. It possesses bears, otters, martens and foxes, though poaching has considerably reduced their numbers, and M. Menier has begun to restock it with all these varieties, as well as with moose, elk and caribou, so as



WINTER ASPECT OF AN ANTICOSTI VILLAGE.



TYPE OF FRENCH SETTLERS BROUGHT TO ANTICOSTI BY M. MENIER.

600 improving this remarkable estate it is believed that he has sold out, or is about to sell out, to General Booth for a fraction of that sum, and that the Salvationists will soon begin to colonize it on a large scale, which he could not succeed in doing.

M. Menier, after he secured the place, expelled the original inhabitants, some scores of Newfoundland fishermen who had squatted around its coast, and whose eviction he ordered because they would not subscribe to the autocratic regulations he framed and enforced. Then he advertised in the French papers for settlers from the Norman and Breton dales to replace them, offering bonuses of varying value to these, according to the period they would agree to remain on Anticosti.

But responses were few and unsatisfactory, because the United States attracted the best class of immigrants, and his regulations were too harsh for most of the French. Hence it is that, owing to lack of settlers to turn to account the varied wealth of the region, the "bon-bon king" is now abandoning his expensive and disappointing whim.

It would be difficult to imagine any spot better suited than Anticosti for a Salvation Army colony. The island is 130 miles long by 30 wide, has an area of 2,400,000 acres, and possesses 300 miles of seacoast. It lies right athwart the entrance to the St. Lawrence River, forming the line of division between the river and the gulf, and it therefore dominates all the ocean borne commerce passing through Canada's front door. Anticosti has two fine natural harbors, one at Ellis Bay, at the upper end of the island, and a second at Fox Bay, at its other extremity. Both are capable of accommodating whole fleets of the largest seagoing ships, in every kind of weather.

Menier's explanation why he purchased the island was that he desired it for a hunting retreat where he and his friends could spend their summers, enjoying its sport and scenic advantages, and not be in danger of an invasion by other pleasure seekers.

To preserve the game in its forests and streams M. Menier devised a Draconian code of rules for the government of his spacious principality. He required all residents to recognize him as possessing sovereign powers. Everybody entering the island to ply a trade or other calling had to obtain a license from him or his "governor," such license being revocable at any time and the holder being then liable to ex-

pulsion. The importing or exporting of provisions, liquors, plants, seeds, cattle, peltries, fish or other commercial objects, except through M. Menier's agents and by his ships, was forbidden, under pain of expulsion, and no resident was to shelter or employ anybody without a permit, under the same penalty, which also applied against the use of alcoholic liquors. The

possession or use of firearms was forbidden, except under a permit from the "governor," revocable at any time, and claimed to be to prevent the extermination of the game or furred animals by the poaching proclivities of the inhabitants. A similar regulation prevented them taking fish from the rivers and lakes.

No resident was allowed to possess any boat or vessel without a permit from the "governor." In like manner, all discoveries of minerals must be reported at once to the "governor," not only by the actual finders, but also by any others who may have had knowledge of the fact. Grain, wheat, vegetables and fruit are grown on the island and reach maturity. Its timber areas are also extensive, and competent authorities say that there are 2,000,000 acres of spruce and pine covered forest. The tillable area is estimated at 1,000,000 acres, or 10,000 farms of 100 acres each, and, allowing five persons to a family, this would support 50,000 people. Much of the surface, moreover, is swampy, but by cheap drainage could be turned to profit, as M. Menier has already done with the site of a lake in the interior of the island, from which he now raises splendid crops of oats. The marshes could also be made to support a large and paying industry in the growing of cranberries; the peat deposits promise to be highly productive, and the timber industry could afford employment to hundreds of men.

The fishery wealth of Anticosti is, however, its chief asset. The waters that wash its shores furnish an abundance of cod, halibut, turbot, mackerel, herring and lobsters. As a result of only two months' fishing last year M. Menier shipped \$40,000 worth of lobsters. Inland fishing is also excellent, the streams and lakes abounding with trout. Salmon and sea trout are readily caught in the inlets. The island, therefore, might be converted into a great tourist paradise, with suitable summer hotels and

to convert it into a valuable hunting preserve. The report that General Booth has purchased Anticosti has already caused many to call it "Salvation Island."

## HOW JEWS ARE CHANGING

## Their Differences in Customs Noticeable at New Year Ceremonial.

The celebration of the Jewish New Year 5665, on September 10, once more brings to mind the changes that are taking place in the manners and customs of the Jewish race in America, where the lack of any form of religious persecution is doing more to win the Jew from strict orthodoxy than all the cruel repressions of Europe could begin to effect.

The Jewish New Year is observed, in accordance with the injunction: "And in the seventh month on the first day of the month shall ye have a holy convocation; no servile work shall ye do; a day of blowing the cornet shall it be unto you."—Numbers six, 1.

The cornet mentioned in the Bible is the ram's horn, or "shofar," and is used in all Jewish synagogues on the New Year. In the orthodox synagogue the man who has this duty must be an exceedingly strict Jew. He must not have shaved his beard. He must not have committed any offence which would bar him from this sacred office. If he has done such a trivial thing as smoking a cigar on the Sabbath, he would be barred.

When he is ready to blow the "shofar," he covers his head with the "tallith," a silken cloth, and takes his stand at the altar, beside the rabbi, and at certain places in the ceremony blows the solemn sounds. The congregation does not look toward him when the

## BLOWING THE SHOFAR IN A STRICTLY ORTHODOX HEBREW SYNAGOGUE AND IN A "REFORMED" ONE



ORTHODOX



REFORMED