

occasions, as early as the tenth century, by parties of Norsemen, some of whom settled in what is now the State of Massachusetts, but were eventually either killed or expelled by the natives. The earliest authentic record of the landing of Europeans on these shores is that of Sebastian Cabot, who reached some part of the coast of Labrador on the 21st June, 1497, and two days afterwards discovered the Island of Newfoundland. Columbus did not reach the mainland until the following year, 1498, and Amerigo Vespucci, from whom the Continent took its name, until 1499. Cabot, therefore, is fairly entitled to be considered as the discoverer of what is now the Dominion of Canada. In 1517 Cabot made another voyage, and succeeded in making his way into what was afterwards called Hudson's Bay, but nothing further was done towards the exploration of the mainland until the expedition of Jacques Cartier in 1534, who landed at Gaspé on the 24th July in that year, and with this date Canadian history proper may be said to begin.

Principal  
events in  
Canadian  
history.

26. Commencing with the first voyage of Cartier, the following are some of the principal events of importance in the history of this country :—

1534. July 24. Landing of Jacques Cartier at Gaspé.

The Bay of Chaleurs was so named by him on account of the great heat of the weather.

1535. July. Second visit of Cartier.

August 10. Cartier anchored in a small bay at the mouth of the St. John River, which, in honour of the day, he named after St. Lawrence. The name was afterwards extended to the gulf and river.

1540. Third visit of Cartier.

1542-43. The Sieur de Roberval and his party wintered at Cap Rouge.

1598. The Marquis de la Roche landed 40 convicts on Sable Island, where they were left for five years without relief, and only twelve were found alive at the end of that time.

1603. First visit of Samuel de Champlain to Canada.

1605. Founding of Port Royal (Annapolis), Acadia (derived from an Indian word "Cadie," a place of abundance), by the Baron de Poutrincourt.

1608. Second visit of Champlain. Founding of Quebec, the first permanent settlement of Canada. The name is said to be an Indian one, "Kebec," a strait. 28 settlers wintered there, including Champlain.