

Nothing was done, either in this visit or the two subsequently made by Cartier in the way of permanent settlement, and the country remained a vast forest, the habitation of savages, till 1608, when, with the advent of Champlain, came the establishment of Quebec as the seat of his Government and the first permanent settlement on the shores of the St. Lawrence.

4. Champlain was the founder of Quebec and Three Rivers, and the discoverer of the River Richelieu, of Lakes Champlain, George, Ontario, Simcoe and Huron. When he died, the entire colony consisted of about 250 persons. The historian Charlevoix says that "Canada then comprised a fort at Quebec surrounded by a few miserable houses and barracks, two or three huts on the Island of Montreal, the same at Tadoussac and a few other places on the St. Lawrence, used for the fishing and peltry trade, together with the beginnings of a station at Three Rivers."

For a dozen years during Champlain's time and afterwards, during the Governorship of Champlain's successors (Montmagny, d'Ailleboust de Coulonge, Jean and Charles de Lauzon, d'Argenson and d'Avaugour) to 1663, the supreme control of the affairs of the colony was vested in a company established by Cardinal Richelieu, under charter given by the French Government and designated "The Society of 100 Associates."

The Jesuits, who came to Canada in 1625,\* used to send reports every year to the superiors of their order in France. These reports, known by the title of the "Relations of the Jesuits," contained information about the country, and the 100 Associates allowed them to be published. In consequence, a good many people were led to emigrate from France. Persons of good family embarked, bringing with them artisans, labourers and dependents. To such persons, the Associates granted tracts of land (seigneuries) along the St. Lawrence. During the regime of the Associates the foundations of Montreal, the future metropolis of Canada, were laid. In 1667, four years after the 100 Associates ceased to exist as a chartered company, the white population of New France was nearly 4,000.

5. In 1672 the Count de Frontenac was appointed Governor, and, next to Champlain, he is in every way the most conspicuous figure among the early holders of that office. The chief glory of his administration was the spirit of daring exploration and discovery by which it was characterized, the grandest achievement of all being the exploration of the Mississippi River and the great West under Joliette, Marquette, LaSalle and Hennepin.

In 1688 came the breaking out of war between France and England, leading to hostilities between the French and the New England colonies. After nine years of harrying, peace came, and by the Treaty of Ryswick (1697) the two nations restored to each other the conquests they had made. The peace lasted four years when the war of the Spanish succession again involved England and France in bloody strife, which, of course, had to be shared by their colonies, and thenceforward until 1713 tragic scenes were enacted from the shores of Acadia to the pathless forests of the West, in which French, English and Indian warriors outvied one another in lust for blood. During the long period of peace following the Treaty of Utrecht (1713), the population of New France slowly increased. The cultivation of

\* They first came in 1611 to Port Royal, but abandoned the field after a short residence.