

35. According to what may be called tradition rather than history, the shores of North America were visited on several 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 reach 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 in the neighbourhood of Miramichi Bay on the 4th July in that year, and with this date Canadian history proper may be said to begin.

Discovery  
of Canada.

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

Principal  
events in  
Canadian  
history.

1534. July 4. Landing of Jacques Cartier in the neighbourhood of the Miramichi River.  
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, "Kébec," a strait. 28 settlers wintered there, including Champlain.
1611. Establishment of a trading post at Hochelaga.
1613. St. John's, Newfoundland, founded.
1615. Champlain sailed up the Ottawa River, crossed Lake Nipissing and descended French River into Georgian Bay and Lake Huron, returning by Lake Ontario.
1620. Population of Quebec, 60 persons.
1629. July. Capture of Quebec by the English under Sir David Kirke. 117 persons wintered there.
1632. Canada ceded to France by the Treaty of St. Germain-en-Laye.
1634. July 4. The town of Three Rivers founded.  
August 13. Fort Richelieu (Sorel) founded.
1635. Dec. 25. Death of Champlain at Quebec.
1642. May 18. Ville Marie (Montreal) founded by Maisonneuve.