

1535. affair more to heart than the Vice-admiral Charles de Mouy, Sieur de la Mailleraye. This noble obtained a new commission for Cartier, more ample than the first, and gave him three ships well equipped.¹ This fleet was ready about the middle of May, and Cartier, who was a man of much religious feeling, directed all his men to meet on the 16th (Whitsunday), in the Cathedral Church, to offer up their devotions. All were present, and on leaving the altar, the captain, followed by his party, entered the choir, where the bishop awaited them attired in his pontifical vestments, and gave them his benediction.²

They embarked on Wednesday the 19th, Cartier on a vessel of one hundred and twenty tons, called the Great Hermine, having with him several young gentlemen, who followed him as volunteers.³ They set sail in beautiful weather, but the next day the wind became adverse, the sky overcast, and for more than a month all the resources of the pilots were tasked to the utmost. The three vessels, which lost sight of each other,⁴ each encountered violent storms, and unable to hold on, were at last forced to leave themselves to the pleasure of the winds and the sea.

The Great Hermine was carried to the north of Newfoundland, and on the 19th of July⁵ sailed for the gulf,⁶ the rendezvous appointed in case of separation. He

¹ Ramusio, iii. 440. Lescarbot, *Nouvelle France*, 1618, p. 263.

² Ferland, i. 20. See commission of Chabot to Cartier, Oct. 30, 1534, in Ramé, *Documents Inédits*, p. 7.

³ Brief Recit & succincte narration, de la navigation faictte es ysls de Canada, &c., Paris, 1545, p. 6; Hakluyt, iii. 212; Ramusio, iii. 440; Lescarbot (ed. 1618), p. 270. The Bishop alluded to in the text, was, it would seem, Denis Briconnet. *Gallicia Christiana*, ii. 681; Faillon's *Histoire de la Colonie Française en Canada*, p. 12.

⁴ An ancient register of St. Malo preserves the names of the whole party, apparently in Cartier's hand. Mr. G. B. Faribault, to whom Canadian history owes so much, has had it engraved in fac-simile. Ramé gives it, p. 10.

⁵ June 25; Brief Recit, 6 verso.

⁶ Cartier gives no such data. He made land first at Ile aux Oiseaux, Funk Island, July 7,—*Brief Recit*, p. 6 verso,—and sailed the next day for the rendezvous, La Baye des Chateaux, Straits of Bellisle; *Brief Recit*, 7; Ferland, *Cours d'Histoire*, i., 18.