

1598. late king, Henry III., his majesty has created him his lieutenant-general in the countries of Canada, Hochelaga, Newfoundland, Labrador, River of the Great Bay,¹ Norimbegue and adjacent lands,² on the following conditions.

His com-
mission. That he shall especially keep in view the establishment of the Catholic faith ; that his authority shall extend over all military and naval forces ; that he shall choose the captains, masters of ships, and pilots ; that he shall have power to command them in whatever he sees fit, without their having the right to disobey him under any pretext ; that he shall have power to dispose of the ships and crews that he shall find in the ports of France ready to sail ; to raise as many troops as he will, make war, build forts and towns, give laws, punish the violation thereof, or pardon ; grant lands to gentlemen as fiefs, seigneuries, castelries, counties, viscounties, baronies, and other dignities depending on the king, as he shall deem advantageous to the service, and to other people of lower rank, at such annual rents and charges as he shall see fit to impose—but from which they shall be exempt the first six years, and more if he deems it necessary ; that on returning from his expedition, he shall have power to divide among those who make the voyage with him, the third of all the movable gains and profits, retain another for himself, and apply the third to the expenses of war, fortification, and other common charges ; that all the gentlemen, merchants, and others, who wish to accompany him at their own expense or otherwise, shall be allowed to do so with all freedom, but not to trade without his license—and that under pain of confiscation of their ships, merchandise, and other effects ; that in case of sickness or death, he shall have power, by will or otherwise, to appoint one or two lieutenants in his stead ; that he shall have power to raise mechanics and others necessary for the success of

¹ The St. Lawrence was then called by this name.—*Charlevoix.*

² This will cover Maine and Nova Scotia.