

1601-2. Calvinist. He wished merely to barter merchandise for furs, with which he soon filled his vessels. He left some of his people, however, at Tadoussac, who would have perished of hunger or disease during the winter, but for the compassion of the Indians.¹ He returned early the next year to his trade, and his second voyage was no less profitable than the former. He was preparing for a third, when death put an end to his projects.²

1603. The Commander de Chatte, governor of Dieppe, succeeded him, formed a company of Rouen merchants, with whom several persons of rank entered in partnership, and fitted out an expedition, which he confided to the direction of Pontgravé, to whom the king had given letters patent to continue discoveries in the River of Canada, and to make settlements there. At the same time Samuel de Champlain, a gentleman of Saintonge, a sea-captain, reputed a brave, able, and experienced officer, arrived from the West Indies, where he had spent two years and a half.³ Commander de Chatte proposed a voyage to Canada to him, and he consented, with the king's approval.

He set out with Pontgravé in 1603.⁴ They made but a short stay at Tadoussac, where they left their vessels, and taking a light boat, with five sailors, they ascended the river to Sault St. Louis;⁵ that is to say, as far as Jacques Cartier had gone; but it seems that the town of Hochelaga no longer existed, or was reduced to insignificance,

¹ Champlain, *Voyages* (ed. 1632), p. 36, describes the house erected by Chauvin, in which he left sixteen men. On the plan of the mouth of the Saguenay (ed. 1613, p. 172), he shows the position of the house, which he himself had seen.

² Champlain (ed. 1632), p. 37.

³ This voyage of Champlain, the earliest of his that we know, was made in the Spanish service, his uncle ranking high in the Spanish navy. His original manuscript, *Bref*

Discours des choses plus Remarquables que Samuel Champlain de Brouage a recogneues aux Indes Occidentales, is preserved at Dieppe, and probably came from Commander de Chaste. The original has never been published, but a somewhat hasty translation was given by the Hakluyt Society, in 1859.

⁴ Champlain, *des Sauvages*, 1603, pp. 5-62, Quebec edition; edition 1632, p. 40.

⁵ Champlain, *des Sauvages*, p. 37.

Enterprise
of the Com-
mander de
Chatte.

Cham-
plain's first
voyage.