

inasmuch as Mr. de Champlain, whose memoirs are very circumstantial, does not say a single word about it.¹ On their return to France, they found the Commander de Chatte dead,² and his commission given to Peter du Guast, Sieur de Monts of Saintonge, Gentleman in Ordinary of the Chamber, and Governor of Pons, who had also obtained the exclusive trade in furs, from the fortieth to the fifty-fourth degree of north latitude; the right to grant lands to the forty-sixth; and letters patent of vice-admiral and lieutenant-general in all that extent of country.³ 1603.

Mr. de Monts was a Calvinist, and the king had permitted him and his the free exercise of his religion in America, as it was practised in the kingdom. On his side, he undertook to settle the country, and establish the Catholic religion among the Indians there. He was, moreover, a very honest man, whose views were upright, who was zealous for his country, and had all the ability requisite for success in the enterprise on which he had embarked; but he was unfortunate, and almost always ill-served. His exclusive privilege for the fur-trade raised up rivals, who succeeded in ruining him. He had maintained the company formed by his predecessor, and he even increased it by several merchants from the chief ports of France, especially Rochelle. So much force combined enabled him to make a more considerable outfit than any of those whom he succeeded, and it was made partly at Dieppe and partly at Havre de Grace.

Mr. de
Monts in
Acadia.

¹ Champlain, *des Sauvages*, p. 37. In this voyage he seems to have heard of Niagara, of the Hurons or good Iroquois, and both heard of and seen Lake Superior copper: p. 46. He reached Havre de Grace September 20, 1603, with several Indians, including an Iroquois woman rescued from the stake, p. 62.

² Eymard de Claste, Knight of Malta, Commander of Lormetau,

Grandmaster of the Order of St. Lazarus, and Governor of Dieppe. Faillon, *Histoire de la Colonie Française en Canada*, i. p. 75. He died May 13, 1603. Cape Chat, on the St. Lawrence River, derived its name from him.

³ Champlain, *Voyages* (ed. 1613), p. 4. See Commission in Lescarbot (ed. 1618), p. 417. *Mem. des Comm.*, ii. 441.