

ROBBE AND
LA MARTI-
NIÈRE. English Carolina, the present New Georgia, San Mateo, St. Augustine, and all held by the Spaniards on that coast as far as Cap François, was never called by Champlain (Mr. de la Martinière to the contrary notwithstanding), nor by any French author, any thing but French Florida, New France, or Western France.

Mr. la Martiniere is also mistaken in saying that Mr. de Ribaut had built a fort on river May, and gave it the name of Charles; the fact is, that Ribaut entered river May, and set up a column, with the arms of France, but did not stop there. He went further north, and entering another river, which he called Port Royal, built a fortress there, to which he gave the name of Charles-Fort. This river is in English Carolina. Two years after, Mr. de Laudonniere built la Caroline on river May, which never was in English Carolina, and consequently could not give it a name.

I am glad also to note here that no Spaniard or other European having appeared in that country before the French, led there by Ribaut in 1562, it is surprising that the learned geographer of the Catholic king pretends that the Spaniards had a right to treat these French in Florida as pirates, when they held a commission from the king their master, and that no reproach could be made to them had they treated them as prisoners of war. In the first place, there is a glaring contradiction here, for if the Spaniards had a right to regard these Florida Frenchmen as pirates, they could not be reproached with treating them as such. In the second place, on what ground could they treat as pirates subjects sent by their own sovereign to a country which the French had first discovered, and where no nation had settled before them? Was it enough that it pleased the Spaniards to call almost all North America Florida, to treat as usurpers and pirates all who settled in any portion of an immense country, of which they did not know the tenth part, and where they had never had a settlement?

I might extend my remarks to many articles in the new *Dictionnaire Géographique*, where there are, nevertheless, many excellent things. In general, the author is very well acquainted with the countries of which I write the history. Yet a mere examination of the map would have prevented his saying, for example, that Lac du St. Sacrement (Lake George) receives