

same voyage, offered him a place in their canoe, which he accepted. Instead of taking the ordinary route, they followed the channel which separates Montreal Island and Isle Jésus, and which is commonly called Rivière des Prairies. Midway in this channel is a rapid; but the Indians, instead of landing and making what is called a portage, endeavored to shoot it with their canoe. Whether they did it unskillfully or intentionally, the canoe capsized. Father Viel and a young convert who accompanied him were drowned. From this accident the rapid received the name of Sault au Recollect (the Recollect's Rapid), which it still retains. As all the Hurons escaped, and had, it was said, seemed ill-disposed towards the missionary, there were strong suspicions that the capsizing was not accidental; the more so as the savages seized the best part of the good Father's baggage. Be that as it may, there was no one at Three Rivers who was not of opinion that Fathers de Daillon and de Brebeuf should postpone their voyage for a time.¹

The next year, three Jesuits, Fathers Philibert Noyrot, Anne de Noue, and a brother, arrived at Quebec on a small vessel which they had chartered, and on which they brought over some mechanics.² By this help Quebec assumed the form of a town; for till then it was a mere

1626.

The Jesuits
meet great
opposition
in Canada.

¹ Sagard (*Histoire du Canada*, pp. 806, 874) mentions the death of Father Viel incidentally, but gives no details. Father Lalemant does the same in a letter, July 28, 1625; Sagard, *Histoire du Canada*, p. 868; Le Clercq, *Etablissement*, i., p. 312. (Le Clercq gives more detail, i., p. 321); Le Jeune, *Relation* (1634), p. 92.

² They brought over, in 1626, twenty mechanics, with provisions, chartering a vessel of eighty tons for three thousand five hundred livres: Champlain, *Voyages* (ed. 1632), p. 86. Noyrot returned almost immediately: Lalemant, *Letter* of August 1, 1626, in Carayon, *Doc-*

Inéd., xii., p. 120; Creuxius, *Hist. Canad.*, p. 8. Champlain sailed from France, April 20, 1626, with the Recollect le Caron (*ib.*, p. 86). He found that absolutely nothing had been done in his absence. He immediately set to work. In 1627, Fathers de Brebeuf, de Noue, and de la Roche went to the Hurons: Sagard, *Histoire du Canada*, p. 874; Lalemant, *Relation* (1626), p. 8; Letter of August 1, 1626. The last named penetrated to the Attiawandaronk or Neuters, a tribe lying on both sides of the Niagara. See his interesting letter: Sagard, *Histoire*, p. 880; Le Clercq, i., p. 346.