

1627. habitation, and not called by any other name.¹ The experience and talent of Father Enemond Masse for a new settlement—of which, according to the memoirs of Champlain and Lescarbot, he had given marked proofs at Port Royal—contributed greatly; but he and his associates soon found, on the St. Lawrence, the opposition which they had experienced in Acadia, and which cost France that province. Mr. de Ventadour, learning from some Catholics of Quebec the misconduct of William de Caen towards these missionaries, wrote to him in a tone which greatly mortified him. He did not doubt but that those who had been the occasion and subject of these complaints had themselves drawn these reproaches on him; and the retaliation fell on them.

Wretched state of the colony. On the other hand, the Indians continued to give great uneasiness. They had again assassinated colonists, and as the French were not strong enough yet to demand satisfaction, impunity rendered the savages more insolent, so that settlers were no longer sure of their lives if they went the least distance from their houses. Such was the condition of the colony when Mr. de Champlain returned to Quebec in 1627.² The buildings had not progressed in his absence, and the cleared lands remained for the most part untilled. The partners of the Sieurs de Caen thought only of the fur-trade, and minds grew daily more exasperated in regard to religion. All this, pictured warmly to the king's council, induced Cardinal Richelieu to put the commerce of New France into other hands, and to hearken to the proposition made him to form a company of one hundred associates on a plan laid before him.³

¹ This is exaggerated. Lalemant gives the whole number of French in the colony as forty-three. The colonists introduced by the Jesuits were soon compelled to return, and Quebec was not called a city till 1663: *Lettres Historiques de la M. Marie*

de l'Incarnation, p. 589; Faillon, *Histoire de la Colonie Française*, i., p. 223.

² This should be 1626. See note 2, p. 37; *Creuxius, Hist.*, p. 9.

³ A great company, called the Morbihan Company, was projected, but