

1635-6. wished to gratify his wishes on this point also. They wrote to Father Mutius Vitelleschi, general of the Jesuits, and offered him six thousand gold crowns for this foundation. The donation was thankfully received, but the capture of Quebec by the English suspended the execution of the project.¹

First effect
of this found-
ation.

It was necessary then to wait some time till the capital had taken form and the colonists were in a condition to profit by this establishment. The affair was finally commenced in the month of December, 1635; but the joy it

Death of
Champlain.

gave was soon troubled by the loss of its governor, which the French colony sustained a few days after. He died at Quebec this same year, generally and justly regretted.²

¹ Relation de la Nouvelle France, 1641, p. 56; Relation, 1636, p. 4. Creuxius (*Historia Canadensis*, p. 7) gives the letters of Father Mutius Vitelleschi, establishing Nicholas Rohaut, Marquis de Gamache, Baron of Longroy and Hincerville, Seigneur of Beauchamp, Mareuil, and Bonnincour, etc., and his wife, Frances Mangot, founders of the college. Creuxius gives the amount as sixteen thousand gold crowns. This is supported by de Belmont (*Histoire du Canada*, Quebec, 1840, p. 1), and by a manuscript list of benefactors of the Canada mission, in the handwriting of Father Ragneneau, "Mar. 15, 1636, Marquis de Gamache, 48,000 livres."

² Champlain died December 25, 1635, after an illness of two months and a half (*Relation de la Nouvelle France*, 1636, p. 56; Creuxius, *Historia Canadensis*, p. 183). He was born at Brouage, in Saintonge, in 1567 or 1570, of a respectable family, his father being styled noble. During the civil wars he fought for the king in Brittany, under d'Aumont de St. Luc and Brissac (*Faillon, Histoire de la Colonie Française*, vol. 1, note xxi, p. 550). His uncle held a

high rank in the Spanish navy; and Champlain had just returned from a voyage to Mexico in the Spanish service when he was induced to sail to New France, with which his after-career was identified, and in which he was laid, after many years of adventure and struggle. He married Helen Boullé, sister of a fellow-navigator, who, though at the time a Protestant, returned to the ancient faith, and, on her husband's death, became an Ursuline nun, under the name of Mother Helen de St. Augustine. She died at Meaux, December 20, 1654, at the age of fifty-six, in a convent which she had founded (*Cronique de l'Ordre des Ursulines; Les Ursulines de Quebec*, p. 352). They left no issue, the only heir appearing to claim any right in his estate being a cousin. Champlain wrote a journal of his voyage to Mexico, of which a tolerable translation has been published by the Hakluyt Society; *Des Sauvages*, 1603; *Voyages*, 1613; *Voyages*, 1619; *Voyages*, 1632. A copy of his portrait by Moncornet is here given. For the discovery of his tomb, see note at end of this volume.