

there are there many populous villages and good people, and that they have a great quantity of gold^s and red copper.

Having passed the winter near Quebec, on the 6th of May, 1536, Cartier set sail for home, having captured Donnacona, the chief of tribe at Quebec, and nine others, whom he took with him to France. When they were at the Isle aux Condres, about fifty miles below Quebec, a party of the subjects of Donnacona, just from the river of the Saguenay, came on board to bid their chief adieu, and present him with valuable parting presents. The following are Cartier's words:

Donerent audiet Donnacona trois paquetz de peaulx de byeures & louns marins avec vng grad cousteau de cuyure rouge, qui vient du Saguenay & autres choses.—*Brief Recit.*, p. 44, verso.

Translation.—They gave to the above mentioned Donnacona three packages of beaver and seal skins, together with a large knife of red copper which came from Saguenay, and other things.

I find no further important testimony in the reports of Cartier, or in that of Jean Alfonse, relating to the voyage made by the latter under Roberval, in 1542. From this time onward, for the next seventy years, the Basques and Normans visited the waters of the St. Lawrence, but they were only private adventurers and desultory fur-traders and fishermen, and left no record of discoveries and observations.

In 1608 Champlain laid the foundations of Quebec. In the month of June, 1610, he left Quebec by appointment to join a war party of Algonquins,^o Hurons, and Montagnais, at Three Rivers, who were preparing to attack their enemies, the Iroquois. When he had gone not more than twenty-five miles, he met a canoe containing two Indians, an Algonquin and a Montagnais, who had been despatched to urge him to hasten forward with as much speed as possible. He entertained them on his barque, when the fol-

^s It must have been difficult for the Indians to distinguish between gold and copper: it would seem probable that their distinction was founded on some fancied or real difference in the color of the specimens which they had seen.

^o We may here remark that while the name *Algonquin* is applied to all the tribes on the north bank of the St. Lawrence and of the lakes, to represent them as belonging to the same stock, there was a particular tribe to which this name was given, whose home was not very well defined, but appeared to be about the sources of the Ottawa, and their hunting grounds probably extended to Lake Superior.