



—ADP  
Postage stamp issued by the Government of France commemorating the centenary of the voyage of "La Capricieuse".

occupied by Napoleon before his embarkation for St. Helena), lunch at Marennes and the presentation of the keys of the town to Mr. Désy at Brouage. The second day was spent at La Rochelle where a Franco-Canadian Exhibition was opened by M. Berthoin.

The exhibition comprised 427 items relating to Franco-Canadian history from the discovery of Canada and the settlement and growth of New France to the visit of *La Capricieuse* in 1855. A masterpiece of organization, it included the document by which Francis I granted 6,000 livres to Jacques Cartier in 1532 for his expedition to the St. Lawrence and the marriage contract of Samuel Champlain. There were numerous documents on emigration to Canada and shipping departures from La Rochelle and other ports. The exhibition also illustrated the social customs and economic pursuits of the settlers of New France as well as plans for the defence of the colony and the withdrawal of France in 1760.

The significance of the visit of *La Capricieuse* was described by Mr. Désy at La Rochelle on July 9, 1955, in these words:

When in 1855 a France naval vessel from La Rochelle came to renew official ties between your country and mine, it performed a necessary mission. This symbolic gesture, however, served only to consecrate by deed a spiritual state of affairs that had never ceased to exist. It is this fact of uninterrupted relations on the higher level of the spirit that I wish to invoke in bringing you the fraternal greetings of your Canadian colleagues.