

The settlement was named after the Count of St. Pierre, the President of the ill-starred company that made the first attempt to establish a permanent colony on the Island. In 1719, the very year in which the new company settled on the Peninsula of Port Le Joie, two Normans, Francis Douville and Charles Charpentier, established themselves on the estuary. It is probable that Charpentier chose for his dwelling a site somewhere near the Morell, as we find that river bearing his name among the settlers in after years. In the year following, 1720, these pioneers were joined by nine additional settlers. Gabriel Roger and William DeBois, both from Normandy, and both labourers. Saintonge supplied five settlers, Mathurin Renaud, Jean Madre, Pierre Cosset, Noel Boulanger, and Francis Du-Rocher. Pierre Carica came from Bayonne, and Dominique Duclos, from Bearn, was medical practitioner in the young settlement. The most of these were fishermen, although agricultural pursuits were not forgotten. In 1721, only two additional settlers arrived—Augustus Genet from Brittany, and Peter Bertan Montaury from Normandy—both were harbor-masters. In 1722, the settlement was increased by three: Etienne Poitevin, a labourer from Paris; Jean Baptiste LeBuffle, master of a shallop, from Normandy; and William Sellet, a Breton, also the owner of a shallop. In the succeeding year, Louis Potevin joined his brother; and Jean Bourg, from Acadia, and Jean de Breton, from Brittany, settled at the harbor. A son of LeBuffle was the only accession in 1724.

The disaster which laid the Company of St. Pierre in ruins, struck a fatal blow at the prosperity of every settlement. That Company by Royal Letters Patent possessed the Island, and was the only source of life and enterprise. When this became dried up, trade fell naturally into a condition of such languor, that it was incapable of attracting either the farmer or the fisherman. Even after DePense's had been ordered, in 1725, to take possession of the Island in the name of the crown of France, confidence was not sufficiently restored to encourage settlers to risk their all in a disputed succession, and it was not till 1728 that the