

Whether or not the scheme was successful is not clearly stated. Further on I will tell you more of the red man as a slave to the white man.

The next mention of a slave is found in the "*Relation des Jésuites*," that curious yet most valuable collection of facts, fiction and religion, where it is stated that when the Kertks captured Quebec in 1628, they had with them a young Malagasy slave who was subsequently sold for the sum of 50 écus, (60 sols or 3 Fcs.) about \$30, he appears to have remained in the colony, (Relation of 1632.)

We must now skip many years to 1688, when Governor, the Marquis de Denonville and Intendant de Champigny wrote, from Quebec, to the French Minister on the 10th of August, 31st October and 6th November, among other statements that: "Laborers and servants "are so scarce and costly in Canada that those who "attempt extensive works are ruined in consequence. "We believe that the surest means of obviating this "difficulty would be to bring here negro slaves. The "Procureur Général of the Council assures us that if "His Majesty sanctions this proposal that the principal "inhabitants will cause some to be purchased in the "(West India) islands on the arrival of the (slave) "ships from Guinea (the Gold Coast) and that he will "himself do likewise." To this the Minister replied "His Majesty permits the inhabitants to import negroes "to assist them in cultivating the land; At the same "time it is proper to warn them that the great contrasts of climate might prove fatal to these negroes, "and the project thus become a failure." This is the rescript misquoted by the historian Garneau.

The project was attempted with but indifferent success at first. For we see that on the 13th April, 1709, the Intendant found it necessary to issue an Ordinance, with regard to negroes and (*) Pawnee indians. As the ordinance is long winded and involved, the following extract will suffice. This is particularly important as reaffirming the rescript of 1688, establishing and authorizing slavery in the colony; slavery not only of

(*) Spelt Panis in the French records.