

HISTORY OF MICHIGAN.

CHAPTER I.

General view of French Colonization—Voyages of Jacques Cartier—Hochelaga
Roherval's Voyage—Samuel Champlain's Voyage—Jesuits sent to Canada
—Company of New France—Death of Champlain—Religious Institutions in
Canada—Failure of the Company of New France—Rival claims of the En-
glish and French—Iroquois and Algonquins—Marquis d'Argenson appoint-
ed Governor—Condition of the Colonies—Count de Frontenac—Discovery of
the Mississippi—Discovery of the mouth of the Mississippi.

DURING the fifteenth and a greater part of the sixteenth century, the principal monarchs of Europe devoted their enterprise to the discovery of new worlds. Now, the energies of mankind are employed in their colonization. The Italian states, and especially the Republics of Venice and Genoa, the Portuguese and the Spaniards, France and England, embarked in the project of exploration. The design of the adventurers was to aggrandize themselves by founding new empires, and their motive was the love of gain and dominion. A spirit of adventure kindled the more active youth of those states, who were employed in the study of navigation and the kindred sciences. They burned with zeal to traverse vast and trackless oceans, stretching away thousands of miles toward unknown coasts, which their fancy had painted in glowing colors as a second Eden; and to plant the banners of their country upon shores adorned with the richest scenery, whose caves were encrusted with gems, whose streams glided over beds of silver, and where the rocks were based on solid gold. Monarchs and subjects, nobles and priests, sailors, artisans, soldiers, and nuns, freely gave their patronage or individual service to the great work. Columbus and the Cabots, Gaspar de Cortereal, Giovanni Verazzano, and other