

him to do so. But unhappily he persevered, entered the beautiful harbor and descended upon the unsuspecting little colony. There was no attempt at resistance. The English seized all the stores, plundered the buildings, killed or carried off all the animals they found, and then burned the whole settlement to the ground. They then destroyed the harvest also, and having thus completed the devastation, returned to their ships.

Baron Poutrincourt, ignorant of these events, returned in the following spring to Port Royal, to find his domain laid waste, his buildings in ashes, and his son, with the other settlers, wandering shelterless in the woods. Even he was at last driven to despair by this calamity, and, losing heart and hope, returned finally to France. There he fell, some years later, sword in hand, leading the royal forces into battle, a brave and gallant leader, who at least deserved the success he failed to grasp.

But though Port Royal as a colony was ruined, the French still kept a foothold⁴ in Acadia. Poutrincourt did not altogether desert Port Royal, and the traders' huts at least kept the spot from returning to utter solitude. New France was by no means crushed in the ruins of Port Royal. But this high handed act of destruction, committed in time of peace between the two great nations who were contending for the prize of the great continent, was but the beginning of a long and bitter conflict—the fruitful source of misery and death, until it ended at last with the ebbing lives of Montcalm and Wolfe on the blood-dyed Plains of Abraham.

CHAPTER IV.

From "Story of Champlain," by Miss A. M. Machar.

"This led to the founding of the city of Quebec at the foot of the cliff Cape Diamond."—*High School History*, page 336

In 1608 Champlain and Pontgravé sailed up the St. Lawrence, passing the green island of Orleans and the white fall of Montmorency, till the bold promontory of Quebec rose above the winding river.