

take such work laborers were necessary. The voyage across the Atlantic, alone, does not change locksmiths, blacksmiths and sawyers into farmers. Evidently, the greater number of the colonists were farmers, to whom were added artizans.

As to the *adventurers* of 1610, mentioned by M. Rameau, "historians agree in saying that *they were chosen with care* among the farmers and artizans." * Subsequent immigrants were chosen with equal care; the conduct, the morality, the industry of the Acadians, from the very beginning of the colony, all prove this; all the documents of these times, the *Gazette*, which says that M. de Razilly went to Acadie, taking with him three hundred *picked men*; and M. Moreau, whose testimony, on account of the researches he has made with relation to this subject, equals that of any other writer, says: "There is no difficulty in admitting what the *Gazette* declares; *the embarkation of many of the nobility* had rendered the beginning of the colony illustrious." †

By such forcible testimony the third stone of the edifice, erected with much labor, falls to the ground. By exhibiting the Acadians as the rabble of France in the seventeenth century, it was an easy matter to arrive, without transition, at the marriages with the Abenakis. Instead of these "freebooting" ancestors we have as founders of the settlements in Acadie men *chosen* by De Monts, Pontrincourt, the Marquise de Guercheville, Razilly, d'Aunay, Grandê Fontaine, and others, to whom the governments of Louis XIII. and Louis XIV. added zealous missionaries—Jesuits, Capuchins and Recollets. Proof will be more freely given of this when we come to speak of the development of the Acadian race. There is hardly, in the whole of America, a people having less reason to be ashamed of their ancestors than the Acadians. This circumstance is not less important than the vindication of the charge of the mixed marriages. The honor of our ancestors is also our own; generally, we inherit the virtues of our fathers, if they have been really virtuous, the same as we bear the shame of their actions if they have been inglorious. I would be doubly satisfied were I enabled, by my humble efforts, to erase from my country's history these two stains, equally disgraceful.

V.

THIRD ERROR.

A GREAT poet and thinker, who might have lent enthusiasm to

* Moreau, p. 50.

† Moreau, p. 119.