

the canals has alone the end in view to bring the produce of the West to Montreal and the St. Lawrence. The enlargement of the navigation is to make it possible for vessels to start from Chicago for Europe, and to bring back an unbroken cargo of manufactured articles to an American port on Lake Michigan. The early inhabitants of the United States, the English colonists, were desirous that no canoe should pass below Lake Ontario, that the trade should ascend to the Mohawk and find its way to the Hudson. The struggle of *Nouvelle France* was to bring everything eastward. In the earlier history the St. Lawrence was not looked upon as the channel to the west; it was the Ottawa which was followed. The northern part of the Island of Montreal offered no such impediment as the Rapids of St. Louis, the Lachine Rapids. The Ottawa was taken to the mouth of the Matawan. This stream was followed to the portage which led to Lake Nipissing and, by the French River, Georgian Bay was gained. Access was thus had to the Huron Country. The Jesuit Fort, the traces of which remain, near the line of the Midland Railway, was reached by this route. The ruins yet stand on the shore in the great bay into which the Severn discharges, a branch of which penetrates to Pene-tanguishene, one of the most beautiful of the many picturesque sheets of water on the continent.

It has been the fashion to speak of Jacques Cartier as the founder of Canada. Cartier certainly visited the country, and he passed a winter here. In 1534, his first voyage terminated at Gaspé. His second voyage was in 1535. He reached Montreal, passed a few days, and wintered at Quebec in 1536.* In 1540 he again sailed to

Canada in the expedition organised by Roberval, and returned to France in 1542. The mode of his departure gives one not too favourable a view of his character. Cartier then disappears from history. There is no trace of his presence, either in legislation, or manners, or jurisprudence, if we except the material memorial of some timbers found in the River St. Charles, which has been considered to be the remains of the *Hermine*. Cartier was not even the first to 'discover' Canada. The country had been visited in 1518 by De Levis; and Verazzani, ten years previous to Cartier's expedition, penetrated the St. Lawrence. The loss of Verazzani in the expedition of 1525, for he was never heard of after leaving France, has caused his name to be lost sight of, and explains why so little is known of his previous voyage.

The real founder of Canada is Champlain, and any non-recognition of this fact is a disregard of history. Champlain appears on the scene for the first time in 1603, some thirty years before the records of Three Rivers are marked by any interest. From 1543 to 1598 no effort of any kind was made to fit out an expedition to the St. Lawrence, or to colonize the country. It was in 1542 that Cartier abandoned Roberval in the Harbour of Newfoundland, by all accounts, in the night time. Roberval pushed on to Quebec and wintered there, and in the following summer, leaving a band of some thirty behind him, he returned to France. The fate of these men must ever remain unknown. In the succeeding year the brothers Roberval equipped a vessel and proceed-

* 'Plus proche dudit Quebec, y a une petite rivière qui vient dedans les terres d'un lac disant de nostre habitation de six à sept lieues. Je tiens que dans cette rivière qui est au nord et un quart du Nord-ouest de nostre habitation, ce fut le lieu où Jacques Cartier yverna,

d'autant qu'il y a encores à une lieue dans la rivière des vestiges comme d'une cheminee, dont on a trouvé le fondement, et apparence d'y avoir eu des fosses autour de leur logement, qui estoit petit. Nous trouvasmes aussi de grandes pièces de bois escarrées, vermoulues et quelques trois ou quatre balles de canon. Toutes ces choses monstrent evidemment que c'a été une habitation, laquelle a été fondée par des Chrétiens.'—*Œuvres de Champlain, Book III. ch. 4, Voy. 1608.*