

other and rushed into an embrace. "It was at Meudon," says a modern French writer, "at the door of the Palace, whither the Sieur de la Dauversière had come to request the aid of the Minister for his enterprise. The two men, who had never before seen each other, illumined suddenly by a light within, fall into each other's arms, call each other by name, treat each other like brothers, relate their mutual plans, speak at length of this colony of Montreal (which was still but an unknown island), with topographical details so exact, that one would have said they had passed long years together there."

They obtained the aid of a number of wealthy and noble persons of the court, including Madame de Bullion, and these were formed into a society known as the Company of Our Lady of Montreal (Compagnie de Notre Dame de Montréal).

About the same time a young nun of great devotion, Mademoiselle Jeanne Mance by name, believed herself called in a vision to go to the same place, and there to found a convent and mission. In her case, too, a miracle occurred. "God lifting for her the veils of space, showed to her, while yet in France, in a divine vision, the shores of our isle, and the site of Ville Marie, at the foot of the Mountain, and on the shore of its great river."

Combining crusader and martyr spirits, they purposely chose the most dangerous outpost, and to that end acquired the Island of Montreal, then uninhabited, distant, and exposed to the incursions of the powerful Iroquois. Paul de Chomédy, Sieur de Maisonneuve, a gentleman of Champagne, a brave and valiant knight, was entrusted with