

"The Hundred Associates" was formed in France for the purpose of colonizing Canada, and especially Acadie, the possession of which they anticipated.

The brothers David, Thomas and Louis Kirk, in 1628, under pretence of taking possession of Acadie, occupied the posts already belonging to the English. The affairs of the colony remained in this precarious state until 1632, when the Treaty of St. Germain's was signed, definitely restoring the country to its former masters. The "Company of the Hundred Associates," for a long time prepared to commence operations, immediately sent de Razilly, with "three hundred picked men," to drive Sir William Alexander's colonists out of Acadie, take possession, and settle therein. From this period the colony from day to day made great progress. Every year the company sent out a number of families to settle at La Heve. This company was bound to send, in the space of fifteen years, *four thousand colonists of both sexes* to Canada and Acadie. Circumstances, it is true, did not allow of this engagement being fulfilled to the letter. Nevertheless, at the death of de Razilly in 1635, forty families had been sent out, who, according to Denys, "harvested much corn."

Razilly was succeeded by d'Aunay. The first act of his authority was to transfer the inhabitants of La Heve to Port Royal. Despite the unceasing struggle he was engaged in with the English, and especially with Latour and his filibustering companions, he brought from France, during his administration, twenty families to Port Royal. These fifty or sixty families are evidently those mentioned in the census of 1671, the real ancestors, *the primitive Acadian families*. The intermarriages, of which M. Rameau speaks, had, in 1671, increased the number to sixty-seven or sixty-nine families.

VII.

LATOUR AND HIS COMPANIONS.

MEANWHILE, what had become of Poutrincourt's companions remaining with Latour at Cape Sable, and the adventurers who had joined them? This period of the history of Acadie is very obscure; it is here that the historians do most disagree; consequently it was less dangerous to form suppositions. And so M. Rameau and M. Moreau take advantage of this obscurity to make the adventurers of Cape Sable the ancestors of the present Acadian