

through Marie de Medicis and her Italian favorite, Concini, otherwise the Marquis of Anae. The Court itself was excited by quarrels and intrigues of the most contemptible character. At last, Condé, himself a Bourbon, took up arms, and was supported by the Duke of Vendôme and other prominent notables. Marie de Medicis at first attempted her usual intrigues, with a view of bringing about a reconciliation with the disaffected; but, finally, the political difficulties resulted in a civil war, which lasted for a considerable period.

There is on the Upper Seine a little town of the name of Méri. Here the insurgents had established themselves in the autumn of 1615, and Poutrincourt was ordered to reduce the town, as he held a prominent position in the King's army. He succeeded in the attempt, but at the cost of his own life. An epitaph inscribed on his tomb at St. Just, in Champagne, states that "he was slain by Pisander, who wickedly moved a catapult, and struck him on the heart, in the month of December, 1615, in the 58th year of his age." On the same authority we learn that there was also an epitaph of Poutrincourt cut into the trees and marble, on the coast of New France:—

"Chara Deo soboles, neophyti mei,
Novæ Franciæ incolæ,
christicolæ
quos ego,
Ille ego sum magnus Sagamo noster
Poutrincurtius,
super æthera natus
in quo olim spes vestra.
Vos si fefellit invidia
lugete,
Virtus mea me perdidit; vobis
gloriam meam alteri dare
nequivi.
Iterum lugete."

Freely translated:—

"Ye progeny so dear to God,
inhabitants of New France,
whom I brought over to the
Faith of Christ. I am Poutrincourt, your
great chief, in whom was once your hope.
If envy deceived you, mourn
for me. My courage
destroyed me. I could
not hand to another
the glory that I won
among you. Cease
not to mourn for me."

Baron de Poutrincourt may justly be considered the founder of Port Royal, for though De Monts was at first the leader in the Acadian expedition of 1604, yet he virtually abandoned it after a short struggle against the difficulties that surrounded him, and yielded all the responsibility to his friend. Garneau, indeed, says that he may be regarded as "the real founder of Acadia itself, as a French colony; for the destruction of Port Royal did not cause the abandonment of the province, which ceased not to be occupied, at some point or other, by the remaining colonists, whose number was augmented from time to time by other immigrants."*

Poutrincourt's conduct throughout the difficulties which met him in attempting to establish Port Royal is certainly entitled to our admiration. In his courage, energy, and perseverance, he was a type of a class of which the history of America affords many examples. The perils of unknown seas and illimitable forests were not the chief difficulties that the pioneer of civilization in America had to encounter. A thousand obstacles, arising from commercial jealousies and rivalries, and from religious dissensions, had to be met and overcome. We have seen how often Poutrincourt's success was marred by these difficulties, and how bravely he struggled against them, though, unhappily, all in vain.

Port Royal, in later years, arose from its ashes, and the fleur-de-lis, or the red-cross, floated from its walls, according as the French or the English were the victors in the long struggle that ensued for the possession of Acadia. With the foundation of Halifax, however, Port Royal became a place of little importance, and sank into obscurity. Nothing now remains to tell of its former French owners. The scene that now meets the eye of the tourist is very different from what it was in the days of

* After the destruction of Port Royal, Blencourt and a few others remained among the Indians in Acadia, but we possess no accurate information respecting his future career. He is supposed to have died in 1622.