

Monts, a favorite of King Henry IV, of France. He had visited Canada and was intimate with many persons who were interested in the fur trade.

De Monts, in 1603, obtained from the king a patent constituting him Lieutenant-General of the territory of Acadia, "to do generally whatsoever may make for the conquest, peopling, inhabiting, and preservation of the said land of Acadia." He also secured the exclusive right to trade with the savages in furs and other articles, for a period of ten years.

About the middle of June, 1604, De Monts, with his associates, under the leadership of Samuel Champlain, sailed into Annapolis Basin. Delighted, as it is but natural to suppose, with this charming sheet of water and its picturesque surroundings, Champlain named the place Port Royal.

One of the party in particular, a gentleman of Picardie, named Jean de Biencourt, Sieur de Poutrincourt, was so pleased with the many attractions of the place, as to desire to make it a permanent home for himself and family. He therefore requested of De Monts, and upon certain conditions received in 1607, a grant of the place, which was confirmed by the King of France.

Further exploration by the party was deemed necessary before settlement. After coasting the shores of the Bay of Fundy they wintered at St. Croix, an island in Passamaquoddy Bay, where they were decimated by scurvy. Next spring, after receiving an accession of men and fresh supplies from France, they determined to settle at Port Royal. This settlement of Port Royal, thus commenced in the spring of 1605, seems to have never been afterwards entirely abandoned, which fact makes it the oldest continuous European settlement in North America, north of Florida.

The efforts of colonization, although conducted on a small scale, was pursued with vigor, this being due mainly to the bold enterprise and perseverance of Poutrincourt and his gallant son, young Biencourt. Many misfortunes overtook the colonists, and the settlement was finally broken up by an English expedition from Virginia under Argall in 1613.

The names of two medical men are associated with the Port Royal