

at the mouth of the Nemisco River. On their return, the Hudson's Bay Company was formed and obtained a charter, dated 2nd May, 1670. (1) Nowhere is any date given to des Grozelier's alleged first journey overland to James' Bay; indeed it was only formally put forward in 1686 (French Memoir, 8th November, 1686, Doc. Hist. 9) to sustain the French claim to be the first discoverers of the Bay. But, curious to say, in the French Memoir, the year of the Gillam expedition is stated to be 1662. It is, however, perfectly certain that he did not go to the North in 1662, and that the Gillam expedition did not start before 1667—perhaps only in 1668. It seems more than probable that the story of the overland journey to James' Bay was an invention of des Grozeliers in order to draw the Quebec merchants into his scheme. Probably he had heard of Hudson's Bay from the Indians he met in the North-West; for difficult and tedious as was the overland journey, it was not impossible; and occasionally there was some intercourse between those living in Canada and Indians from the neighbourhood of the Bay. Thus, in 1657, eight Canadians went up to the Bastien with twenty canoes of Algonquins. The voyage was rough, long, and dangerous, though prosperous, and they met with the Kiristinons "*qui sont proche de la mer du Nord*." (Journal des Jesuites, p. 217.) Again, in 1661, it is said 80 Kiristinons came as far as Montreal to look for a Missionary. (Ibid.) But it seems very odd if he had really made any such journey that the records of the Jesuits should be silent on the subject. From their journal we learn that, in 1659, des Grozeliers did go up to Lake Superior, and passed the winter with the Nation de Beauf, returning the following year to Canada with 300 Ottawas and a great quantity of fur. He was at Three Rivers on the 24th August, 1660. Again we hear of him on 5rd May, 1662, and he then said he was going to La Mer du Nord. He passed the night at Quebec, and he wrote to the Governor from Cap Tourmente (2). We know nothing positive of his subsequent movements for some time; but it is not unlikely that after leaving Quebec, he passed the years from 1662 to 1667 advocating his project of a voyage to Hudson's Bay. This conjecture would also account for the error of the French Memoir in placing the date of the Gillam expedition in 1662. It would appear that des Grozeliers was accompanied by Radisson, to whose sister he was married, and that Radisson was married to an English woman. (De Frontenac's letter, 2nd Nov., 1681.) This marriage of Radisson is involved in great confusion. De la Potherie tells us that Lord Preston, who was Ambassador at Paris, promised to make a servant of his named Godet perpetual Secretary of the Embassy, if he could prevail on Radisson to go to England, and that Godet, as an inducement to Radisson, promised him his daughter in marriage (1,145). Charlevoix says that the negotiation took place through a servant of Lord Preston, called "Gods," (1, p. 481), and that Radisson was then married to a daughter of Chevalier Kirke; that he went to London, where he was cordially received by his father-in-law, and that he was granted a pension of 12,000 livres a year. Shea, in a note to his translation of Charlevoix (3,233), says that it was Sir David Kirke's daughter he married. Another account (Murray, 2,131) is that des Grozeliers was induced to go to England by Mr. Montague, the English Ambassador, who gave him a letter to Prince Rupert. Murray gives no authority for his version; but it is possible there may be some truth in all these stories, though certainly not all true. The following dates are correct, and contradict much of them. Des Grozeliers' first expedition to England must have been prior to the summer of 1668. Ralph Montague was Ambassador at Paris from September, 1668, to 1678. Radisson was married to an Englishwoman before November, 1681. (De Frontenac's letter, 40 2nd November, 1681.) Radisson's second visit to England was in 1681, and then Sir David

is given twice as 1662, Doc. Hist. 9; Charlevoix gives the year as 1663, vol. 1, p. 476; and in this he is followed by Garneau, 2, p. 126; but in the *Fastes Chronologiques* Charlevoix says 1668; again Dobbes says 1667, but later he says Gillam was there from 1668 to 1673; in the description of the right and title of the Crown of Great Britain to Hudson's Bay, June 2, 1769, Eng. MSS. vol. 1, p. 64, it is said that Sagary Gillam went there in 1667, in the "*Nousuch*," to explore and make a settlement in Hudson's Bay, and built Charles Fort at Rupert River.

(1) Ferland says 1669. He is not the originator of this error. I have seen it elsewhere. It arises from a miscalculation of the year of the King's reign. The charter is dated the 2nd day of May, in the two and twentieth year of the King's reign. Charles the 1st was beheaded the 30th January, 1648; the 22nd year, therefore, began on the 31st January, 1670.

(2) Under date May, 1662, in the *Journal des Jesuites*, there is this entry: "*Je partis de Quebec le 3 pour les Trois Rivières, je rencontrai de Groselliers qui s'en alloit à la Mer du Nord. Il passa la nuit devant Quebec avec 100 hommes et étant arrivé au Cap Tourmente, il l'escrivit à Mons. le Gouverneur*," p. 308.

APPENDIX
OF MANITOBA.

See. III.
Report of T.
K. Ramsay,
Q.C., March,
1873.