

being Huguenots, were not likely to further the interests of the Catholic Church in Canada. In 1623 the De Caens and the old Merchants' Company had formed a union; but being continually engaged in disputes as to their rights, the Duke de Montmorency to relieve himself of trouble, disposed of his Vice-royalty to his nephew, the Duke de Tentadone, who had entered holy orders, and whose sole object, in thus purchasing it, was to use his influence towards the conversion of the Indians. In 1625 he sent out three Jesuits, and added three Brothers to the Recollets already in Canada. These Jesuit Fathers, L'Allemand, Masse and Brebeuf, were men of exemplary character and piety, and cheerfully undertook the mission.

The disputes between the De Caens and the colonists were settled by the formation of a company under the direct auspices of Cardinal Richelieu, and this company was called the "*CENTS ASSOCIES*," or Company of One Hundred Associates.

They agreed to send out colonists and tradesmen and were bound to have six thousand Roman Catholic Frenchmen in Canada before 1643, to provide three priests to each settlement and give them all necessary comforts for fifteen years; and afterwards to give the clergy cleared lands in order to maintain the Catholic Church in New France.

But before this, came the British upon the scene, and the result of war between France and Britain was the first conquest of Canada by Sir David Kirk in 1629, when Champlain surrendered the whole of Canada. Five years afterwards Champlain returned as Governor, the British having given up Canada to the French by the treaty of St. Germain. Champlain's death followed in 1635, and he was succeeded by M. de Montmagny. Thus far Quebec was receiving all the attention of the colonists; but in 1640, the whole Island of Montreal was ceded to the Missionaries for the purpose of converting the Indians. The manner in which this was brought about is most romantic and reads more like a leaf from St. Paul's life than anything in Montreal's history.

Jérôme le Royer de la Dauversière, who lived in France, an enthusiastic devotee, heard a voice telling him to go to Montreal, in Canada and establish the Hôtel-Dieu Hospital of Nuns. As he was then a tax-collector in Anjou, France, the father of six children, and with but a moderate salary, he hesitated. Jean Jacques Olier, a young priest, was at about the same time praying in the old church of St. Germain de Paris, France, when he thought he heard a voice from Heaven telling him to go and form a Society of Priests in Montreal, Canada. Though both these men were ignorant of the precise shape of Montreal, yet they mysteriously found themselves in possession of exact details of the Island.

Dauversière was further conformed in his resolve to go after he had gone to Paris, for here he had a vision in which he heard Christ ask the Virgin Mary three times "Where can I find a faithful servant?"

Upon this the Virgin took Dauversière by the hand, saying, "See, Lord, here is that faithful servant."

Christ received him with a smile, and promised him wisdom and strength to do his work.

The most curious story of the Chateau of Montmorency is that he met a priest, and Olier, who never had any other idea, if by inspiration, knowledge.

They discussed the matter, and these men believed in the power of their supporters, and soon the Société de Notre-Dame was formed. With such incentives, the Company of One Hundred Associates, of the west, which was formed the bargain, and the plan was to send out for the priests and chosen commander in charge of the new settlement, the only women in the colony, the Dame in Paris and Olier, de Montréal." They spent the winter at the Island of Montreal, their fellow-countrymen, in May, 1642, Maisonneuve, at that time, and before the building, pallisades erected, the first flood that came, Maisonneuve's Fort, of the Indians. Being to attack the Indians, were themselves attacked by others. Finally the Maisonneuve, with a might have killed him, honor, rushed forward, the Chief fell dead.

The hands of the French were within the fort. In 1644 the Island of Montreal was destined for the supply of the colony. In 1661 there were 180,000 square miles of land, and the St. Lawrence River appeared.