

Jesuits to control the whole policy and government of the country, and to place the State under the heel of the Church. Montmagny remained until 1647. As early as 1615, the Recollets had established themselves in the colony. The Jesuits did not appear until 1625, and it was not until ten years later that they commenced their remarkable missions. It was after Montmagny's departure, in 1648 and 1649, that the Hurons were destroyed, and Brebœuf and Lallement tortured and burned. D'Aillebout was a man entirely deficient in energy. Lauzon was insulted by the Indians under the very guns of Quebec. D'Argenson better understood the situation, and asked for troops to commence an aggressive movement on the Iroquois; but no aid was forthcoming from France, and he was continually thwarted by Bishop Laval, intent on establishing the pre-eminence of the Church, and who finally obtained his removal. D'Avangour, who succeeded him, was a blunt soldier, but was equally powerless. He was recalled at the instigation of the same clerical influence. De Mezy followed, to be persecuted as his predecessors had been. He died in two years, and Tracy came in 1665. It was his vigorous policy, which changed the fate of the country, and that such was the case was owing to the mission of Boucher to France, who, to have attained his purpose, must have been a remarkably able man. Boucher came to Canada when only seven years of age, and he may claim to be the first native Canadian of eminence. That he was the first Canadian ennobled by Louis XIV. is a trifling matter compared to the reputation he has left of honesty, ability, courage and worth. We may add here that it is one of the most curious points of Three Rivers history that the first men ennobled were all from Three Rivers—Boucher, Godefroy, Hertel and Le Neuf. Mr. Sulte traces the various branches of these families. Senator de Boucherville yet represents

the first of these names. The family of Godefroy have lost their ancient splendour. M. de Hertel is also not among the wealthy. Le Neuf left Canada at the conquest.

Possibly no more enterprising expedition was ever undertaken than that under Courcelles in 1666. We know the fact, not simply from French report, but from the narrative which is given of the expedition in the documentary history of New York. In the depth of winter, Courcelles, with 600 volunteers, passed along the frozen St. Lawrence, marching on snow-shoes, carrying their provisions on *traineaux*, till the Richelieu was reached. The Richelieu was then ascended to Lake Champlain—crossing to Lake George the waters were traced to where the Fort of William Henry was afterwards built, and the trail was taken to the Iroquois country; but, says the English record, 'by mistake of his guides, happened to fall short of the castles of the Mauhaukes, and to encamp within two miles, at a small village called Schonectede. The consequence was that a deputation was sent to Monsieur Coursell, to inquire of his intention in bringing such a body of armed men into the dominions of His Majesty of Great Britain.' 'Surely,' saith the writer, 'so bold and hardy an attempt (circumstances considered) hath not happened in any age.' Courcelles got safely back, but he lost some men, having dropped into an ambush consisting of nearly 200 Mohawks, planted behind trees, who at one volley slew eleven Frenchmen, whereof one was a lieutenant. The wounded men were sent to Albany. Experience had now established that there could be no safety for Canada until the Iroquois were made incapable of injuring the settlers. A series of forts was therefore constructed along the waters by which be approached. One at the junction of the Richelieu and St. Lawrence; one, the celebrated Chambly Fort, at the foot of the rapids; one a league to the