



# The Founding of Quebec.

1608.

FROM THE "VOYAGES" OF SAMUEL DE CHAMPLAIN.

Having returned to France after a stay of three years in New France,\* I proceeded to Sieur de Monts, and related to him the principal events of which I had been a witness since his departure, and gave him the map and plan of the most remarkable coasts and harbors there.

Some time afterward Sieur de Monts determined to continue his undertaking, and complete the exploration of the interior along the great river St. Lawrence, where I had been by order of the late King Henry the Great† in the year 1603, for a distance of some hundred and eighty leagues, commencing in latitude  $48^{\circ} 40'$ , that is, at Gaspé, at the entrance of the river, as far as the great fall, which is in latitude  $45^{\circ}$  and some minutes, where our exploration ended, and where boats could not pass as we then thought, since we had not made a careful examination of it as we have since done.‡

Now, after Sieur de Monts had conferred with me several times in regard to his purposes concerning the exploration, he resolved to continue so noble and meritorious an undertaking, notwithstanding the hardships and labors of the past. He honored me with his lieutenancy for the voyage; and, in order to carry out his purpose, he had two vessels equipped, one com-

\* Champlain arrived on the shores of America on the 8th of May, 1604, and left on the 3d of September, 1607. He had consequently been on our coast three years, three months, and twenty-five days. *The notes are reprinted from Slafter.*

† *The late King Henry the Great.* Henry IV. died in 1610, and this introductory passage was obviously written after that event, probably near the time of the publication of his voyages in 1613.

‡ In the preliminary voyage of 1603, Champlain ascended the St. Lawrence as far as the falls of St. Louis, above Montreal.