

The English were already taking an interest in colonial establishments, and Shakespeare, then in the maturity of his genius, had seen in the New World the elements of an empire to be founded under the auspices of King James :—

'Wherever the bright sun of heaven shall shine,
His honor and the greatness of his name
Shall be and make new nations; He shall flourish;
And, like a mountain cedar, reach his branches
To all the plains about him."

But the French thought nothing of the fact that the British were looking towards the continent of America; and certainly apprehended no danger from the insignificant colony of Jamestown, especially as the two nations were then at peace.

Such was the position of affairs at the time of the arrival of the new vessel and cargo, which were under the control of Simon Imbert, who had formerly been a servant to Poutrineourt. Among the passengers was another Jesuit father, Gilbert Du Thet, who came out as a representative of the interests of Mme. De Guercheville and of his own Order. The two agents quarrelled from the very day they set out, until they arrived at Port Royal, and then the colony took the matter up. At last the difficulties were settled by Du Thet receiving permission to return to France.

A few months later, at the end of May, 1613, another French ship anchored off Port Royal. She had been sent out with a fine supply of stores, not by Poutrineourt, but by Mme. De Guercheville, and was under the orders of M. Saussaye, a gentleman by birth and a man of ability; but wanting in the qualities necessary to manage the unruly elements around him. Poutrineourt, it appeared, was in prison and ill, unable to do anything whatever for his friends across the ocean. This was, indeed, sad news for Biencourt and his faithful allies, who had been anxiously expecting assistance from France.

The new vessel took on board the two priests, Biard and Masse, and sailed towards the coast of New England; for Saussaye's

instructions were to found a new colony in the vicinity of Pentagoet (Penobscot), at a place called Radesquit. In consequence of the prevalent sea-fogs, however, they were driven to the island of Mount Deserts, then called Pemaquid, where they found a harbor which, it was decided, would answer all their purposes. A well informed writer * says that the settlement of St. Sauveur must have been on the western side of Soame's Sound, and that on the eastern shore there had been found the signs of an old Indian village, probably that of Asticon, who was the chief at the time in question. Be this as it may, Saussaye and his party commenced to erect buildings for the new colony, when an event occurred which placed an entirely different complexion on matters.

A man-of-war came sailing into the harbor, and from her masthead floated, not the fleur-de-lis, but the blood-red flag of England. The new-comer was Samuel Argall, a young English sea captain,—a coarse, passionate, but daring man. He had been for some time associated with the fortunes of the new colony of Virginia. In the May of the year in question, he set sail in a stout vessel of 130 tons, carrying 14 guns and 60 men, for a cruise to the coast of Maine for a supply of cod-fish, and whilst becalmed off Mount Deserts, some Indians came on board and informed him of the presence of the French in the vicinity of that island. A man like Argall did not hesitate long as to the course he would pursue; he looked upon the French as encroaching upon British territory; and in a few hours had destroyed the infant settlement of St. Sauveur, and taken all the French prisoners. Saussaye was perfectly paralyzed, and attempted no defence when he saw that Argall had hostile intentions; but the priest Du Thet did his utmost in rallying the men to arms, and was the first to fall a victim to his indiscreet courage. Fifteen of the prisoners, including Saussaye and Masse, were turned adrift in an open boat; but fortunately, they managed to

* Parkman.