

defeated and compelled to retreat, Champlain being twice wounded. The population of Quebec then consisted of about 60 persons, and Champlain, seeing the urgent need of men, food, and clothing, sailed for France to solicit help. After much disheartening opposition he gathered a party of colonists, with arms, ammunition, provisions, and other stores and landed them at Quebec, after a difficult and dangerous voyage, late in 1617. He found the people in extreme distress from famine and disease. The situation was gloomy and almost desperate; the maintenance of the colony appeared well-nigh hopeless, and a further appeal to France for succour became absolutely imperative. He crossed the ocean once more and with great effort collected a cargo of supplies, which he forwarded, remaining himself behind to arouse interest in the colony. The following winter at Quebec proved to be one of renewed alarm and peril.

Quarrels broke out between the French and Indians, and the latter formed a plot to massacre the entire colony. The plot was fortunately discovered in time to frustrate it. From that year until 1624, when a temporary peace was patched up, the scattered posts and settlements were continually threatened with ruin by the incursions of the Iroquois and their relentless wars against the Indian allies of the French. Through it all Champlain laboured incessantly to improve the defences of the settlements and the condition of the colonists. In 1625 he received the King's Commission as Governor, with the powers of a Viceroy. The winter of 1627-28 was one of great scarcity and severity, and in 1628 the chartered company's vessels failed to reach Quebec with supplies, having been intercepted by English vessels of marque under Sir David Kirke and his two brothers. France and England were at war, and Tadousac, Cape Breton, and Port Royal, Acadia, were in English hands. The following year, the small body of colonists being destitute of every resource, Champlain surrendered Quebec and the other French posts and was carried to England, and made his way to France with such of the colonists as desired to go. Thus, after all these years