

island of Montreal. He associated himself with Jerome le Royer, de la Dauversière, a collector of taxes at La Flèche in Anjou, and succeeded in forming what was called La Société de Notre Dame de Montreal. Paul de Chomedey, Sieur de Maisonneuve, a devout Christian and a valiant knight, was selected to lead the expedition. In the February of 1641 the Associates assembled in the Church of Notre Dame at Paris, where they received a blessing on their enterprise, and solemnly christened the scene of their future labours by the name of Ville Marie. But this name, the inspiration of religious zeal, gradually disappeared as the town grew in importance, and it has always been known by that which Cartier gave to the island more than two centuries ago.

The Niagara River and Falls appear to have given their name to a tribe of Indians who formerly dwelt in that picturesque district. We find many references to that people in the early French writers. Father Lalemant says in a narrative of a voyage made by Father Jean de Brebeuf on the upper lakes:—"Our French who first discovered this people named them the Neuter nation, and not without reason, for their country being the ordinary passage by land between some of the Iroquois nations and the Hurons, who are sworn enemies, they remained at peace with them; so that in times past the Hurons and Iroquois, meeting in the same wigwam or village of the nation, were both in safety while they remained. There are some things in which they differ from the Hurons. They are larger, stronger, and better formed. They also entertain greater respect for the dead. The Sonontonherons (Senecas) one of the Iroquois nations, the nearest to, and the most dreaded by the Hurons, are not more than a day's journey distant from the easternmost village of the Neuter nation, named Onguiaatira (Niagara) of the same name as the river. The name has, in fact, been spelled in some forty different ways. In Samson's map of Canada,

published at Paris in 1657, the name of the Nicariagas is shortened into Ongiara, and in Corbellis' map of the same region it is given as Niagari. The word itself appears to be Iroquois. An educated Mohawk Indian (Orontyatekha), tells us in an interesting paper published in the proceedings of the Toronto Canadian Institute: "The name Oh-nya-ka-ra 'on or at the neck' is applied to the whole stream of water between Lakes Erie and Ontario, and is derived from O-nya-ra, the neck, or contraction between head and trunk. The Mohawks applied this name to the neck-like contraction between the two lakes, and hence we have Niagara." The Niagara Indians, who were originally a branch of the Iroquois, no doubt in the course of time became known to other nations from the designation of the cataract and river. These Indians appear to have been destroyed some time in the middle of the seventeenth century. The ancient name has always clung to this famous district. Even the attempt of Governor Simcoe to fasten the name of Newark to the old capital of the Western Province proved an utter failure.

The country around Kingston (King's Town) abounds in memorials of the historic past. The county of Frontenac perpetuates the memory of the brave soldier, who stands out one of the most striking figures in "the heroic days of Canada." Most of my readers will recall the memorable history of this district in the days when Fort Frontenac asserted the claims of France to the dominion of the St. Lawrence and the Great Lakes. The old French Fort appears to have been called, at different periods, Fort St. Louis (the name then given to Lake Ontario), Fort Catarauqui, and Fort Frontenac. The meaning and proper orthography of "Catarauqui" is a matter of controversy like so many other old names. In nine cases out of ten the word is given in the old writers according as it struck their ears when they heard it spoken by the Indians. Cahiaque, Cadaroque, Cat-