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ABSTRACT OF THE PRESIDENT'S ADDRESS*

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This large assemblage of medical visitors has suggested to me that it might be of interest to review the history of the early and important visits of medical men to this city and province. There are three periods which seem of particular interest from this aspect.

The explorers, de Monts and Champlain, after receiving authority from Henry IV, King of France, to undertake the colonization of Acadia, sailed from Havre on the 7th of April, 1604, and arrived four weeks later at the southwest shore of Nova Scotia. De Monts and Champlain later on explored the Bay of Fundy in a smaller boat of eight tons. Leaving their ship with the greater part of the members of the expedition at St. Mary's Bay, Nova Scotia, they took with them about a dozen men. On the 24th of June, 1604, they entered what is now known as the harbor and river of St. John, as Champlain says in his remarkable account of the exploration, "one of the largest and deepest rivers we have yet seen, which we named the River St. John, because it was on that saint's day we arrived there."

It is not mentioned whether they carried a surgeon with them in the pinnace, but it is probable there was one. There were at least two surgeons in the expedition, and as the leaders were in this boat, it is likely one was with them, more especially as it is known that on a later occasion, in a voyage made in a pinnace south of Cape Cod, a surgeon was carried. Were a surgeon present when Champlain discovered St. John, as is

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