

natural curiosity inherent in most minds, to see the handwriting of individuals who have been distinguished by their rank, talents, virtues or fortunes. Knowing the truth of this statement, and feeling assured that a series of short papers upon Canadian Autographs will prove of interest, the pleasant duty has been undertaken; but at the outset, it must be stated, that the principal object had in view, being that of presenting fac-similes of the Autographs, the notices which accompany them, will therefore be very brief, but I trust, instructive and pleasing. In preparing an article on this subject, the name naturally presented, as fitted to take the first rank is that of

JACQUES CARTIER,

the discoverer of Canada, born at St. Malo, in France, in 1500. In 1534 he made his first voyage westward, reaching Newfoundland on the 10th of May, and extending his journey to the coast of Gaspé, which he reached on the 24th of the same month. He then returned to France, and in 1535 made a second voyage, reaching the St. Lawrence (so called from his having entered it on the Festival of that Saint) in August. Passing onward, he visited Stadacona (now Quebec), and Hochelaga (now Montreal.) He then sailed for France, taking with him from Stadacona the Indian Chief Donnacona. In 1541, as second in command to Roberval, he again visited Canada. He died shortly after his return from this voyage.

ROBERVAL.

Jean François de la Roque, Sieur de Roberval, a native of Picardy, France, was appointed Viceroy of Canada in 1540, and sailed thence, from Rochelle, in 1542. He met Cartier (returning to France) at St. Johns, Newfoundland, in June. Having wintered at Cape Rouge, above Quebec, he in June 1543, explored the river Saguenay. In making another voyage to Canada, in 1549, he, with his brave brother Achille and their fleet, were lost.