

## THE FRENCH

hardy men brought to American shores by Champlain over 200 years ago. Their forefathers were, for the most part, mariners, and the French Canadian of to-day retains traces of his origin in his peculiar phraseology. No true-born *habitant* would use the verb *monter* as applied to a *voiture*: *embarquer* would be his word: and there are many idioms in hourly use which are essentially and strangely nautical. The *patois* of the French Canadian peasant has long been the subject of discussion and research; but there seems little reason to doubt that it is the dialect spoken by his Norman ancestors 200 years ago. Conservative in