

their part, had no more precise knowledge in the direction of Nova Zembla.

So many voyages and discoveries without result, and attended with so much hardship and expense, have caused us French in late years to attempt a permanent settlement in those lands which we call New France,⁶ in the hope of thus realizing more easily this object; since the voyage in search of the desired passage commences on the other side of the ocean, and is made along the coast of this region.⁷ These considerations had induced the Marquis de la Roche, in 1598, to take a commission from the king for making a settlement in the above region. With this object, he landed men and supplies on Sable Island;⁸ but, as the conditions which had been accorded to him by his Majesty were not fulfilled, he was obliged to abandon his undertaking, and leave his men there. A year after, Captain Chauvin accepted another commission to transport settlers to the same region;⁹ but, as this was shortly after revoked, he prosecuted the matter no farther.

After the above,¹⁰ notwithstanding all these accidents and disappointments, Sieur de Monts desired to attempt what had been

⁶ The name of New France, *Novus Francia*, appears on a map in Ptolemy published at Basle in 1530.

⁷ The controlling object of the numerous voyages to the north-east coast of America had hitherto been to discover a shorter course to India. In this respect, as Champlain states above, they had all proved failures. He here intimates that the settlements of the French on this coast were intended to facilitate this design. It is obvious that a colo-

nial establishment would offer great advantages as a base in prosecuting searches for this desired passage to Cathay.

⁸ For some account of this disastrous expedition, see *Memoir*, Vol. I.

⁹ *Vide Memoir*, Vol. I.

¹⁰ It will be observed that Champlain does not mention the expedition sent out by Commander de Chastes, probably because its object was exploration, and not actual settlement. — *Vide* an account of De Chastes in the *Memoir*, Vol. I.