

occured to Cartier that the summit of this mountain was the only spot from whence he could obtain a prospect of the new world which lay around its base. Having ascended its eastern promontory, he immediately became transported with the various objects stretched forth on every side of him; and he at last became so enchanted with their magnitude, beauty and sublimity, that, on the spot, he gave the mountain which afforded him such pleasure the name of MOUNT ROYAL in honour of his master, the King of France. Hence, by corruption, the Island on which it is situated, and the modern city which was afterwards built on nearly the very site of the humble Hochelaga, have both obtained the more vague appellation of MONTREAL.

The stay of Cartier at Hochelaga was only prolonged for a few days; but from what he had seen in that short period of the adjacent country, and the humane and hospitable manners of the natives, he at once conceived the highest possible opinion of it as a future settlement for his countrymen, and determined to represent it to his Sovereign as one of the most eligible and central situations in Canada for commercial enterprise in the fur trade. But as Cartier, upon his return to France, could produce neither gold nor silver, all that he could say about the utility of the settlement was disregarded; and, in 1540, he was obliged to become pilot to one Roberval, who was by the French king appointed Viceroy of Canada. After building a fort at the gulf of Saint Lawrence, and leaving Cartier to command the garrison in it, this man returned to France; but having again embarked, in 1549, with a great number of adventurers, neither he nor any of his followers were heard of more. This fatal accident so greatly discouraged the Court of France, that, for fifty years, no measures were taken for supplying with necessaries the settlers that were left. At last, Henry IV. appointed the Marquis de la Roche lieutenant-general of Canada and the neighbouring countries; and, after this, expeditions continued to be fitted out almost every other year for the settlement of the country. The many specimens of profit thence procured of the Canadian fur trade induced the public to think more favourably of it. Another armament was equipped, and the command of it given to Pontgrave, with power to extend his discoveries up the Saint Lawrence. He sailed in 1603, having in his company Samuel Champlain, who had been a captain in the navy, and was a man of parts and spirit. In 1608 the colony may be said to have been fully established. This was accomplished by founding the city of Quebec, which soon became the capital of all the settlements in Canada. The colony, however, for many years continued in a low way, and was often in danger of being totally exterminated by the Indians. But, by degrees, the settlers began to scatter themselves along the banks of the Saint Lawrence, and to form settlements in various places of the country. Few fertile fields were then found but in the neighbourhood of the capital, and they improved as one approached Montreal. It was not, however, till 1640 that any settlement was made in this place; and it was more by chance than design, that a few rude huts thrown up here at this period were afterwards enlarged and improved to a regularly built town.

The little progress that had hitherto been made in settling Canada, was entirely owing to an exclusive company, whose chief designs were not so much intended to create a national power in the country, as to enrich themselves by the fur trade. This was lamentably visible from the