

from their former experience in warfare, to be able to immediately organize an adequate defence of the whole colony." This, I think, cannot be accepted as an answer to the question: for it is only said that they were expected to be able to organize and not that there was an actually existing organization.

According to Faillon, the military fraternity of "La Très-Sainte Vierge," composed of sixty-three men, was formed at Villemarie in 1653,—*Histoire de la Colonie Française*, vol. II, p. 213, and vol. III, p. 15, 3rd line; and the "Militia of The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary, and Joseph," was formed, also at Villemarie, in 1661,—*Id.* vol. II, p. 16, and p. 20 note. These fraternities, therefore, and not the Carignan Regiment, seem to be "the first military organizations of which there is an authentic record of formation."

The *militia* of the Holy Family was formed in January 1662, and must not be confounded with the *confrérie* of the Holy Family which was formed in July of the same year.

#### THE "ROYAL WILLIAM."

It has been frequently asserted that the first vessel which crossed the Atlantic, *by steam-power alone*, was a Canadian-built steamer, the "Royal William." I do not now intend to discuss the question of Canada's right to this distinction, but