

Maisonneuve several times made voyages to France in order to procure more settlers and soldiers. He had the aid of M. d'Ailleboust, who was afterwards Governor. Through his care and bravery, Maisonneuve contrived to preserve the Island from being entirely overrun by the Iroquois.

He was a very pious man, like Champlain. He induced religious persons of both sexes, to come out from France to settle at Ville-Marie.

On one occasion, when there happened to be a great freshet, he vowed to carry up and plant a wooden cross upon the mountain, in case God should cause the waters to subside. The waters did subside, without doing the injury he feared. Then the pious knight fulfilled his vow. At the head of the religious persons and people of the Island, he marched in procession, carrying a heavy cross on his shoulders. Reaching a high spot, he then planted the cross in the sight of all.

Although Maisonneuve was so brave and so good a man, he was made to suffer from enmity. The Governors d'Avaugour, and especially de Mézy, were unfriendly to him. The last named governor even ordered him to leave the country. He seems to have not finally given up his post at Ville-Marie until about 1670. In his old age he was honorably maintained at Paris by those whom he had served.

Notwithstanding the troubles arising from the attacks of the Iroquois, the inhabitants of Ville-Marie, and the surrounding settlements increased and prospered, as much as, if not more than, in the other parts of Canada.—*Dr. Miles's Child's History of Canada.*

### English History.

#### THE SOVEREIGNS OF ENGLAND.

##### ELIZABETH.

[Born at Greenwich, September 7, 1533. Died at Richmond, March 24, 1603. Reigned 45 Years.]

This great Queen was the only child of Queen Anne Boleyn, second wife of Henry VIII. After her mother was beheaded she lived for several years, with her little brother, Prince Edward (afterwards Edward VI.), at Hatfield House, Hertfordshire, and the garden where the royal children played is yet preserved. When her elder sister, Mary, came to the throne, the Princess Elizabeth was sent to the Tower; for she had been taught to be a Protestant, and, as Mary was a Catholic, she was afraid the Protestants would make Elizabeth queen instead of herself. But Queen Mary died, and Elizabeth was made queen on the 17th of November, 1558. There was a very grand show when she was crowned in Westminster Abbey, on the 13th of January, 1559. The Catholic Kings of Europe were very angry at Elizabeth becoming queen, because they knew she was a friend of the Protestants in all countries; and even in England there were a great many Catholics who would rather have had a sovereign of their own religion. But Elizabeth was a very clever queen, and her ministers were able and experienced; and although some of her enemies said she was not the lawful queen at all, and persuaded Mary Queen of Scots, who was grand-daughter of Margaret, daughter of Henry VII., to call herself Queen of England, yet they were unable to injure Elizabeth, who was greatly loved by her subjects. At length Mary Queen of Scots, who had many troubles in her own country, fled to England, where she was charged with favouring conspiracies against the Queen, and beheaded. The King of Spain, during the reign of Elizabeth, fitted out an immense number of ships to invade England, and called his fleet the Armada, thinking that nothing could conquer it. But great storms, and the bravery of the English sailors under Lord Howard of Effingham, completely destroyed the Armada. Queen Elizabeth, who was never married, died of dropsy, in the 70th year of her age, having reigned forty-five years. There were a great many famous Englishmen in her time, among whom were Shakespeare, Bacon, Spenser, Drake, and Raleigh; and many good laws were made, so that people commonly speak of the happy days of old England in Queen Elizabeth's glorious reign.

##### JAMES I.

[Born at Edinburgh, June 19, 1566. Died at Theobalds, Hertfordshire, March 27, 1625. Reigned 22 Years.]

When Queen Elizabeth was dying, she expressed a wish that James VI., King of Scotland, should succeed her; and the people

generally were willing that it should be so. James was the son of Mary Queen of Scots, who was grand-daughter of Margaret, the eldest daughter of Henry VII. of England, so that the new king was directly descended from the royal family. He set out from Edinburgh in April, 1603, and made a grand journey to London, being entertained with great style at many of the towns he passed through. On the 25th of July he and the queen were crowned at Westminster. But he had only been a few months on the throne, when an attempt was made to set up his cousin, Lady Arabella Stuart, as the real heir to the crown; and Lord Cobham, Lord Grey, the great Sir Walter Raleigh, and others, were tried for high treason, for conspiring for that purpose. Several persons of lower rank were executed, and Raleigh, who was one of the greatest ornaments of the age, was kept in prison in the Tower for twelve years. But there was a worse conspiracy still which threatened the king—the Gunpowder Plot, of which we have all heard so much. Some wicked men, endeavoured to kill him and his advisers by placing a large quantity of gunpowder beneath the House of Parliament, and one of the conspirators, a daring man named Guido Fawkes, was to explode it just when the king entered the House. But the plot was discovered, and Fawkes and several others were executed. In November, 1612, the king's eldest son, Henry, Prince of Wales, died at the age of eighteen. He was an excellent young man, very accomplished, and would probably have made a great king. It was commonly said that he was poisoned, but there was no truth in the rumour. The next brother, Prince Charles, was then created Prince of Wales. The king was very unpopular because he chose unworthy favourites, and made them great lords. In 1617 the Queen, Anne of Denmark, died; and two years afterwards, Prince Charles determined to marry Henrietta, daughter of the King of France. His father at first wished him to marry a Spanish princess, and the prince went to Spain in disguise to see her, but declined to accept her. The king died of ague, in 1625, and was buried at Westminster. In his reign many Englishmen settled in America, the great Lord Bacon was Chancellor, Shakespeare died, and Sir Walter Raleigh was beheaded.

##### CHARLES I.

[Born at Dunfermline, November 19, 1600. Beheaded at Whitehall January 30, 1649. Reigned 24 Years.]

In less than three months after his accession to the throne, King Charles married the Princess Henrietta Maria of France, and the royal pair were crowned at Westminster on the 2nd of February, 1626. Very soon a disagreement occurred between the king and the Parliament, the House of Commons refusing to grant the money required for carrying on a war with Spain until certain grievances they complained of had been redressed. Both Houses wished to remove the Duke of Buckingham, the king's especial friend, from power, and impeached him as being guilty of various political crimes. The king exerted himself to prevent Buckingham being tried, and dismissed the Parliament. The king wanting money, promised the new House of Commons to comply with their demands, and so obtained money, but broke his word. Many messages passed between Parliament and the king, who again dismissed it. The Duke of Buckingham was assassinated at Portsmouth by John Felton, August, 1628. Another Parliament having been assembled, several members made very vigorous speeches against the conduct of the king; he went down to the House for the purpose of arresting them, but they had taken refuge in the City of London. The Parliament was dissolved, and the members were prosecuted by the Star Chamber; they were sent to the Tower, where Sir John Eliot, a very great and good man, died. Afterwards the king made many attempts to raise money by illegal means, among others, taxing inland towns for the purpose of fitting out ships. John Hampden, a Buckinghamshire gentleman, refused to pay, and seven of the Judges having decided in favour of the Crown, against five who were in favour of Hampden, the Parliament annulled the judgment. Shortly afterwards Earl Strafford, a very proud, violent man, who had advised the king to resist the people, and Archbishop Laud, were impeached and beheaded. The Parliament raised an army to oppose the king, and for about three years the war was carried on. Hampden was killed in battle, but Generals Fairfax and Cromwell gained great victories for the Parliament; and the king, having been defeated at the battle of Naseby, on the 14th June, 1645, gave himself up to the Scots, who surrendered him to the Parliamentary troops. He was imprisoned at Hampton Court, at Carisbrook Castle, and other places, and on the 20th of January, 1649, was tried at Westminster Hall, and condemned to death. He was beheaded in front of the Banqueting House, Whitehall, a few days afterwards, and behaved with great dignity on the scaffold.