

## CHAMPLAIN'S JOURNEYS.

We have mentioned that Champlain, with his friend Pontgravé, made his way up the St. Lawrence, above Hochelaga, before he came to settle in Canada. Then in 1609 and 1610, we have seen that he went with the Indians up the Richelieu, into the lake called after his own name.

In 1611 he went again up to Hochelaga, and visited Lake St. Louis and the Lake of Two Mountain. At this time he had with him a number of Frenchmen in boats. Many Indians came down in canoes from the higher parts of the Ottawa river, bringing skins for traffic. The chiefs liked Champlain very much and asked him to come, along with his Frenchmen, to visit their hunting grounds and settlements. This he promised, and really wished to do, but could not go until four years later.

While at Hochelaga he caused his men to clear ground and to try the soil by sowing some kinds of seed. The place where this was done he named "Place Royal." It was where Montreal was afterwards built.

In May, 1613, he again went up to Hochelaga and staid a short time at St. Helen's Island. At the end of the month he set out, with an Indian guide and four Frenchmen, to visit the Chiefs in the Ottawa region. In those days the rivers formed the roads for moving through the country. But the rapids above Hochelaga, and those in the bed of the river Ottawa, could not be passed by people in boats. So Champlain and his companions had often to carry their canoes, arms, and food, along the rocky banks. They went up the Ottawa to Allumette Island. There the French were kindly received by Algonquin chiefs. The savages of those parts are commonly called the "*Ottawas*," and were then rather numerous. While there, Champlain heard of "the Sea of the North" by which was meant Hudson's Bay. He was very anxious to reach it, but was obliged to content himself with such news of it as he could gain from the Indians. A great number of savages went down the Ottawa with him, when he returned from Allumette Island. Their canoes were loaded with skins. At Lake St. Louis and Hochelaga the French bought these, and carried them to their ships at Quebec and Tadoussac. Champlain, at this time, was, in Canada, the chief agent of a French company, which, every season, sent out ships and men to carry on the fur traffic.

Again, in 1615, Champlain made another journey to the Ottawa. This time, he crossed to Lake Nipissing, and thence to the shores of Lake Huron. Then passing down along the coast of Georgian Bay, he arrived at the headquarters of the Huron Indians. These had many considerable towns or "bourgades," surrounded by palisades and well filled with inhabitants. They are said to have numbered about 30,000 souls. Their country was the fine and fertile region lying between the Georgian Bay and the lake now called "Simcoe."

It was early in August when Champlain arrived among the Hurons. As these were still at war with the Iroquois, an army was made ready to march with him and the chiefs.

To reach the country of the Iroquois, they crossed Lake Simcoe and moved to the north shore of lake Ontario, at the part now called the *Bay of Quinté*. Passing to the south shore of Ontario, they landed, and marched about 100 miles, until they came near the Iroquois settlements.

It happened that the Iroquois were now much better prepared than before to stand their ground. They had a fort made of the trunks and branches of trees.

Not being so afraid, as they used to be, of fire arms, they defended themselves with bows, and arrows, and stones. The Hurons would not keep good order, or do as Champlain wished them. Presently, Champlain was wounded, and the Hurons beaten back from the fort. After that, the Huron chiefs made up their minds to retreat. So they went back to Lake Ontario, and crossed over to the north shore. Champlain wished them to give him boats and men, to take him down the St. Lawrence, from lake Ontario to Hochelaga. But they pretended they could not do so. The fact is, the chiefs meant him to go back to their settlements, and to spend the winter with them. This he felt forced to do, for, by the time they arrived at the Huron settlements, the winter had begun.

But this long journey was not without profit. Champlain took notice of the Ottawa regions, on his way and also of many streams and lakes, as well as the natives he met with. Lakes Nipissing, Huron, Simcoe and Ontario, became thus known to him, and to the world. He was able, besides, during the long winter, to make friends of many Indians, whose tribes dwelt in the neighbourhood of Lake Huron. His object in doing this was partly to lead them to come down to Hochelaga, Three Rivers and Quebec, to traffic. But he had another end in view. This was to get them to become Christians, and, for that purpose, to allow themselves to be taught. For, through the friends he had made for Canada in France, priests were now ready

to come amongst them. In fact, one named *le Caron*, of the order of *Recollets*, had already made his way into their country. Champlain and *le Caron*, together, paid several visits to Indian tribes near lake Huron.

In May 1616, Champlain, with a large party of Hurons set out, from the Huron country for Hochelaga and Quebec. Forty days were spent on the way, and it was July before the journey was ended.

He had been so long away that the people feared he was lost. So when they saw him again, safe among them, they were very joyful. They met together to thank God for bringing back to them one they loved so well.

That journey of 1615 and 1616 was the longest and hardest made by Champlain.—Dr. Miles's *Child's History of Canada*.

## English History.

## THE SOVEREIGNS OF ENGLAND.

## HENRY VI.

(Born at Windsor, December 6, 1421. Died in the Tower of London, June 20, 1461. Reigned 38 Years.)

Henry was only a little baby when he became King of England. His uncles—the Duke of Bedford, in France, and the Duke of Gloucester, commonly called "the good Duke Humphrey," in England—ruled the State. The Duke of Orleans, taking advantage of the youth of the King of England, proclaimed himself King of France on the death of Charles, the father of Henry's mother, Katharine. This led to wars which lasted nearly twenty-five years; and owing in a great measure to the courage of a young Frenchwoman, Joan of Arc, the French recovered nearly the whole of the country from the English. Poor Joan herself was taken prisoner, and burnt as a witch by order of the Duke of Bedford. In April, 1445, King Henry married Margaret, daughter of the Duke of Anjou; and shortly afterwards, by her direction, the Duke of Gloucester was imprisoned, and, it is said, murdered. In May, 1450, a popular insurrection broke out in Kent, headed by a fellow named Jack Cade, who marched to London, hanged Lord Say, High Treasurer, and committed great excesses. His rabble were dispersed and he himself killed. In 1454, in consequence of the king's illness, the Duke of York, descended from the fifth son of Edward III., was made Protector of the realm; but the king recovering, York was displaced, and a quarrel broke out which resulted in the series of wars between the houses of York and Lancaster, known as the Wars of the Roses; York adopting a white and the king's friends a red rose as emblems. On the 23rd of May, 1455, there was a great battle at St. Albans, in which the king was taken prisoner. A peace was afterwards made, and the king and the Duke of York went together to St. Paul's Cathedral; but in 1459 another war broke out, and there were several terrible battles, in one of which the young Prince Edward, the king's only son, was killed. Queen Margaret was a much better warrior than her husband, and carried on the war with great energy. The Duke of York was killed at the battle of Wakefield, and his son Edward afterwards defeated the royal army, marched to London, and by the help of the Earl of Warwick, called the King-maker, was proclaimed king. Henry was sent to the Tower, where he was imprisoned for several years, but was restored to the crown in 1470, and retained it for about six months, when Edward, having obtained foreign aid, returned, and Henry was again imprisoned in the Tower, where he was murdered, it is generally supposed, by Richard, Duke of Gloucester, one of the brothers of King Edward.

## EDWARD IV.

(Born at Rouen, April 29, 1441. Died at Westminster, April 9, 1483. Reigned 22 Years.)

Edward, Duke of York, claimed the crown, because he was descended from the Duke of Clarence, the third son of Edward III., and King Henry VI. was a descendant of John Gaunt, Duke of Lancaster, the fourth son. Having defeated King Henry's army, which was led by Queen Margaret, Edward was proclaimed king, and crowned at Westminster on the 28th of June, 1461. He created his brother George, Duke of Clarence, and his brother Richard, Duke of Gloucester. He was not allowed to enjoy the throne in quiet, for the friends of King Henry and Margaret of Anjou raised an army, and several battles were fought. In February, 1465, King Edward fell in love with and married a very beautiful lady, Elizabeth Woodville, widow of Sir John Grey; and this marriage caused a quarrel between