

pecially as there has recently been shown some interest with a view of saving the ruins from further destruction.

In a previous number, (Vol. 1, No. 3, page 101, et seq.) Chambly and its fort is spoken of in connection with operations during the war in 1775, but we find that the fort had secured a fame for itself at a much earlier date. It is not possible to look back at such a noteworthy "land-mark" without

"Departed spirits of the mighty dead"

passing across our "mental vision," and above all we find inseparably connected with it two of the greatest names of the "Old Regime in Canada" Champlain and Montcalm.

Fort Chambly—or Portchartrain—was built in the year 1665, in the earliest days of French colonization in Canada, by the order of the Marquis de Tracy, taking its name from Capt. Jacques de Chambly, who superintended the work. The River Richelieu, upon which it is situated, was formerly styled the Iroquois River, its new title being adopted from the eminent French Cardinal. The fort, which was constructed of wood, in the year 1709 fell into ruin, and the Governor of Montreal, fearing a surprise on the part of the English from the New England States, obtained from the Superior Council at Quebec an opinion favorable to its reconstruction.

Three years passed ere this opinion was ratified by the Court of France, and an order to this effect arrived in Canada in 1712—but, meanwhile, the colonists, impatient of delay, had completed the work, this being terminated in 1711—(which date is still to be seen over the ruined gateway) the soldiers being actively aided in their operations by the residents of Montreal. The plan* was drawn by M. de Lery, Engineer, of New France, and its construction was supervised by Capt. Bois-Berthelot, *Sieur* of Beaucour, who, later, was appointed Governor of Montreal. As it was at this period built, it still remains, consisting of a very

* A copy of De Lery's plan is now deposited in the Parliamentary Library, Ottawa.