

Frenchmen; at times conquering their extreme reserve and breaking forth into exclamations of delight, as they saw some new evidence of the superiority of the French over themselves.

All this while, Poutrincourt and his friends were wondering how matters were progressing in France, and anxiously expecting the arrival of a ship with news from that country. At last, late in the spring, old Memberton, always on the alert, came to tell the French at the fort that he had seen a vessel sailing up the basin. The cannon thundered its welcome to the stranger; a barque, commanded by one Chevalier of St. Malo, and bringing the bad news from De Monts that the colony would have to be broken up, as his charter had been revoked, and the company would no longer support Port Royal. The Breton and Basque merchants had combined to break up a monopoly which shut them out of a lucrative trade, and had succeeded in influencing the government to withdraw its patronage from De Monts and his associates. De Poutrincourt sadly prepared, (he had then no other alternative except to obey,) to abandon his new home by the Equille and by the 30th of July, nearly all his companions left Port Royal, which never looked more lovely in their eyes, when they passed on to the Bay of Fundy and saw the whole country in the glory of mid-summer. Poutrincourt and Champ-lain remained a few days behind the others, as the former was anxious to see the result of his agricultural experiments. When the corn was ripe, he pulled up some specimens to show his friends in France the high agricultural capabilities of much-abused Acadia. Then, in the middle of August, he sailed from Port Royal, in a shallop, for Causseau, where the "Jonas," with L'Escarbot and the rest of the colonists, were awaiting his arrival. The Indians, especially Memberton, watched the departure of their new friends with unfeigned regret, and promised look carefully after the safety of the fort and its contents. We shall shortly see whether the illiterate savage Indian ful-

filled his promise and discharged the trust that he had voluntarily undertaken.

As soon as Poutrincourt reached his native country, he did his best to gain friends at the Court, as he was resolved on making a home in Acadia. But his prospects, for a time, were exceedingly gloomy. De Monts was able to assist him very little, and the adventurous Baron himself was involved in debt and litigations, but fortune, it is truly said, favors the brave, and he eventually succeeded in obtaining a renewal of his grant from the King, and interesting some wealthy traders in the enterprise. Then, when about leaving France, some difficulties, not of a pecuniary, but of a religious character, arose, and threatened to interfere with the success of the expedition. The Society of Jesuits was, at this time, exceedingly influential at Court, and in consequence of their representations and persuasions, the King ordered that Pierre Biard, Professor of Theology at Lyons, should accompany the expedition. Biard accordingly hastened to Bordeaux, whence it was understood the ship would sail, but on his arrival there, found, to his great surprise, that nobody knew anything about it. It afterwards transpired that Poutrincourt, although a good Catholic, mistrusted the Jesuits, and was fearful of the consequences of introducing them into his colony. Many of his associates were Huguenots, and he probably thought that the presence of the wily, energetic Jesuit, would mar the harmony of the enterprise. On this account, he changed his intention of sailing from Bordeaux, but loaded a large boat, with a great variety of articles, at his maternal barony of St. Just, in Champagne, and descended the Aube and Seine to Dieppe, where his vessel was all ready for him. On the 20th of February, he set sail from Dieppe, whilst Father Biard was angrily wondering at his absence. But the Jesuits, when they ascertained the fact of his departure, were extremely angry, and took more energetic steps to carry out their design of gaining a foothold in the New World. In this matter Poutrincourt hardly displayed his usual