

preceded him, and who had arrived at Tadousac, was told of the mishap, especially in the loss of the surgeon, whose services would have been indispensable in the formation of the new establishment, which could not, Maisonneuve observed, be effected without the effusion of blood. De-Courpon generously offered his own surgeon, and the latter, apprised of the urgent need of him, had his chest lowered at once into Maisonneuve's boat, and cheerfully followed. What his name was, is not stated. The first mention of a commission to teach surgery was in 1658 when Jean Madry obtained, from Sieur Francois Banroin, first surgeon in ordinary to the King, and Provost of the Royal College of St. Côme, in the University of Paris, not only letters of "surgeon" for himself, but also the power to establish, in Canada, the mastership of surgery in all the towns and villages, in order, said the edict of the time, "dans leur besoins, les passants et les habitants puissent être mieux et surement servis, pansés et medicamentes." But these letters patent, though registered, became dead letters. The first student in Medicine, and the only one of that time, was Paul Prudhomme, brother-in law of Madry, who, for the space of three and a half years, so the document says, was to be taught "son art de chirurgien et tout ce dont il s'occupait et entremettait dans cette profession de Chirurgie, Medicine et Pharmacie." The earliest practitioners were all called surgeons—the term physician or *medicin* was not used by the early settlers. Surgery, therefore, had precedence in this colony over Medicine, as both had precedence, in point of time, over law; and whilst practitioners treated diseases, prepared medicaments, and operated on the wounded, in all the early public acts they were called surgeons, and were qualified by that title; and on the vessels the name of surgeon was given to the officer of health who accompanied. The reason given was this; that in a country where the whites were exposed incessantly to the attacks of the natives, in which nearly all the first colonists were destroyed by them, the art of surgery was,