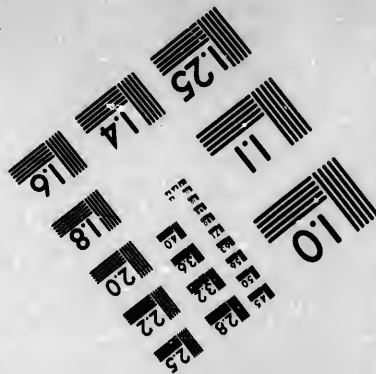
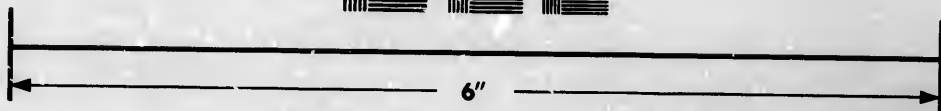
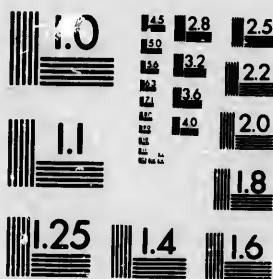


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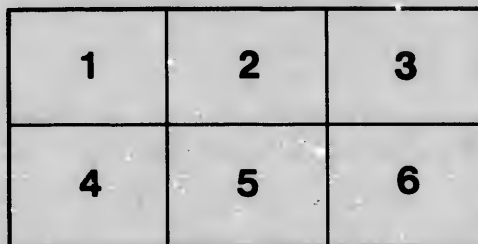
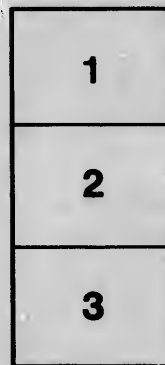
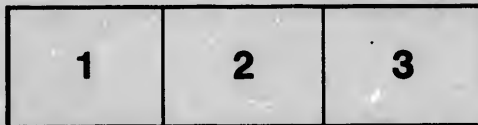
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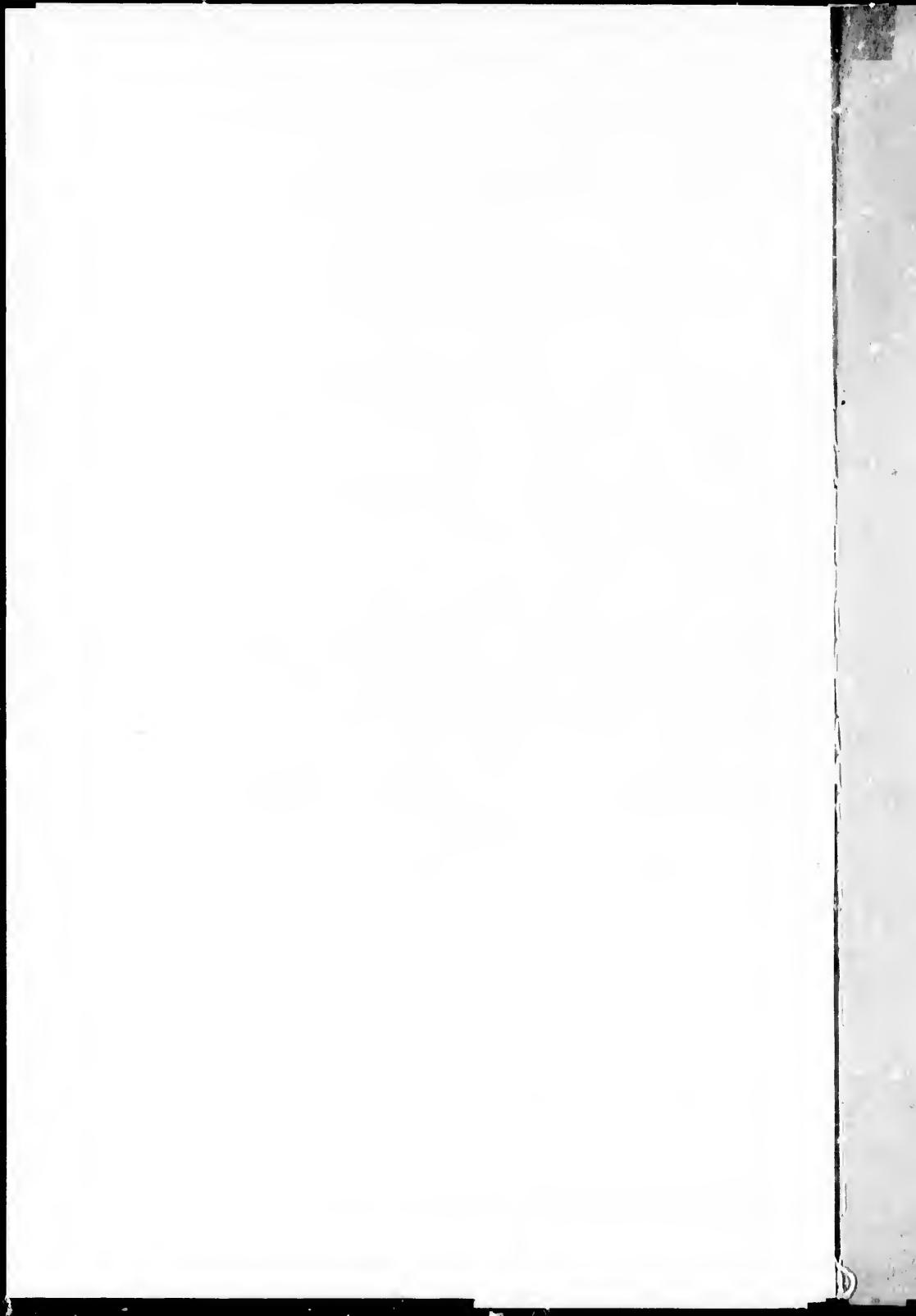
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THE  
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OF  
LAKE ST. LOUIS

— WITH —

A LIST OF THE OLD AND NEW PROPRIETORS,

BY

DÉSIRÉ GIROUARD, Q.C., M.P., D.C.L.,

*Member of the Historical Society of Montreal.  
Author of "Le Vieux Lachine", etc.*



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1892



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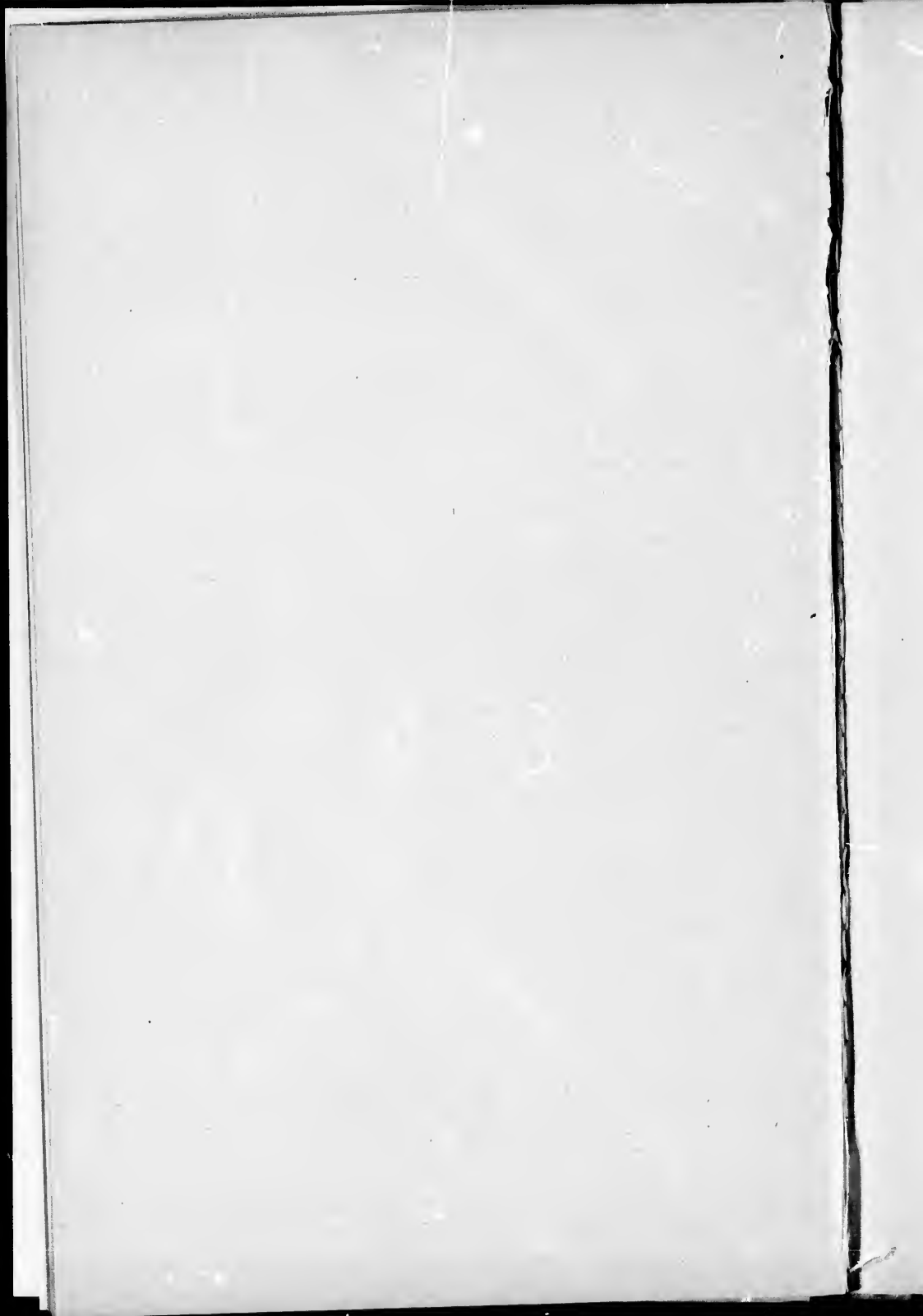
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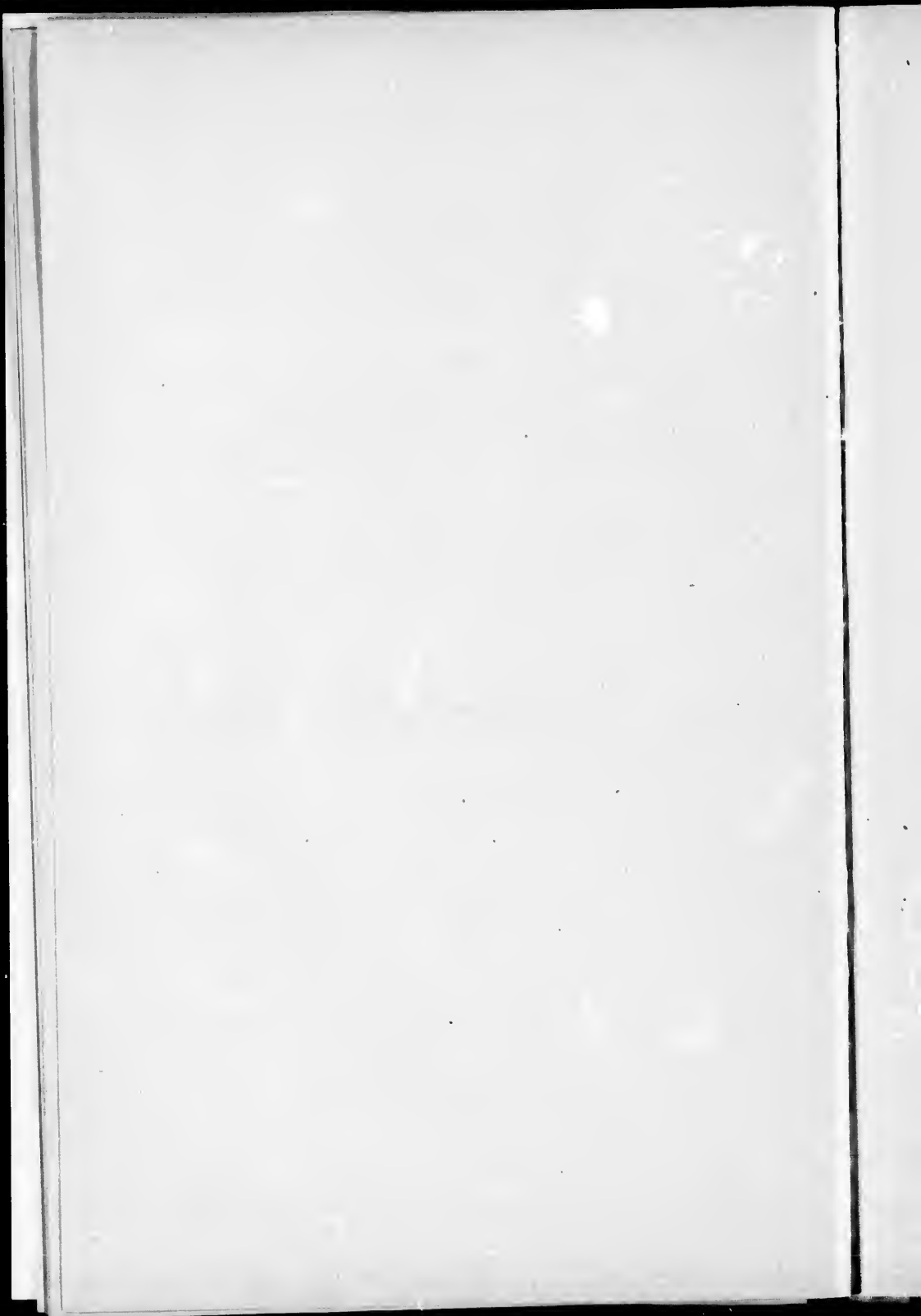
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Several proprietors along the shores of Lake St. Louis have evinced the desire to have in pamphlet form the letters which I published in *La Minerve* and *The Star* upon "Dorval" and "Beaurepaire." I comply the more willingly with their request as both letters are in part a synopsis of the *Vieux Lachine* and of the *Anciens Forts de Lachine*, and I have thus the occasion to make a few corrections and additions to the latter. I have added a list of fur traders and voyageurs who for nearly two hundred years were in the habit of yearly leaving the shores of Lake St. Louis; also a tableau of the old and new proprietors of the River Shore, from Verdun to Ste. Geneviève, together with the year of the concession and the numbers of the terrier and the cadastre. The tableau completes my history of the Lake St. Louis shores, and of the first settlements of Lachine, Pointe Claire and Ste. Annes; and with this pamphlet my historical researches terminate.

"QUATRE-VENTS," DORVAL, 25th November, 1892.

D. GIROUARD.



**THE SHORES**  
OF  
**LACHINE, POINTE-CLAIRE AND ST. ANNES.**

---

LA PRÉSENTATION.

That portion of the parish of Lachine which the Legislature of Quebec has lately incorporated under the name of the village of Dorval, is, without doubt, the most ancient and perhaps the most historical part of the whole island, outside of the site of the city of Montreal.

Champlain was the first European who, in 1611, went over the north shore of Lake St. Louis exploring from Lachine Rapids to the Lake of Two Mountains. He was unable to find a single habitation.

This locality was opened up to colonization about 1666, at the time that Cavalier de La Salle founded the village of Lachine, near the Canadian Pacific Bridge of our days. The three islands opposite bore the name of "Courcelles," from M. de Courcelles, who first conceded them to Pierre Picoté de Bellestre. As the Seminary of St. Sulpice needed these islands to further the interests of the establishment commenced on the Island of Montreal, they secured their concession on the 9th January, 1673, with the assent of Picoté de Bellestre, in favor of M. de Fenslon, who at once opened up the clearing which is seen in the lower part of the largest of these islands, and completed the establishment commenced on the island of Montreal. This establishment consisted in a fief called at first "Gentilly" and later "La Présentation," of 19 arpents by 20, forming to-day, the lands situated between the heirs Herron and Dosithée Legault *dit* Deslauriers inclusively. It was destined for the education of the Indian children, who up to that time lived at the Seminary of Ville Marie. On this fief, was constructed a wooden house, 53 feet long, with two cellars, one in masonry and the other in wood, a stone chimney, *cabanes* or log chantiers, outhouses, a barn and two stables, covering 93 feet in

length, a hencoop, etc., the whole made of faced timber, piece over piece, covered with straw and enclosed with cedar posts. These buildings were constructed on the shores of Lake St. Louis, on the land now owned by Mr. Alexis Brunet, precisely at the spot where to day stand the summer residences of Mrs. Hamilton and Mr. W. F. Torrance, and formed what was called for nearly a century the "Fort la Présentation." One of the rooms in the house served as a chapel, dedicated to the mystery of the presentation of Mary in the Temple, and this name finally replaced that of "Gentilly," and was adopted for the whole locality comprised from the Liesse road to the Grand Anse. It is needless to say that no trace whatever remains of these buildings, which disappeared about the middle of the last century. A cross erected on or near Mr. W. F. Torrance's lot, would indicate the precise spot of this first chapel, which served for the worship of the entire population of the upper part of the island until 1686.

On September 7, 1685, the Seminary ceded the domain of La Presentation and all its dependencies to Agathe de Saint-Perre, only daughter of poor Jean de Saint-Perre, who was killed in 1657 by the Iroquois while he was roofing his house, at Grand Anse, near Point St. Charles. Complete possession was to be given and, in fact, was given at Easter, 1686. On November 26, 1685, Agathe de Saint-Perre married Pierre le Gardeur, sieur de Repentigny, and on January 29, 1691, the latter sold the *fief* La Presentation and the three islands to J. Bte. Bouchard dit Dorval. Hence the name of "Dorval" given to Courcelles Islands and that of "Bouchard" to the small river La Presentation. For more than twenty-five years, the entire locality from this little river up to above the Island has been known under the name of "Dorval."

About 1705, Bouchard died insolvent, leaving creditors and heirs who became *douairiers*. The fort and two farms went to his son, J. Bte., and to his daughter Genevieve, and the remainder of the *fief*, with the three islands, to Charles de Couagne, one of the creditors, and finally to Noel Legault dit Deslauriers and Antoine Meloche, who were the *auteurs* of the present owners.

Among the first proprietors of La Présentation we find André Rapin, who was later on the surgeon of the "Fort Rolland," Pierre Picoté de Bellestre, Jean Renault, Mathurin Parent, Jacques Morin, Pierre Mallet, Michel Préseau dit La Rivière

Chambly, Jean Prévost, André Michel dit St. Michel, Jean Le Roy, François Vinet dit Larente, René Cuillerier dit L'ovéillé, Pierre Tabault, Pierre Aymard, Louis Fortin, Antoine Blignaux dit Sansoucy and Michel André.

La Présentation Mission is the spot where M. F. de Fenélon, priest of the Seminary, retired in 1673, in consequence of a disagreement with M. le Comte de Frontenac.

It is from this spot of La Présentation that the colony of Lachine and that of Ste. Annes were served, by mission, until the wooden chapel was erected at the Lachine Fort in 1676 and even up to 1685, when the mission of Ste. Anne was erected into a parish. About that time, the *curé* of Lachine left La Présentation to go and live in the fort at Lachine. It appears that as early as the year 1667 mass was said at La Présentation, and often in those early days, one of the priests of Saint Sulpice would descend the river on Sunday, especially in summer, to hold service in the house of the sieur de La Salle, in 1666-69, or his purchaser Jean Millot, (1669 76), or in that of a settler named Jean Fournier. In 1673, M. de Fenélon became titular missionary of La Présentation. Before that year, the missionary had made transient visits only. Faillon, vol. 3, pages 356-359; *Les Anciens Forts de Lachine*, page 5 (1).

(1) Since the printing of the french version, I have had a fresh opportunity of making a more minute examination of the registers of Lachine and St. Annes, to the time of the cession. The result is a few additions to the french version, which will be found in foot notes to the english version. The following note of Mr. Remy, first *curé* of Lachine, written at Easter of 1685 on one of the first pages of the oldest register of Lachine is of interest :

"Premièrement, il s'est trouvé que cette coste avait été desservie par forme de mission par les prestres du Séminaire de Montréal pendant plusieurs années faute de chapelle et du nombre suffisant d'habitants pour former une cure. Après que la chapelle fust bastie par les soins qu'en prirent les prestres du dit Séminaire au moyen de la quête qu'ils en firent par toute la coste et notamment par les grands soins qu'en prist le sieur René Cuillerier, marchand et habitant et le premier marguillier de cette paroisse, Monsieur Etienne Guyotte, a présent Curé de Villmarle et qui desservait alors cette paroisse par forme de mission, fist la bénédiction de la dite chapelle le Jendy Saint de l'année 1676, en vertu de la permission qui luy fust accordée par Messire François Le Febvre, pour lors supérieur du dit Séminaire et grand vicaire du dit Seigneur évêque.

"Le printemps suivant, la dite coste de Lachine fut érigée en paroisse par le dit seigneur évesque dans la visite qu'il fist en ce temps au Montréal, et par lettre missive qu'il écrivit et envoya au dit sieur Guyotte, il luy témoigna agréer, suivant sa dévotion et celle des habitans de cette coste, les paroissiens, que cette église fut érigée sous le titre des Saints Anges, en attendant qu'il en donna ses lettres patentes en forme. Le dit sieur Guyotte, après avoir desservi cette paroisse l'espace de trois ans, fust obligé de faire un voyage en France.

"Fust mis en sa place M. Jean Fremont, prestre du dit Séminaire, par ordre



THE CHURCH OF LACHINE.

On a Sunday in May, 1675, the canoe which conveyed the missionary, Mr. Bailli, capsized. Mr. Bailli succeeded in escaping by swimming, but the canoe man, George Allain, living in the lower part of Lachine, was drowned. This accident induced the Seminary to build a chapel at Lachine itself. Mr. Guyotte, a priest of the Seminary, was placed in charge of this work. This chapel, made up of piece upon piece, measured thirty-six feet in length and the same in width, and was built by Pierre Gaudin dit Chatillon, farmer and carpenter, having his farm near the rapids. It was opened to worship on Holy Thursday, 1676, under the name of the Holy Angels. It was at first served by mission by the priests of St. Sulpice, residing always at La Présentation. The first curé of Lachine, Mr. Pierre Remy, was appointed on November 11, 1680 (1), but continued to live at La Présentation.

de M. Doller, Supérieur du dit Séminaire, suivant l'agrément qu'il en avoit du dit seigneur évêque, qui après avoir desservi cette paroisse deux ans entiers en fust retiré par mon dit sieur Doller et mis à la cure de Vilmarie pour la desservir, Mr. Perot qui l'avoit desservi estant decedé; et à la place du dit sieur Fremont y fust mis Mr Pierre Remy, prestre du dit Séminaire le 11e novembre, 1680. qui dessert encoro cette paroisse."

Mr. Remy states in the same document that all the marriages, baptisms and deaths which took place at Lachine before the 12th of april, 1676, were recorded in the registers of Villemarie, "par les missionnaires qui ont desservi la coste de "Lachine par forme de mission."

In another note, Mr. Remy gives the names of the missionaries who acted from "ce lieu dit La Présentation", from 1673 to 1675; they were: "Mrs. les abbés Salagnac de Fenélon, d'Urfé, Barthelemy, Le Bailly, Trouvé et Frémont." These were in regular attendance. In 1674, M. de Fenélon was described by the Superior Council of Quebec, as "ptre, curé du bout de l'Isle de Montréal." Jug. et Dél., vol. 1, p. 819. M. Remy has not transmitted the names of the temporary missionaries who visited Lachine from about 1666 to 1673.

Faillon, vol. 3, p. 356, says of the temporary missionaries: "Dès qu'il y eut des colons établis dans l'île de Montréal et à la côte de Saint-Sulpice (Lachine), le Séminaire crut être obligé de leur envoyer un prêtre pour leur donner les secours de son ministère; ce qui faisait dire à M. de Laval, dans son *Etat de l'Eglise*, qu'il envoya à Rome en 1661: *L'île de Montréal est partagée en diverses paroisses auxquelles les prêtres résidant à Villemarie ont soin d'administrer les sacrements et les autres secours spirituels*. On envoya ainsi des prêtres d'abord à la Chine et à la Pointe-aux-Trembles, mais par manière de mission passagère et à certains jours seulement. De là cette formule dans les ordonnances du juge de Villemarie: *Le présent acte sera lu et affiché à la Chine et à la Pointe-aux-Trembles à l'issue des Messes qui s'y diront les premiers jours*. Ordonnance de Talon, 1672.

(1) In another note, Mr. Remy says: "Le 10 novembre 1684, mon dit Seigneur l'Evêque.... envoya le titre de cette cure qui a toujours demeuré indécié, jusqu'à ce que l'on ait seu la volonté et l'acceptation de Messire Louis Tronson, prothro, Supérieur du Séminaire.... si cette cure demeurera fixe ou amovible."

It was only after the sale to Agathe St. Perre, in the autumn of 1685, or during the winter of 1686, that he went to reside permanently in the wooden presbytery, constructed in 1680 at Lachine, but which had been occupied until then (1686) only by the Sisters of the Congregation, the curé accepting a small portion of the building for the short stays that he made there. It even seems that the venerable foundress, Sister Bourgeoys, was the first to teach at Lachine.

Mr. Remy, resided permanently at Lachine only after 1685. In 1701, he erected, almost wholly at his expense, the large stone church which was demolished only in 1869, to make room for the Novitiate of the Oblat Fathers. The new church, we see at Lachine, was consecrated December 2nd, 1865 (1).

#### THE LACHINE MASSACRE.

At the time of the massacre of August 5th, 1689, the Fort La Presentation was not even attacked and Mr. de Catalogne, who was on the spot, tells us that it was very well guarded. The population above the fort was not even visited by the Iroquois. The storm which favored their crossing from the Chateauguay river did not permit of their risking themselves above Dorval Island, where Lake St. Louis is several miles wide. The population of Lachine, from La Presentation to Verdun, was not so fortunate. René Chartier, proprietor of the farm occupied to-day by Charles Décary, son of Jean, near the little Bouchard river, his two sons and a small Indian, their slave, were massacred on the place where stands to-day the summer residence of Amable Lallemand. On the farm above, the property of J. B. O. Martin, and one of his sons were made prisoners, and probably massacred at the village of the barbarous tribes. His wife and four children escaped the carnage. So did the wife of Chartier and a young girl of fourteen. This latter, afterwards married Antoine Berthe-

(1) The registers of Lachine make no mention of a cemetery till the year 1684. Before that time, every burial is stated to have been made in the chapel. The first burial "dans le lieu destiné pour le cimetière de la paroisse de la Chine, au pied d'une croix plantée pour ce sujet", was that of Louise Magdeleine André, who died of fever on the 22nd of July, 1684. The first burial in the new stone church was that of Gabriel Perrin, August 4, 1703. The first burial in the old chapel was that of Le Roy de Maran, made in November 1676. *Registres de Lachine.*

let, ancestor of the late Mr. Olivier Berthelet. The reader, who is anxious to have more details of these sad events, might consult my *Vieux Lachine* (1).

During the war of 1812-13, Dorval became the seat of operations of an important detachment of British troops on the farm of the Monets now occupied by Benjamin Décary. Captain Roy, father of MM. Rouer and Euclide Roy, went to Lachine with a corps of volunteers, and camped at a spot near the lock of to day. On reception of the news of the victory of Chateauguay, the volunteers returned to Montreal.

#### DORVAL.

Not more than twenty years ago, Dorval was known only as the market of the lumbermen who brought down and anchored their immense rafts for months at a time, during the summer season and even during winter. They had to go elsewhere in 1877, owing to the injunctions of the Courts, granted at the request of certain river side proprietors. It is from the decision of the Court of Appeals that dates the prosperity of Dorval, although for several years before, the beauties of the locality had attracted the attention of some amateurs of country life. In 1854, Sir George Simpson, acquired the three Dorval Islands from J. Bte. Meloche, the grandson of Antoine, for \$4000. He erected on one of them a superb villa, which was occupied by himself and at times by General Williams. It was also at Dorval, on the Shackell property, that the military men of the times had their summer mess, and the small cemetery, at the corner point of Dorval Island, contains the remains of several soldiers who died during their stay in the country.

#### BEAUREPAIRE.

The purchasers of Thompson's Point, at Pointe Claire, have handed me some old titles to that property which they have divided up into building lots, inquiring whether "Beaurepaire" is not the first name of that locality, and secondly, when it was colonized?

This point, one of the most picturesque on the whole island of

(1) *Le Vieux Lachine* and *Les Anciens Forts de Lachine* are for sale at J. M. Valois, 1626 Notre Dame Street, Montreal.

Montreal, and which was subdivided last autumn, is one of the most sought for rendez-vous by the citizens of Montreal. Messrs. Robert Reford, John Dillon, Fred. Birks, J. Murray Smith, Henry Putnam, N. T. Power, Walter Kavanagh, James Rendell and W. J. Goodhue, have built pretty cottages on it, and it is not surprising therefore that the proprietors should take an interest in its past.

This point was always known under the name of Pointe à Guenet. Such is the name to be seen on a map of the locality, drawn up August 1st, 1770, by Jean Delisle, surveyor.

One of the old title deeds, September 30th, 1700, styles it "Pointe Ana8y, dit de beau-repaire." I believe this partly incorrect: "La Pointe Ana8y" (read Anaouy) is further up, upon another property of Guenet's and is shown on the Delisle map as distinct from Beaurepaire or Pointe à Guenet. Basset, who on the 10th December, 1678, surveyed this land appears to make the same distinction. He states that he "expressly repaired to Pointe Ana8y, on the concession of Jean Guenet, known as Beaurepaire."

This point was always known under the name of Pointe à Guenet, the name of the first grantee: It remained in the family until October 7th, 1769. At that date, it went over with a large tract of land to Amable Curot, who erected a large stone house, the property of Mr. Reford to day. Jean Guenet acquired four arpents frontage by 20 deep on the lower line, to the east, on May 18, 1678, and eight arpents by 40 on November 28, 1694. Part of the latter had been granted in 1678 to Guenet's cousin, one Jean Lemire, but it would seem that he never carried out any improvements on the land. His name does not appear upon the *terrier*, although mentioned in Basset's *procès verbal* of survey made by him the 10th December, 1678.

In the deed of sale of May 18, 1678, the land of four arpents is described as being "at Lake St. Louis de la Chine and at Pointe de Beaurepaire, commencing on the side of the bay or *écor* and standing wood, joining on both sides the unpre-empted land."

#### LA POINTE CLAIRE.

It must not be supposed that this portion of the island of Montreal was inhabited at that period, 1678. It was only twenty years later that the colonists thought of occupying it. Until then,

the constant attacks of the Iroquois almost rendered impossible all residence in that locality, several miles removed from the forts. The nearest was that of St. Annes, erected in 1683, on the fief Bellevue, some few arpents above the church of the present day. The redoubt of Pointe Claire was built only at the beginning of last century. The Fort La Presentation, at Dorval, was too far removed to protect the settlers, not only of Pointe Claire or Beaurepaire, but even those of Grand'Anse. The land register and old deeds show that all the lands west of Fort La Presentation to Grand'Anse, were conceded at the same time as those of Lachine, that is to say, from 1666 to 1685, whilst those of Grand'Anse, and all Pointe Claire, to the limit of Ste. Annes (Telephore Madore), were only conceded in 1698 and after. Only six or seven concessions are to be found previous to this, the oldest of which is without doubt that of May 18th, 1678, in favor of Jean Guenet, but no possession in earnest took place till the end of the 17th century (1).

JEAN GUENET.

Guenet or Quenet contracted marriage at Montreal in 1675. Being a merchant, he indulged in scouring the woods, thereby incurring in 1680 a penalty of 2000 livres "for having been in the depths of the woods trafficking skins with the distant "savage tribes." Jug. et Dél., vol. 2, p. 435. The penalty was heavy, but a better example was to be expected on the part of a prominent citizen. Guenet, moreover, was doing a good business. As far back as 1677, he was one of the head suppliers of Montreal. In 1677, Mgr. Laval was notified by M. Dudouyt that "Guenet has been paid what was due him of o'd, namely "4,739 l. 19 s. whereof Father Ragueneau paid 1,739 l. 19 s. and "myself 3,000 l. We still owe him this year's supplies, amounting, as you will see, by the invoice, to 1,750 l. "*Canadian Archives, Report of Douglas Bremner for 1885*, p. CXXX (2).

Guenet was also comptroller of the King's farms and perceptor

(1) Although he was residing in the parish of St. Louis, probably on fief Bellevue, as early as 1681. On the 4th of November, 1681, Clémence, daughter of Jean Guenet, "laboureur, habitant du bout de l'Isle de Montréal", was baptised at Lachine.

(2) Guenet was in France on the 4th of November, 1681, undoubtedly looking after his importations. *Register of Lachine*.

of the fees of the seigniors of the Island of Montreal, and was consequently acquainted with the situation of all the lands of the Seignior. Then, as at the present day, the points on the river were sought after, and it is not surprising to see Guenet, who was in constant negotiations with the Seminary, securing for himself, some of the beautiful sites on Lake St. Louis and the River St. Lawrence. We have seen him take the concession of Beaufort in 1678. The same year he acquired from the sieur de Chailly part of the fief Bellevue, at St. Annes, *Greffes de Bassot*, 10th December, 1678. In 1694, he took the grant of 8 arpents west of Beaufort, which to all appearances had been abandoned by his cousin Lemire and other grantees. In 1682, he induced Pierre Heurtebise, his brother-in-law, to take up the title of concession of a farm situated in the Baie d'Urfé (to-day Chs. St. Denis), but having been returned to the seigniors, Guenet obtained the concession of it on Oct. 21, 1685. This land was advantageously situated near the chapel of St. Annes, at the Pointe Caron of our days.

#### THE CHAPEL OF ST. LOUIS.

The land book contains two interesting entries on the subject of this chapel. At No. 111 it is said: "This land was formerly intended for the church of St. Annes' and in the concession made of it by the seigniors to the said Lalonde (J. Bte. de La Londe dit l'Esperance) they have reserved for themselves six superficial arpents in front, to be taken 2 by 3 or 3 by 2, as it may please them. This mark "M" shows the reserved land called d'Urfé Bay, on account of the Abbé d'Urfé who had built the first chapel of St. Annes on that spot." At No. 112, the land book shows: "This mark "M" indicates the place where formerly stood the first chapel of St. Annes' occupied and ministered by the Abbe d'Urfé, who has given it his name." This chapel was built between 1683 and 1685. It did not exist in 1678, in as much as there is no mention of it in the deed of survey of the land of J. Bte. de La Londe, made on the 10th December, 1678, by Bassot. It was in existence in 1687, since there is mention of it in the deed of concession to the sieur de La Londe. It is also mentioned in the burial register of this same de La Londe, who,

with nine other Frenchmen (1), (of whom three were soldiers probably garrisoned at Mr. Le Ber's mill,) was killed by the Iroquois in September, 1687, and buried "near the parochial church." This register is signed "d'Urfé, curé of the parish of St. Louis."

De La Londe was buried in the church itself. The remains of the dead were unearthed at Pointe Caron in 1866. (See *Vieux Lachine*, page 12).

The chapel existed in 1685, and before, because during that year St. Annes was erected into a parish under the name of St. Louis, and de La Londe was elected churchwarden; but it did not exist in 1683, since, in the ecclesiastical census of 1683, it is declared that mass was celebrated in a private house at the upper part of the island, "there being neither chapel, nor presbytery." St. Annes was at that time under the spiritual charge of Mr. Remy, curé of Lachine (2). Mr. d'Urfé, formerly missionary of

(1) This statement, which is based upon the authority of Mgr. Tanguay, 3 Royal Society, 139, is incorrect. Two died of natural death, and eight only were killed by the Indians on different occasions. *Registre de Saint-Louis* for 1687.

(2) A recent examination of the registers of Lachine and St. Annes has thrown more light upon the origin of this little chapel and the parish of Pointe St. Louis. The birth of "Marie Magdeleine Coureau, fille de Cibarre Coureau, sieur de la Côte", was recorded in the register of Lachine, by Mr. Remy, on the 5th July 1683. He says: "Ce baptême a esté fait en la maison de Jean de La Londe dit L'Espérance, habitant du hault de l'isle de Montréal, comme le lieu où je dis ordinairement la messe de cette mission dépendante de la paroisse des Saints Anges de Lachine". On the 20th of August, 1684, Mr. Remy makes another entry in relation to the baptism of Anne Barbary, at Lachine, by Mr. Dollier, during the absence of Mr. Remy at St. Anne's, "en ma mission du hault de cette île pour y faire le baptême ci-dessus (the baptism of a child of De La Londe, made on the 21st August, 1684), et pour y célébrer la sainte messe". The cemetery at Pointe Caron was not used in 1683, inasmuch as the dead body of Jean Lamerliègue, the "domestique" of Gabriel de Berthé, sieur de Chally, was carried the whole distance from the house of the said Chally "sise au hault de l'isle" to Lachine, where the burial took place.

St. Annes was erected into a parish in the summer of 1685, under the name of St. Louis, and on the 20th of September of the same year, the Bishop of Quebec, while on a visit to that place, established its boundaries, namely, bounded to the east by Pointe-Claire exclusively, and to the west by the lands beyond the end of the island, "commençant à la Pointe-Claire inclusivement et finissant par delà la pointe du bout de l'isle". The Bishop was accompanied by Jean Guenet, "habitant du dit lieu", Olivier Quesnel, churchwarden of Lachine, Jean de La Londe, churchwarden of the parish of St. Louis, Mr. Dollier, superior of the Séminaire and Grand Vicaire, et Mr. Remy, curé of Lachine et missionnaire de Saint-Louis. *Registre de Lachine*, p. 7. What remains of the registers of St. Annes from 1686 to 1704 will be found at Lachine.

The registers of Lachine contain a note in the handwriting of Mr. Remy, in which it is stated that the registers of the parish of St. Louis were commenced 1686. They extend only to the years 1686 and 1687, and are all signed "D'Urfé, curé", that is "curé de la paroisse de St. Louis du hault de l'isle de Montréal".

The first entry was that of the marriage of J.-Bte. Celoron, sieur de Blainville,

La Presentation, succeeded him, and hence, from missionary became first *curé* of St. Louis. If one must believe the census of 1683, there were at this time at St. Annes but 18 families and 59 souls. Mr. d'Urfé had in the same place the direction of a small mission of Nepissing Indians, which was transferred later to Isle aux Tourtes and finally in 1726 to Oka, on Lake of Two

with Héleno Picoté de Bellestre, widow of Antoine de la Fresnaye, sieur de Brucy, both residing "dans cette paroisse". The marriage took place in the parish, on the 29th of November, 1686, and was undoubtedly the first marriage performed at that place; but *curé* d'Urfé does not state where it was celebrated, whether in a chapel or in a private house.

The next entry is the natural death of Claude de la Mothe dit le marquis de Jourdy, buried on the 23rd of February, 1687, "à la Pointe Saint-Louis".

On the 1st of March, 1687, the child of Jean Thillard "a été apporté à l'Eglise pour recevoir les cérémonies du baptême".

On the 21st of September, 1687, Jean Vincent, killed "pendant la guerre avec les Iroquois", was buried "à la Pointe Saint-Louis".

On the 30th of September, 1687, Jean de La Londe dit L'Espérance, was killed by the Iroquois, and the next day, 1st October, was buried "dans l'encointe de l'Eglise Saint-Louis". On the same day and under the same circumstances, Pierre Bopneau dit Lajeunesse was buried "proche le lieu destiné pour bastir l'Eglise Saint-Louis". It can hardly be supposed that this entry was a mistake, for the same statement is repeated in the burial certificates of Pierre Perthuis, Henri Fronageau et Pierre Pettiteau, also killed by the Iroquois on the 30th of September, 1687.

Pierre Camus dit La Fouillade, killed by the Indians on the 18th of October, 1687, was buried on the 19th, "proche le lieu destiné pour le cimetière auprès de l'Eglise Paroissiale de Saint-Louis"; and on the same day, J.-Bte. Le Sincur dit La Hogue, also killed by the Iroquois on the 18th of October, was buried "dans le lieu destiné pour le cimetière de la paroisse de Saint-Louis".

Louis Jets, miller (meunier engagé) of Mr. Le Ber, who died of natural death "après avoir reçu le viatique", on the 17th of November, 1687, was buried on the following day "dans le cimetière de l'Eglise Paroissiale de Saint-Louis". This is the last entry to be found in the registers of St. Louis, from its erection in 1685 to the year 1704. There is no trace of any record from 1687 to the year 1704. They were either mislaid or destroyed, perhaps in the fire of the *presbytère* or parsonage of Lachine during the night of the 11th and 12th January, 1769.

It is also possible that the Mission of St. Louis, with the exception perhaps of the little colony at Fort Senneville, on fief Bois-Briant, was closed after the massacre of 1687, and during the entire period of that terrible Indian war, which raged till the year 1698. In fact, it would appear from Mgr. Tanguay's *Dictionnaire Généalogique*, the registers of Lachine and the greffe of Pottier, that during that long period of more than ten years, the old inhabitants of St. Louis were living either at Villemarie or Lachine, for instance Jean Guenet, J.-Bte. Celoron, sieur de Blainville, Guillaume D'Aoust, D'Ailleboust-D'Argenteuil, Cybard Courraud, sieur de la Coste, la veuve de Jean de La Londe dit L'Espérance, Jean Nepveu, Jean Thillard, Aimé Legros dit Lecompte, Pierre Cavalier, Nicholas Le Moyné, la veuve Pierre Bonneau dit Lajeunesse and Pierre Maudit dit Le Poitevin, who sought refuge at Lachine, but was taken prisoner during the night of the massacre of the 5th of August, 1689, and subsequently killed by the Iroquois in their village. Greffe de Pottier, 2nd May, 1700. The Bout de l'Isle appears to have been deserted, except by the proprietors of Fort Senneville, to be re-occupied only after peace was practically made with the Iroquois in 1698. This may explain the dates of the concessions of Pointe-Claire and of those north of Fort Senneville, during the year 1698 and following. No



**Mountains.** Report of Quebec Provincial Secretary, 1886-87, p. 210 It was only long after its foundation that St. Louis took the name of St. Annes, the latter probably from the name of the first chapel built by Mr. d'Urfé.

Mr. d'Urfé belonged to one of the first families of France, being the son of the Marquis d'Urfé He was closely connected

mention is made of the parish of St. Louis in the registers of Lachine or in the greffe of Pottier, who practised as notary at Lachine, during that long period extending from 1687 to 1701. As we have seen, St. Annes or rather St. Louis du bout de l'Isle de Montreal was erected into a parish during the summer of the year 1685, probably in view of the transfer of the Indian Mission located at La Presentation, which was sold to Pierre Le Gardour, sieur de Repentigny, on the 7th of September, 1685.

De La Londe was elected the first churchwarden of the parish of St. Louis, and in fact had been, before the civil erection; as far as the 21st of August, 1684, he was "Marguillier de la Mission du hault de l'Isle". *Registre de Lachine.*

On the 22nd May, 1685, the baptism of a son of the sieur Cavalier (Pierre), "receveur de Messieurs les Seigneurs", was celebrated at Lachine. The god-mother was "la femme de Jean de La Londe, premier marguillier de la partie supérieure de cette Isle".

On the 12th of November, 1685, the first *ban* or publication of marriage of Claude de La Mothe was made "en la mission du haut de l'Isle, à jour ouvrable, encore que l'on ne dit la messe en ce lieu que par forme de mission".

On the 18th February, 1686, the next *ban* of Guillaume D'Acoust was made "au presne de la messe dite en cette paroisse de St. Louis"; but it is not stated where the service was held. Present at the marriage at Lachine, Gabriel de Berthé, sieur de Chally, Pierre D'Ailleboust, sieur D'Argenteuil, Cybard Couraud, sieur de la Coste, Jean Guenet.

Notwithstanding the apparent contradictions in the registers of St. Louis, it may fairly be inferred that St. Louis du Bout de l'Isle had a small chapel as early as 1685, which was temporary and intended to be replaced by a church or *église paroissiale* as early as 1687.

The terrier quoted in the text states that when the deed of concession was granted to Jean de La Londe dit Lespérance, the chapel had been built by Mr. D'Urfé. This deed was passed on the 3rd day of March, 1687, before Pottier, notary. See also inventory of De La Londe, by Pottier, 19th January, 1688. Mr. D'Urfé became curé in the fall of 1685. The chapel must have been erected by him about that time. From the registers of St. Louis and the terrier it is evident that Pointe St. Louis was the site selected for the parish church, but it was subsequently changed. It was undoubtedly considered unsafe, at least not as safe as l'Isle aux Tourtes, which was in close proximity to Fort Senneville and Fort St. Annes, and as a necessary consequence, the idea of building a church at Pointe St. Louis, near Baie d'Urfé, was abandoned. The Indian Mission of the Neplis-singues and Algonquins was transferred to Isle aux Tourtes, where a fort was also constructed. When was this transfer made? No record that I know shows this; but it may be inferred that it must have been before the year 1709, as René Godfroy, sieur de Lindot, was commandant from that year to 1718. This fort was known as "Le fort des Sauvages", or "Rouinagathing". *Registres de Sainte-Anne.*

The parish was still called St. Louis in 1709; but in 1713, the name had been changed. The registers for the years 1712 and 1713 are missing. The royal edict of the 3rd of March, 1722, concerning the parishes of la Nouvelle France, declares that Sainte-Anne-du-Bout-de-l'Isle will comprize "la mission des sauvages Neplis-singues établie sur l'Isle-aux-Tourtes, que le curé de la dite paroisse dessert "il continuera de desservir, par voie de mission". Ed. et Ord., vol. 1, p. 159.

with Mr. de Fenélon, nephew of the Marquis of Fenélon, and brother of the celebrated archbishop of Cambrai, and first missionary of La Presentation. He was also nearly related to Colbert. These connections account for his influence with the French Court. MM. d'Urfé, Remy and Fenélon rank first amongst the illustrious founders of the Company of St. Sulpice at Villemarie.

GUENET AT LACHINE RAPIDS.

But to return to Guenet. He chose building sites not only at Pointe Claire and St. Annes, but also at Lachine. Thus, in the year 1672, we see him take the deed of concession of a lot, since gone into the Sommerville family, with an additional extent of land, and finally to W. W. Ogilvie, at the exact spot whereon was built the first water mill of the Seigneurs at Lachine Rapids.

In relation to this larger piece of land in part formed by the concession of Jean Boursier dit Lavigne, recently purchased by Mr. W. W. Ogilvie, a newspaper generally well informed has been giving vent, through the mouth piece of one of its reporters, to indescribable *naïvetés*. The reader is informed in the gravest manner that "Dollard de Casson," instead of Dollier de Casson, Superior of the Seminary, could neither read nor write, and that this appears literally by Mr. Ogilvie's first deed of grant. I have read this deed, and it is simply stated that the grantee, that is to say Boursier, not Dollier, could neither read nor write. Mr. Dollier is well known as the first historian of Montreal. It might perhaps be advisable, before undertaking the risk of explaining old parchments, to first become acquainted with the leading characters of our history, and then familiarize one self with ancient writings. Mr. Dollier granted the concession titles of nearly every land on the island of Montreal, from that of Guenet, at Beaurepaire, to Boursier's at Lachine, on Sault St. Louis. If he did not always sign, this is explained by the fact that the notary, who was at the same time *tabellion*, did not require him so to do. When under hand—a frequent occurrence—the deed was always signed.

Guenet generally made his summer residence at Lachine; the census of 1681 finds him on his farm at Lachine, with his wife, Etiennette Heurtebise, and two children. He had then fifteen acres under cultivation, and even indulged in the luxury of a servant,

Antoine Sans-Soucy. All his children were baptized at Ville Marie or at Lachine. His name never appeared in the registers of Pointe Claire. His wife was buried in Montreal, in 1717, at a time when Pointe Claire existed as a parish. At Montreal also, in 1718, he married Françoise Cuillerier, daughter of a prominent citizen of Ville Marie and Lachine, the brave René Cuillerier.

#### LA POINTE ANAOUY.

I do not doubt but that Guenet did very little upon his farm at Beurepaire before the commencement of the last century (1), at the same time as the colonists were commencing to take possession of the lands of Grand'Anse and Pointe Claire. It was on the 28th of November, 1694, that he acquired the eight acres of frontage adjoining west of Beurepaire, and forming to day the holding of John Angell, and part of that of James Thompson. Upon these eight acres Pointe Anaouy was situated, where Messrs. Charles Shorey, William Macmaster. C. P. Sclater, and others have just built magnificent summer cottages. It was on September 30th, 1700, that he thought of asking for a title to another portion of his domain which he held only under a verbal agreement with Mr. Dollier, made "twenty-one or twenty-two years ago," for the good reason that peace having been practically concluded with the Iroquois, the lands of Pointe Claire and above were becoming valuable. In the deed of 1700, Beurepaire is again mentioned as being "on Lake St. Louis and at the point of fine resort (*beau repairs*) above Lachine." No mention of the parish of Pointe Claire.

#### THE SETTLEMENT OF POINTE CLAIRE.

The colonization of Pointe Claire was so rapid that a few years later, all the river lots were occupied. On the 15th July, 1706, intendant Raudot gave orders for the opening of a front road along the river's edge from La Presentation to the upper extremity of the island; but Robillard, Brunet, Lavoilette, Laplaine and several other inhabitants having neglected to comply with

(1) In the baptism of his daughter, Clémence at Lachine, 4th November, 1681, he is described "habitant du haut de l'Isle de Montréal," probably on fief Bellevue. The register of St. Louis for 1700, says that Jean Guenet is "habitant de cette paroisse."

the requirements of this ordinance, the intendant reenacted the same on the 11th June, 1707. Every inhabitant, from La Présentation to the extremity of the island, was reordereed to "keep the roads along their abodes, to clean the same, remove trees therefrom, and construct the bridges necessary to render them passable"; the whole under a penalty of ten livres payable to the parishes of Lachine and St. Louis. Guenet (the proprietor of Beaurepaire), was given special charge of the execution of this ordinance. *Edits et Ord*, vol. 3, p. 417.

The names of the first settlers of Pointe Claire are to be found in one of the tableaux contained in the appendix.

The parish of Pointe Claire was civilly erected only in the autumn of 1713; and the following year, 1714, the register of baptisms contains the entry of twenty-two births.

It included then all the lands on the river front, from that of Nap. Valois to the Herron estate, at Dorval, inclusively, besides the lower portion of Isle Perrot. The limits were still the same in 1722, at the time of the passing of the *arrêt* of the King's State Council in relation to parishes in new France. *Côte des Sources* or St. Rémi, is mentioned, but *Côte St. Charles* leading to day to Beaconsfield station and Ste Geneviève, is merely pointed out as "a new *côte* as yet unnamed" (1).

#### ST. ANNES.

The upper part of Isle Perrot belonged to St. Annes (2). Its present boundaries existed at that time, with the exception of Côte St Marie (3). The *curé* was also missionary of "the mission of the Nepissing Indians established on *Isle aux Tourtres*" as well as "the fiefs, (Seigniories is the proper term) of Vaudreuil and Souanges, situated opposite the upper extremities of the said Isle Perrot and the island of Montreal." The same *arrêt* (3rd March, 1722) grants the inhabitants of said *fiefs* permission to build a chapel "between the two *fiefs*" wherein the

) Côte St. Jean is not mentioned.

(2) In the year 1711, this parish was still called "St. Louis-du-Bout-du-l'Isle." But in 1713, it was known under the name of "Ste Anne-du-Bout-de-l'Isle." *Régistres de Ste Anne*. The registers for 1712 and 1713 are missing.

(3) From the date of its erection in 1685 to the time of the erection of the parish of Pointe Claire, St. Annes extended to the present site of the village of Pointe Claire.

*curé* of St. Annes shall say mass once a month. *Edits et Ord.* vol. 1er, p. 443.

In 1722, St Annes was therefore the most remote parish on the north shore west of Montreal.

Chateauguay was the last mission on the south shore, and was administered by the missionary of Sault St. Louis. In 1784, the Sault was served by Mr. Ducharme, *curé* of Lachine.

As already seen, the parish of Pointe Claire is younger than the sister parishes of Lachine and St. Annes. It soon became the most important. During the military period, from the 17th October, 1761, to the 10th August, 1764, Pointe Claire became the headquarters of the first judicial district, containing the parishes from Sault-au-Récollet, St. Laurent and Lachine as far as Cdars. In 1784, St. Annes was served partly by Pointe Claire and partly by St Geneviève. Pointe Claire counted at that time eight hundred communicants, whilst there were but three hundred at Lachine. *Census of Bishop Briant, 1784, Report of Brenner for 1839*, p 41. In the same year 1784, the mission of the Congregation of Notre Dame, at Lachine, was transferred to Pointe Claire, "the population of Lachine having diminished instead of increasing." *Les Anciens Forts de Lachine*, p. 10.

#### FUR TRADERS AND VOYAGEURS.

Lachine soon regained her former rank of first village on the whole island of Montreal. In the winter of 1783-84, Benjamin Frobisher and Simon McTavish, merchants of Montreal (1) started an opposition to the Hudson Bay Company under the name of the North West Company. Up to that period, the Hudson's Bay Company had been doing the greater bulk of their

(1) "A little more than a quarter of a mile to the northward, most conspicuously situated beneath the abrupt part of the mountain, is a mansion erected by the late Simon McTavish, Esq., in a style of much elegance: this gentleman had projected great improvements in the neighbourhood of this agreeable and favourite spot; had he lived to superintend the completion of them, the place would have been made an ornament to the island. Mr. McTavish, during his life time, was highly respected by all who enjoyed the pleasure of his acquaintance, and as much lamented by them at his decease; his remains were deposited in a tomb placed at a short distance from the house, surrounded by a shrubbery; on a rocky eminence above it his friends have erected a monumental pillar, as a tribute to his worth and a memento of their regret. Both the house and the pillar are very prominent objects, that disclose themselves in almost every direction." Bouchette, 1815, p. 161.

North West business by way of Hudson's Bay. The bourgeois of the new concern on the contrary chose the route of Ottawa and the lakes, the old road of the missionaries and the *coureurs des bois*. They penetrated to the Indian nations of the interior, and the Hudson's Bay Company were soon obliged to follow suit. Lachine became the principal warehouse of the merchandise and skins of nearly all the North West traders. Every spring they launched a fleet of seven or eight hundred *voyageurs*. About 1854, steamboats and railroads put an end to the career of Canadian *voyageurs*. Should the reader desire to learn the names and the number of the Canadians who made yearly engagements for the North West, becoming the ancestors of the North West Métis or Half breeds, he may satisfy himself by examining the records of contemporaneous notaries, among others Gray, Griffin and Mailloux. A list of some of these names collected from Gray and Griffin, from 1807 to 1824, will be found in the appendix. It will suffice to convey an idea of the bustle created at Lachine by the arrival and departure of these *voyageurs* every season of navigation. The memory of several bourgeois and their employees is still preserved in Lachine. Without speaking of the small army of *voyageurs* that lumbermen such as John Chester, of La Petite Nation, William Hamilton, of Hawkesbury, Jacob Heick, of Prescott, Clark and Street of Niagara (1), despatched every spring to Upper Canada, there were others sent out every spring by individual fur traders, from Lachine to the west, the trading posts of the Ottawa River, Lake Superior, Illinois, and the North West, from Lake of Two Mountains to Detroit, Sault St Marie and the Rocky Mountains. François Antoine Larocque, J. Bte. Perreault, Charles Racette, W. W. Matthews, Chs. O. Ermatinger, Dominique Rousseau, Louis Pinsonneault, Captain John Franklin of the Royal Navy, and others, engaged almost as

(1) The Upper Canadian lumbermen, on the Ottawa river, La Petite Nation, and the St. Lawrence, and as far as the Bay of Quinte, were considerable in number at the beginning of the century. Every year they engaged in the district of Montreal, hundreds of Canadian *voyageurs*, handy alike with the woodman's axe, the canoe paddle, or the raftman's oar. The following names are all to be found in the *Greffe of Gray*, 1809 to 1812: Robert Fletcher, John Colman, Forsyth, Richardson and Co., James Cascallion, Wm Wells, Wm Johnson, J. Cumming and McDonnell, Moses Carnation, Martin Moore, R. C. Wilkins, Wm. Oviatt, Alex. Allison, Archibald McMillan, Thomas Ritchie, Parker, Gerrard, Ogilvy and Co, Donald McLennan, Samuel D. Fleming, Robert Martin, Angus McLachlan, Richard Mears and Artemus Jackson, Duncan Cameron, Ezra Graves, Bradlish Billing, John Ker and Benjamin Moir.

many *voyageurs* as the North West Company. As late as 1821, the firm of McTavish, McGillivray and Company had a trading post at the mission of Lake of Two Mountains, managed by Alex. Fisher as *bourgeois* and Gabriel Franchère, *filis*, as clerk. *Greffé de Griffin*. The reader may perhaps feel some curiosity, as to the nature of the articles of engagement of these emp'oyees. They were drawn up nearly in the following printed form; only the salary varied according to the nature of the individual services. Some were engaged as "devant" that is to say for the bow of the canoe, others amidships or "milieu", others for the helm or "gouvernail", and finally others as "hyvernants", "clerks", "interpreters" "guides" and "foremen". The term of the voyage was generally for the season of navigation just commenced or about to commence. The clerks and "hyvernants" were engaged for one or three years. I submit one of the engagements as drawn up by Griffin.

" Before the undersigned notaries, residing in the City of Montreal, in the Province of Lower Canada.

" Was present J. Bte Navarre, de la Chenaye, who, by these presents, did and doth of his own will bind himself to Mr. Chas. Oakes Ermatinger, of Sault Ste Marie, F. W. Ermatinger hereto present and accepting for him, to start on demand from this city, as "hyvernant", on one of his canoes or bateaux upon a voyage to Lake Superior, including the wintering there, or to any other spot in the Indian Countries, as requested, for the period of one year, to be free upon his return to Montreal. Eight days "corvée" to be given by him at his post, and the time of the engagement to run from departure.

" And to carefully guard, both on the way and at the said place, all effects, merchandise, provisions, skins, utensils, and all things necessary for the voyage, to serve, obey, and faithfully carry out all lawful and proper orders of said sieur *Bourgeois* or his representative, to have an eye for his benefit, as well as to avoid aught hurtful to him, warning him according to knowledge acquired, and generally to fulfill all the obligations of a good *hyvernant*; absence or the abandonment of service to entail loss of wages, besides the penalties inflicted by the ordinances. The said engagement is so made for and in consideration of the sum of four hundred *livres* or shillings, old currency of this Province, yearly wages, which said *bourgeois*

“ promises to pay and deliver to the said *engagé* or hired party  
“ one month after his return to this city, besides an ordinary  
“ equipment when starting.

“ He acknowledges receipt at the time of engagement of eight  
“ dollars paid in advance.

“ Thus, etc , promising, etc , binding himself, etc., renouncing,  
“ etc

“ Done and passed at the said City of Montreal, in the year  
“ one thousand eight hundred and thirteen, the thirtieth April,  
“ etc, etc.”

#### SIR JOHN FRANKLIN AND THE VOYAGEURS.

The name of Captain John Franklin, the celebrated explorer who has given his name to the Arctic Sea by different expeditions from 1819 to 1847, has just been recalled to my mind. The thirst of discovery rather than the impulse of the fur trade prompted Sir John Franklin to penetrate into the North Countries and the regions of the MacKenzie River. Chateaubriand, in his “*Voyages en Amérique*”, 1827, (ed. 1885) p 248, states that “Captain Franklin, who was sent to America in order to further by land the efforts of Captain Parry, descended the Copper Mine river (1), entered the Polar Sea, and advanced Eastward to the Gulf of the Coronation of George IV, almost in the direction and altitude of Repulse Bay.

“ In his second expedition of 1825, Captain Franklin descended the MacKenzie, and having contemplated the Arctic Sea, returned to winter by Great Bear Lake, once more going down the MacKenzie in 1826. Here, at the mouth of the river, the English expedition separated, one half in two canoes proceeding eastward towards the Copper Mine River, whilst the other also in two canoes steered westward under the direction of Franklin in person.

“ Ice floes arrested the captain's progress on the 9th of July, but by the 4th of August, he went on his course. One mile at the outside was all that could be covered in a day, owing to the flatness of the coast and the shallow water ; it was but seldom that land could be reached. Dense fogs and gusts of wind “ further impeded the progress of the expedition.

(1) In the year 1824.



“ Nevertheless, they found themselves, on the 18th of August, “ in the 150th meridian, 70° 30' north latitude. Captain Franklin had thus cleared more than half the distance between the “ mouth of the Mackenzie and Cape Ice beyond Behring Straits. “ The undaunted explorer was not wanting in provisions, nor “ were the canoes even damaged. The sailors were all in good “ health and the sea open, but the instructions of the admiralty “ were positive in their prohibition of any extension of the exploration, unless the captain reached Kotzebue Bay before the “ commencement of the stormy season. He was consequently “ obliged to return to the Mackenzie River, entering Great Bear “ Lake on the 21st September. Here he was joined by the other “ party, which had explored the shores from the mouth of the “ Mackenzie to that of the Copper Mine River. They had even “ sailed as far as the Gulf of the Conoration of George IV, ascending eastward to the 118th meridian. Good shelter was met “ with everywhere whilst the coast proved much more accessible “ than that followed by Captain Franklin.” See also *Aubrey's History of England*, vol. 3, pp. 808, 809. Aubrey remarks that “ Franklin's party endured dreadful sufferings which were ill “ compensated by the exploration of a few hundred miles of “ coast.”

Franklin's travels are universally known, but it is not so generally known that in this, as well as in many other expeditions, he was accompanied by Canadian *voyageurs* from the Province of Quebec.

I was fortunate enough to discover in Griffin, their names and domicile. In March and April, 1824, Hon. William McGillivray, of the firm of McGillivray, Thain and Co., agents in Montreal of the Hudsons' Bay Company, selected sixteen of the best Canadian *voyageurs* to accompany Franklin in the course of his exploration. According to their engagement they were to go “ in “ one of his canoes, on a voyage to the Indian countries, from “ and back to Montreal, for a period of three years, wintering at “ such places or posts as might be from time to time ordered by “ the said Captain John Franklin. And it is moreover especially “ agreed and understood that the said hired party shall not be “ bound to journey farther north than the Mackenzie River.” Wages to be 1400 livres per annum, or fourteen times more than ordinary. The names of these courageous Canadians were :

*Bow*: Frs. Lépine, Berthier; André Letendre, Sorel; St. Valier Fagnant, Berthier; Frs. Rinfret, Maskinongé. *Amidships*: Isidore Fleury, Maskinongé; François Félix (1), Sorel; Cuthbert Amyot, Berthier; Thomas Fagnant, Berthier; Hercule Trompe, Berthier; Pascal Côté, Montreal. *Helm*: Bazile Lussier, Yamaska; Jacques Guindon, Sorel; Pierre Lépine, Berthier; J. Bte Gagnon, Contrecoeur; Antoine St. Denis, Rigaud, et Joseph Morique, Sault St. Louis, bow or helm.

The following eighteen Canadians went with Franklin on his first voyage in 1819: Joseph Peltier, Mathieu Péloquin dit Crédit, Solomon Bélanger, Joseph Benoit, Joseph Gagné, Pierre Dumas, René St. Germain, Joseph Forcier, J. Bte Parent, Ignace Perrault, J. Bte Belleau, Gabriel Beuparlant, Emmanuel Cournoyer, Vincenzo Fontano, Michel Yerochant; Regis Vaillant, J. Bte Bélanger, et Frs. Samandra. *Narrative of a Journey to the Shores of the Polar Sea, etc.*, by John Franklin.

Thirty years previously, in 1792-93, Canadian *voyageurs* had also accompanied Alexander McKenzie in the discovery of the Great River which bears his name. They were François Beaulieu, Alexandre Mackay, Joseph Landry, Charles Doucet, Baptiste Bisson, François Courtois and Jacques Beauchemin.—Joseph Landry and Charles Doucet had already been with him on a previous voyage in 1789.

In 1884, more than a century later, the *voyageurs* distinguished themselves by their skill and coolness in the expedition led by Wolsely to the relief of Gordon, at Khartoum. "History of the Corps of Royal Engineers," vol. 2, p. 15.

#### DEPARTURE OF THE VOYAGEURS FROM LACHINE.

Abbé Dugas, North West Missionary, from information received from one of the *voyageurs* himself (2), speaks of the crowds that invaded Lachine during the two weeks preceding the departure of the *voyageurs*. "For a fortnight, these old hardy sons of the north, revelled in a series of festival and sports, inviting all

(1) The name "Boothia Felix" a point situated in the North Sea, may perhaps be traced to this *voyageur*.

(2) J.-Bte. Charbonneau, born at Boucherville, on the 25th of December, 1795. In 1815 he left for the North West. in the service of the North West Company.

" their friends to partake of the good cheer. Liquor flowed like water (1), followed by dancing in the evening.

" On leaving Lachine, the next point was St. Annes, at the extreme west of the island of Montreal. Although distant but fifteen miles, they always made their first halt at this village, and the voyage was only supposed to begin in earnest when St. Annes was left behind. Before leaving, it was customary for the *voyageurs* to congregate in prayer at the church, bringing their greeting to the good St. Ann, and putting themselves under her protection. At the time, this sanctuary was about the last on the route of travel." *Un Voyageur des Pays d'en Haut*, p. 23-33.

" About the 15th of June, 1791," says Mr. McDonald, grand father of Mr. de Léry McDonald, " I left Lachine in a large birch canoe manned by 14 choice *voyageurs* and our cook. A crowd of friends and spectators were there to witness our departure, a great event before the time of the steamers. We landed at Ste Anne, where the men paid their devotion to their titular Saint." *Les Bourgeois de l'Ouest*, vol. 1, p. 12.

#### CANOE AND BATTEAUX.

Bouchette, *Topographical Description*, 1815, pp. 136-39, gives a graphic description of these primitive craft :

" During the months between May and November, batteaux

(1) The extent of the traffic of intoxicating liquors in Lachine has been the subject of frequent comment. The charge is not altogether unfounded, but I think it exaggerated. Taking into consideration the commercial and geographical situation of the locality, the good character of the population cannot be gainsaid. Lachine has ever been very much exposed to the temptation of alcoholic beverage. At the very origin of the colony, long time before the foundation of Montreal, and for more than a century afterwards, it was the trading rendez-vous of the Indian tribes. Sometimes they were kept for months as a means of protection against the inroads of the Iroquois. Of course they had to be fêted, so that under the circumstances it is not astonishing if Lachine became the scene of grave disorders. Some fifty years later, Lachine became the headquarters of the fur traders and rendez-vous for the North West *voyageurs*, thereby entailing new dangers. The construction of the canals and railroads the large lumber basins, navigation, workshops, the neighborhood of an Indian village and of a large city like Montreal, the drives along the river front and elsewhere, all combine to attract, on Sunday especially, an excess of strangers bent upon amusement only. Nor must it be forgotten that there exist but few places made up of a greater diversity of race and creed, in all 17 nationalities. Despite all these perils, the population has remained peaceable and of a profoundly moral and religious nature. Crimes are unknown, and the public peace is seldom disturbed. In the twenty years of my residence in Lachine, I fail to recall the commission of a single murder or manslaughter.

“ to and from Kingston and various part of Upper Canada are  
“ continually arriving and departing, which always occasions a  
“ great deal of activity and bustle of business. The nature of  
“ these craft may be very shortly described : they are flatbot-  
“ tommed, from 35 to 40 feet in length, terminating in a point  
“ at each extremity, with about six feet of beam in the centre ;  
“ the usual freight is four or four and a half tons ; they are  
“ worked by oars, a mast and sail, drag-ropes for towing, and  
“ long poles for setting them through the strong currents or  
“ rapids ; four men manage them in summer, but in the fall of  
“ the year another is always added, one of whom acts as a guide.  
“ In the batteaux of the merchants the cargoes upwards are a  
“ general assortment of merchandise, for which they bring down  
“ flour, wheat, salt provisions, pot and pearlshes, and peltries.  
“ The time employed in the voyage to Kingston is from 10 to 12  
“ days ; but the return does not take more than three or four.  
“ They usually depart in brigades of from four to fifteen boats,  
“ in order that their crews may be able to afford mutual assis-  
“ tance in ascending the rapids : each brigade is under the direc-  
“ tion of one man, who is called the conductor. From Lachine  
“ also the canoes employed by the north west company in the fur  
“ trade take their departure. Of all the numerous contrivances  
“ for transporting heavy burthens by water these vessels are per-  
“ haps the most extraordinary ; scarcely any thing can be con-  
“ ceived so inadequate, from the slightness of their construction,  
“ to the purpose they are applied to, and to contend against  
“ the impetuous torrent of the many rapids that must be  
“ passed through in the course of a voyage. They seldom exceed  
“ thirty feet in length and six in breadth, diminishing to a sharp  
“ point at each end, without distinction of head or stern : the  
“ frame is composed of small pieces of some very light wood, it  
“ is then covered with the bark of the birch tree, cut into con-  
“ venient slips, that are rarely more than the eighth of an inch  
“ in thickness ; these are sewed together with threads made from  
“ the twisted fibres of the roots of a particular tree, and strength-  
“ ened where necessary by narrow strips of the same materials  
“ applied on the inside ; the joints in this fragile planking are  
“ made water tight by being covered with a species of gum that  
“ adheres very firmly and becomes perfectly hard. No iron-work  
“ of any description, not even nails, are employed in building

“ these slender vessels, which when complete weigh only about  
“ five hundred weight each. On being prepared for the voyage,  
“ they receive their lading, that for the convenience of carrying  
“ across the portages is made up in packages of about three  
“ quarters of a hundred weight each, and amounts altogether to  
“ five tons or a little more, including provisions and other neces-  
“ saries for the men, of whom from eight to ten are employed to  
“ each canoe ; they usually set out in brigades like the batteaux,  
“ and in the course of a summer upwards of fifty of these vessels  
“ are thus dispatched. They proceed up the Grand or Ottawa  
“ River as far as the south west branch, by which, and a chain  
“ of small lakes, they reach Lake Nipissing ; through it and  
“ down the French River into Lake Huron ; along its northern  
“ coast up the narrows of St. Mary into Lake Superior, and then  
“ by its northern side to the Grand Portage, a distance of about  
“ 1100 miles from the place of departure. The difficulties en-  
“ countered in this voyage are not easily conceived ; the great  
“ number of rapids in the rivers, the different portages from  
“ lake to lake, which vary from a few yards to three miles or  
“ more in length, where the canoes must be unladen, and with  
“ their contents carried to the next water, occasion a succession  
“ of labours and fatigues of which but a poor estimation can be  
“ formed by judging it from the ordinary occupations of other  
“ labouring classes. From the Grand Portage, that is nine miles  
“ across, a continuation of the same toils takes place in bark  
“ canoes of an inferior size, through the chain of lakes and streams  
“ that run from the height of land westward to the Lake of the  
“ Woods, Lake Winnipeg, and onwards to more distant esta-  
“ blishments of the Company in the remote regions of the north-  
“ west country. The men employed in this service are called  
“ *voyageurs* ; they are robust, hardy, and resolute, capable of  
“ enduring great extremes of fatigue and privation for a long  
“ time with a patience almost inexhaustible. In the large lakes  
“ they are frequently daring enough to cross the deep bays, often  
“ a distance of several leagues in their canoes, to avoid lengthen-  
“ ing the route by coasting them ; yet notwithstanding all the  
“ risks and hardships attending their employment, they prefer it  
“ to every other, and are very seldom induced to relinquish it in  
“ favour of any more settled occupation. The few dollars they  
“ receive as the compensation for so many privations and dan-

“gers are in general dissipated with a most care'less indifference  
“to future wants, and when at an end they very contentedly  
“renew the same series of toils to obtain a fresh supply.” (1)

LACHINE IN THE XIX CENTURY.

The construction of a public work, gave a bound to the trade of Lachine. The Cascades and Coteau lock, which had been commenced in 1779, were terminated in 1784. The result was a great impetus to inter-provincial trade, by which Lachine benefited. Montreal merchants erected warehouses for the storage of their Upper Canadian goods or of the consignments for this Province and Europe. The necessity of a more direct and convenient road between Montreal and Lachine was soon felt. About 1805, the Upper road or *Chemin des Côteaux* was straightened, levelled, and ballasted or macadamised. *Report of the Commissioner of Public Works for 1867*, page 447. Bouchette Topographical Description, page 135, states that “this road was “formerly so bad, winding and interrupted by large masses of “rock, that it was nearly a day's journey for the loaded carts “to go from one place to the other.” He adds that during the season of navigation, boats to and from Kingston or elsewhere in Upper Canada were constantly arriving or departing. Steam navigation secured the future of Lachine, followed as it was by the construction of the railroad between Lachine and Montreal, in 1847, the oldest in the country with the exception of the La Prairie and St. John railway, built in 1839. But the most important element of all, as regards the future, was the construction of the Lachine Canal in 1821-25, its enlargement in 1843-48 and 1877-80, that of the Beauharnois Canal in 1842 43, and the St.

(1) About one hundred and fifty years previously, in 1669, Mr. de Gallinée, priest of the Seminary of St. Sulpice, wrote a somewhat similar description of the bark canoe, in his narrative of the most remarkable events of the voyage of MM. Dollier and Gallinée. *Margry*, vol. 1, pp. 117, 118. On the 6th of August, 1669, they started with de La Salle from Lachine, then known as “La Côte St. Sulpice”, for the Indian territories of the West. *Les Anciens Forts de Lachine*, p. 19. Mr. de Gallinée says that the only good bark canoe is the birch canoe made by the Algonquins. It took five dollars worth of clothing to purchase one from them. The white men charged a much higher price, and, according to Mr. de Gallinée, his own cost 80 livres. These canoes generally lasted five or six years. He adds that the Iroquois canoes, which were made of bark of every description, were too weighty and only lasted about one month.

The modern pleasure canoe is entirely made of wood, although nearly as light and undoubtedly stronger and safer than the birch canoe.

Lawrence Canals in 1843. In Bouchette's time, 1815, passenger traffic between Montreal and Toronto, was carried on by ordinary vehicles, a matter of from twelve to fifteen days by a road called Montreal Road, along the north shore of the St. Lawrence. Long after Bouchette, and until the opening of the St. Lawrence Canals, winter transportation was effected by land, whilst in summer steamers were running on the lakes, at first on Lake St Louis, from Lachine to Cascades, and on Lake St François from Coteau to Cornwall. The rapids were overcome by means of *portages* in stages drawn by four or six horses. I can very well remember, when only six or seven years of age, having seen one of these stages bowling along the planked road-bed of the *Chemin des Cèdres*. Should the reader desire to become acquainted with the mode of travelling of those days, I would refer him to the narrative of a journey made in 1839 by Mr. James S. Buckingham, from Toronto to Montreal and Quebec, *Canada, Nova Scotia, etc.*, pp. 88 93 (1).

I believe the steamer "Union" to have been the first, or at all events one of the first steamboats afloat on the Ottawa river. She ran between Long Sault and Chaudière, in 1824, and was owned by the firm of Shephard (Wm) and Campbell (Chs), of Quebec, Philemon Wright and Sons, of Hull, Thomas Mears and William Grant, of Hawkesbury. Grant was her captain with one James Cochrane as Engineer. *Grefse of Griffin*, 25th March, 1824.

In 1812, Mr. Molson had two steamers plying between Montreal and Quebec, time 48 hours with the current, and somewhat more on the return trip. The fare was \$10 going down and \$12 on the upward voyage. Bouchette, p. 473.

(1) Since the printing of the French version, I have received the following information: "Ottawa, 17th November, 1892. SIR,—In answer to your letter of the 20th ult., asking date of the first steam navigation between Lachine and the Cascades, I am to say that the Lachine canal was completed in 1824, the first vessels passed through in 1825. The first steamer on the St. Lawrence was the "Accommodation" built for and owned by Hon. J. Molson. Her first trip was from Montreal to Three Rivers. It is described in the "Quebec Mercury", Monday, 6th November, 1809. The boat left Montreal the Saturday previous. The first locks at the Cascades were built from 1779-1783.

"Captain Twiss, R. E. reports to his superior officer, that in 1781 260 bateaux passed the first lock, built then, and that the tolls for that season were £132.5s.6d.

"On the 3rd November, 1838, the steamer "Henry Brougham" was on the route from the "Cascades to Lachine", and was seized on that date, in the rebellion troubles. I have the honor, etc.

"T. TRUDEAU, Acting Secretary."

Finally, Lachine has benefited perhaps in a greater measure than any other small town by the protective tariff, inaugurated by the Canadian Government in 1879; whilst on the one hand Canadian Pacific Railway magnates, merchants and manufacturers of Montreal, fostered by the protective policy, erected magnificent dwelling houses on the Lake St. Louis shores, on the other, work shops clustered, as if by magic, in the central part of the town of Lachine. A splendid system of water and electric light works speak volumes for the rapid development of the locality. Twenty thousand dollars is the estimate of the yearly civic revenue. The population of 2406 in 1881 has swelled to 3761 in 1891. In 1881, \$158,659 was the figure of the total manufactured products, as against \$1,358,325 in 1891; and during the same period invested capital increased from \$260,125 to \$1,004,600. There were 105 employees in 1881, 696 in 1891, whilst the wages for the corresponding periods are represented by the figures \$62,020 and \$310,016.

#### THE OLD TRADING POSTS.

Lachine dates from 1666, when La Salle laid the foundations of the palisaded village of Lachine, at the spot of the C. P. R. bridge. The mission of La Presentation at Dorval was founded nearly about the same time. Lachine became a parish in 1676, and St. Annes in 1685. Considerable traffic was then going on at these two posts. René Cuillerier had his store below, on the lower road, then known as *Côte St. Sulpice*, exactly on the site of the homestead of John Fraser, near the old aqueduct and the King's stores. This post was known as Fort Cuillerier. Adjoining stood Fort Remy, or Lachine (1), where Jean Millot, who purchased from La Salle did a large business. Some *arpents* further, to the west, upon the holding of Ed. Wilgrees, to day, near the canal lock, in the house in fact and the storehouse that his family occupies to day, was the trading depot of Charles LeMoynes de Longueuil and his brother-in-law, Jacques LeBer. These are probably the most ancient buildings on the island of Montreal, having been built in 1671. A mile further up, near

(1) In a note of Mr. Remy written about 1705, it is stated that the fort Lachino was "vulgairement et suivant la carte de cette isle appelé fort Remy à cause " des trois redoutes à pierriers et canons que nous avons fait bastir de nos deniers." *Régistre de Lachine*. The stone wind mill was used as the fourth redoubt.



the Lachine wharf, on the land at present occupied by Hanna's Hotel, François LeNoir dit Rolland had a fort which bore his name, and at which he did a large business. Two miles beyond, at Dorval, upon the land of Mr. Alexis Brunet, Pierre Le Gardeur, Sieur de Repentigny, had also a store in the *Fort de La Présentation*, which he had just acquired from the Seminary. The history of all these forts is given in my "Old Lachine," and my "Old Forts of Lachine" (1)

(1) It is evident to every one examining the registers of Lachine, that none of the successors of Mr. Remy were as careful in the description of the parties to acts of civil status, but no fault can be found with regard to the military, and if after 1706, no mention is made of the forts, nor of the officers in command, it must have been because they were no longer occupied by regular troops, and if still guarded at all, were left to the care of the local militia. It may be that the regular troops were more needed at the far west posts such as La Présentation, near Prescott, Cataracouy, Niagara, Détroit, etc. Even, at Ste Annes, a fort was kept at l'Isle aux Tourtes and an other one at Fief Sonnevillie late in the 18th century.

I have never in the registers come across the name of a single officer in charge of Fort Cuillerier. We know from the report of Mr. de Catalogne, an eye witness, that it was in existence in 1689, and it is specially alluded to in the registers of the 5th of June, 1695, the 28th of May, 1698, and the 24th of September, 1702. With regard to Fort La Présentation, it would seem that it was either destroyed or abandoned shortly after the year 1689, probably in about 1691, when it passed to J.-Bto. Bouchard dit Dorval, who, when named in the registers, is never connected with the fort. The registers of 1687 and 1689 are the only ones which refer to the commanding officer, Mr. de Cruzel; and an entry made in a register of burial of the 20th of May, 1693, seems to establish that it was no longer in existence: Reference is there made to the Fort of the Church or Fort Remy, and "les deux autres forts", evidently meaning Fort Rolland and Fort Cuillerier, which beyond doubt were still kept.

I have collected from the registers of Lachine the following names of military officers both before 1706 and since:

*Fort La Présentation*:—Claude de Masro, sieur de Cruzel, 30 septembre 1687 et 2 décembre 1689.

*Fort de l'Eglise ou Remy*:—Jean Louis de la Corne, sieur de Chapt, commandant, 16 février 1688.

Jean Bouillet, sieur de la Chassaigne, commandant, (Mr. de la Chassaigne était absent pour cause de maladie lors du massacre, 5 août 1689. Voir *Le Vieux Lachine*, p. 37.) 14 juin, 1er août et 2 décembre 1689; septembre 1690; 10 septembre 1702.

Gabriel Dumont, sieur de Blagnac, son lieutenant, 1er août 1689.

Olivier Le Mercier, chevalier de Beaurépas, lieutenant, 2 décembre 1689, 25 juillet et septembre et octobre 1690.

Jean de Liesseline, enseigne et commandant, 1er août et 18 octobre 1689 et 21 mars 1690.

François Le Gantier, sieur de la Vallée de Ranée, commandant de 1692 à 1704.

Jacques Malleray, sieur de la Mollerie, commandant, 3 juillet 1699.

Le Verrier, commandant, 1<sup>er</sup> mars 1703.

Guillaume de Lorimier, commandant, 12 juin 1706.

*Fort Rolland*:—Jean Despéré, sieur de l'Isle, commandant, 22 février 1688.

César Marin, sieur de la Massière, commandant, 1er août, le 18 octobre et 15 décembre 1689; 21 mars 1690.

Daniel Crisolon, sieur Dulhut, (signe Dulhut), commandant, 7 juin 1700.

At Ste. Annes, the Baie d'Urfé mission was opened about 1674, at Pointe Caron. Antoine de la Fresnay, Sieur de Brucy, theretofore "lieutenant au régiment d'Auvergne," had in 1670, a fief on Isle Perrot (opposite Girdwood's Island), consisting of 10 *arpents* by 30, where, as early as 1671, in addition to a big trade, he carried on the liquor traffic with the Indians, on behalf of Mr. Perrot, Governor of Montreal.

This post was considered more advantageous than any in Lachine. It was more to the front, and its proprietors were thus enabled to forestall the other traders when the Indians brought their furs down the St. Lawrence or the Ottawa river. The post is famous in the history of the colony, on account of the troubles which it caused so many high personages in the year 1674, among others, de Fenélon, d'Urfé, de Brucy and Perrot himself.

Le Bois de Brucy, on the fief de Brucy, Ile Perrot, opposite St. Annes, is called after the Sieur de Brucy.

In 1815, the fief de Brucy belonged to the representatives of Ignace Chesnier. Bouchette, p. 166.

In 1672, Robert Perroy, Mathurin Roullier and Toussaint Hunnault dit Deschamps were already installed at the end of the

Jacques Dumesny, sieur de Noray, (signe Dumesny), commandant, 18 août 1690; 27 juin 1691; 24 février 1694, et aussi 1696, 1697 et 1698.

Guillaume de Lorimier, commandant, 1692, et 22 mai 1705.

Louis Le Sénéchal, sieur D'Auberville, commandant, 8 décembre 1693.

Frs. de Frenel, sieur de la Ripardière, seigneur de Viette, commandant, 3 février 1700.

De Mantes, commandant, 18 février 1706.

Military officers at Lachine after 1706:—

Collet, Claude, soldat de la compagnie de Mr. de Lignerie, 28 février 1707.

Picoté de Bellestre, Frs., officier de la marine, 7 juillet 1719.

De Blainville, officier dans les troupes de la marine, 20 mai 1745.

De Cathalogne, Gédéon, lieutenant, officier d'un détachement de la marine, 28 mars 1707; 29 mai 1746.

De Lorimier, Guillaume, père et fils, capitaine dans les troupes de la marine ou officier de marine, 7 juillet 1719; 25 août 1722; 3 novembre 1727; 8 février 1730; 26 avril 1733; 17 janvier 1736; 23 décembre 1740; 29 juin 1730; 27 janvier 1737; 17 février 1743; 17 janvier 1744.

Gauthier, René, sieur de Varennes, lieutenant d'une compagnie du détachement de la marine, 17 janvier 1737.

Largenterie, Etienne, lieutenant dans les troupes de ce pays, 17 mai 1720.

Le Moyne, Jos., sieur de Longueuil, capitaine de Mr. de la Corne, 17 janvier 1737.

Quessel, Charles, lieutenant d'une compagnie des troupes de la marine, 19 avril 1746.

De Senneville, officier dans les troupes de la marine, 13 novembre 1738.

De la Verendrye, Pierre, officier dans les troupes de la marine, signe de *Laverendrie*, 14 avril et 13 novembre 1738.

Vital Caron, capitaine de la côte, 26 septembre 1717; 17 octobre 1717.

island, on the *fief noble* of Charles Joseph d'Ailleboust des Musseaux, adjoining Bois Briant.

The store of Mr. Louis de Berthé, Sieur de Chailly, captain in the Normandy regiment, was opposite Brucy, on the *fief Bellevue*, as early as 1670. He obtained the concession of this domain, 14 arpents by 20, on July 30th, 1672, in his favor and also in favor of his brother, Gabriel de Berthé, Sieur de la Joubardière. This post and that of Ile Perrot were visited by Governor de Courcelles in 1671, owing to the complaints which were made in relation to the carrying on of the liquor traffic.

In 1674, Governor de Frontenac, successor to de Courcelles, thought best to interfere. The store at Isle Perrot was seized, and the proprietors, Perrot and Brucy, were lodged in gaol. René Cuillerier, of Lachine, could not have been far off, as he was appointed judicial guardian. Jug. and Del. t. 1st, p. 812. This action, however, did not deter traders from establishing stores at St. Annes, the foremost post, excepting Cataracouy. According to the deed of boundaries made by Basset on the 10th December, 1678, François Le Noir dit Rolland and Jean Guenet were even then in possession of part of the *fief Bellevue*, and probably had upon it branches of their Lachine and Ville-Marie houses. In the following year, 1679, Jacques Le Ber and Le Moyne de Longueuil purchased the *fief Bois-Briant*, adjoining Bellevue, and began business on a large scale. Finally in 1683, Pierre St. Germain, another merchant of Ville-Marie, purchased part of the Bellevue *fief*, and a year subsequently, in 1684, Jean Millot, of Lachine, followed suit, apparently in order to facilitate his trading with the Indians. *Greffé de Basset*, 10th December, 1678; *Cabotier*, 9th October 1684. The wooden adoubt at St. Annes was built at this time, probably at the joint expense of all the proprietors of Bellevue, old and new. Morin's *Vieux Montréal* fixes the date at 1683. A staked fence was to enclose it, with a small garrison similar to that of the Lachine forts.

The traders soon perceived that St. Annes was too far away from the Indian villages. As early as 1673, Governor de Frontenac built at Cataracouy the palissaded fort which bore his name, where the Indians who were scattered around and about, and on the South Shore, made a halting place on their way down to Ville-Marie. In 1677, de La Salle, acting until then on behalf of Frontenac, obtained from the King the Seigniory of Cataracouy

and the proprietorship of Fort Frontenac, which he rebuilt in stone. He also considerably developed his trade. In 1678 and the following years, he sent out several expeditions from Fort Frontenac to the Indian villages in the Upper Countries and also to the South, exchanging merchandise for skins, the sole species of trade at that early date. The beaver was the only currency, and de La Salle himself informs us that in 1678, the trade of Canada aggregated 60,000 or 80,000 beavers per annum. Margry, t. 1st p. 415. In the course of his voyages in 1678 and afterwards, de La Salle thought necessary to erect new establishments at Niagara, Detroit, Michillimackinac, Illinois and elsewhere, thus creating so many monopolies as regards the trade with the nations of the great lakes. The Ville-Marie, Lachine and St. Annes' merchants perceived the necessity of also penetrating the forests to the Indian villages. This state of affairs gave origin to a new occupation known as *coureurs des bois*, some on their own account, but the greater number as clerks, agents, or even servants, *eau de vie* or rum being in every case an important element of trade. Merchants believed they could reach the Indian villages just as had been done by Jean Nicolet for years, in 1634, and previous thereto, by Des Groseilliers before and after 1659, by Nicolas Perrot, Louis Jolliet, Duluth, La Salle, and so many others (1) in 1669 and afterwards. In 1680 Jean Guenet had encountered the Indians in the woods, and in 1685, Frs. Le Noir dit Rolland reached Illinois. Even in the year 1677, Jacques Le Ber was thinking of a partnership with Jolliet, and of obtaining the concession of Illinois; but this the Court of France refused to grant. Margry, t. 1st, p. 324.

The constant warfare carried on by the Five Nations from 1686 to 1698, hampered considerably the colonisation and trade of the Upper Countries and the island of Montreal. The peace of 1700 gave new life to the traffic with the Indians, at Detroit and the great lakes in the first instance. The Indians pretty often did no business there, coming down the St. Lawrence to Ville-Marie. The western and northern tribes followed the route of the Ottawa river, stopping at the stores situated at St. Annes and Lachine before reaching Montreal.

(1) Other names are to be found in the appendix.

FIEF BOIS-BRIANT.

Bois-Briant is an historic fief. It was conceded in 1672 to Sidras Dugué, Sieur de Bois-Briant, captain in the Carignan regiment. He built thereon a house before getting the deed of concession. In June 20th, 1679, Bois-Briant sold his fief to Jacques LeBer and Charles LeMoyno de Longueuil. In 1681, according to the *livre terrier*, Bois-Briant passed to the sons of Jacques LeBer, Jos. LeBer, Sieur de Senneville, and Jean LeBer, Sieur de Saint Paul. Since that time, it has been known under the name of De Senneville. In the terrier, the following note appears : "Permission to the said Sieur LeBer de Senneville, by Mr. Dollier (1), August 18, 1686, to build on the said fief, a wind-mill." It was built in stone on the 30th September, 1687, since the burial register of Ste. Anne, of that date, shows that Louis Jets, "miller of Jean LeBer," had been killed by the Iroquois, together with the Sieur de La Londe and eight other Frenchmen. This mill served as a fort until the construction, in 1692, of Fort Senneville, in stone, at the bottom of the hill, the ruins of which can still be seen. Tourists should not overlook the ruins of these noteworthy structures, which recall to mind the heroic time of our history. The fief passed in 1772 to the Chevalier de Lorimier ; then to J. B. Testard de Montigny ; then to Dr Forbes, and finally to Sir John Abbott, whose summer residence it has been for a quarter of a century. It would be impossible to find a more beautiful situation. It is not, therefore, surprising that the end of the island should have attracted the attention of the early aristocratic settlers (2).

(1) I said "Jolliet" in the *Vieux Lachine*, but upon again going over the manuscript I discovered the error.

(2) The following passage from Faillon, *Vie de Mr. Le Ber*, page 319, confirms and also supplements the text :

" Il (Jacques Le Ber) fit plus encore, il construisit à la tête de l'île de Montréal un fort de pierres qui put contribuer à la mettre à couvert des insultes des barbares. Il fut ainsi le premier ou plutôt le seul d'entre les particuliers qui sacrifia une partie de sa fortune à la sécurité publique. Déjà MM. du Séminaire, pour fortifier cette île contre les Iroquois, avaient accordé un certain nombre de fiefs nobles, sans droit de justice, à des officiers des troupes du Roi, dans l'espérance qu'ils s'y établiraient, et y feraient les constructions nécessaires pour s'y défendre, en cas d'attaque, tels : les fiefs du Gué, d'Alleboust, de Chally, du Puy de Saint-André, de Carillon, de Morel. M. Le Ber, et Charles LeMoyno, son beau-frère, ayant acquis de M. du Gué, en 1679, pour la somme de 1768 livres, le fief qui lui avait été concédé, au haut de l'île de Montréal, ils le possédèrent en

NOBLEMEN AT BOUT DE L'ISLE.

They all expected at first to make fortunes by trade with the Indians, and to renew in this charming spot the magnificent reign of the seigniors of the middle ages. To that end they demanded the concession of *fiefs nobles* instead of the ordinary *fiefs* or *en roture*. From the start, their thoughts turned to rabbit hunting. In the course of a law suit, of which the details are to be found in the second volume of the *Jugements et Délébérations du Conseil Supérieur*, pages 745, 774, 876. Sieur de Chailly, in 1682, in answer to an action taken by a neighbour demanding a clearance of the wood land, states that the wood in

commun, ainsi que le fief de Chateauguay, et une maison à Québec, jusqu'à ce que, l'année 1683, dans le partage de ces immenses, le fief dont nous parlons fut attribué à M. Le Ber. Il avait été surnommé de Bois-Briant par M. du Gue, et M. Le Ber, qui le destinait à l'un de ses fils, l'appela alors De Senneville.

"Désirant donc d'en faire un poste militaire qui pût protéger la colonie, et voulant pour cela réunir tout autour des habitants, il demanda à Mr. Dollier de Casson l'autorisation d'y construire un moulin, absolument nécessaire pour la subsistance de ceux qu'il voulait y attirer. Il exposa le même dessein à M. de Denouville, gouverneur-général du Canada. Celui-ci et M. Dollier de Casson, considérant que la demande de M. Le Ber tendait à procurer le bien public de l'île de Montréal, l'avancement de la colonie française et la sûreté du pays dans cette extrémité de l'île, plus exposée qu'aucun autre lieu aux incursions des barbares, approuvèrent volontiers ce dessein, et donnèrent à M. Le Ber toutes les permissions nécessaires. Dans l'acte de cette concession du 18 août 1686, M. Dollier déclare "qu'en ayant une parfaite connaissance du grand bien que M. Le Ber avait fait depuis plusieurs années à ce pays, et de celui qu'il y faisait encore journellement, et qu'étant très avantageux d'attirer des habitants dans cette extrémité de l'île, pour la fortifier: il accordait, de l'avis de MM. du Séminaire, à M. Le Ber, l'autorisation de bâtir un moulin sur son fief de Senneville, et d'en jouir lui et les siens en toute propriété". Le fort fut donc construit immédiatement après cette concession. Brûlé par les Iroquois en 1691, il fut reconstruit ensuite par M. Le Ber; et dans un inventaire, en 1693, on voit qu'il était muni de diverses pièces d'artillerie, entr'autres de petits canons appelés pierriers et de boîtes à pierriers. Enfin, sous l'année 1701, nous y trouvons une garnison établie, commandée par le sieur de Mondion; aussi, quelques années plus tard, M. de Vaudreuil, gouverneur-général du Canada, et M. Raudot, en écrivant au ministre, lui apprenaient "que le fort de Senneville, construit en pierres, au haut de l'île de Montréal, mettait en effet la colonie à couvert de ce côté-là, de l'invasion des sauvages".

The fief and fort Senneville remained in the family of the Le Bers till the year 1757, when it was sold by J.-Bte. Le Ber de Saint-Paul to J. Bte. Crevier, a farmer of Saint-Laurent. At the time of the American war of independence, in the summer of 1776, the manor house of Fort Senneville, then the property of Mr. de Montigny, was burnt by General Arnold. See "Mes services pendant la guerre Américaine de 1775, by Mr. de Lorimier.

Judging from the ruins, which are still well preserved, Fort Senneville consisted of a house, 66 feet front by 30, and a court yard of 66 feet square, with walls and four towers or bastions, the whole of solid masonry. The extent of the outside structure was probably 100 by 70 feet.

question was "but a little copse situated on the river's bank and " which he kept for his amusement and for a rabbit warren " which he intended to make." The warren was never located by him, but only two centuries later, in our days. Mr. Forget has just made one on trial, and by the spring its success will be known.

The inexperience in trade of all these military officers belonging to the best families of France, soon dispelled their brilliant illusions, and their domains went over to more fortunate and more practical *roturiers*, among them Jacques Le Ber, Charles Le Moyne, François LeNoir dit Rolland, Jean Millot, Pierre St. Germain, Pierre Gadbois, all traders of Lachine or Ville-Marie. It is a remarkable thing that to-day they are in the possession of millionnaires who are the nobles of our society. MM. Richard Angus, L. J. Forget, Sir John Abbott, James Gillespie, have country residences there, which would do honor to old Europe. If the Sieur de Bois-Briant, the Sieur de Brucy, the Sieur de Chailly, the Sieur de la Joubardière, the Sieur de Blainville, the Sieur de la Découverte, and all those officers of the Regiment of Carignan, who had selected these same shores as their homes, could now behold them, they would see their dream realized. The end of the island of Montreal is the summer resort of the elect of Montreal society.

A historical souvenir is linked to the property of Mr. Forget. The land book at the number 21, granted to Charles Lemaire dit St. Germain, contains the following note: "The seigniors have acquired this land from St. Germain to serve as a landing place and warehouse between Sault au Recollet and the Lake of Two Mountains for the removal of the Indian mission from Sault au Recollet, where they were first established, to the Lake of Two Mountains, where they are to day."

This removal took place in 1716. The property then passed through the hands of J. Bte. Testard de Montigny, Félix Pilon, Moïse Brunet, Narcisse Cousineau, Joseph Chatillon, Amable Lavigne, Marcellin Cousineau, and finally to L. J. Forget.

THE FUTURE OF THE ISLAND OF MONTREAL.

What a change throughout all these places since their cradle in 1666, nay even within the past few years. Gone are the war canoes of the Indian brave, gone the bark thatched roofs of the settlers logcabin, the palisaded forts. This is the day of railways, steamboats, canoes, pleasure boats and yachts, gardens and lawns, squettish cottages and princely dwellings. Almost the whole line of shore on Lake St. Louis has become one of the most attractive summer resorts, combining with the ravishing beauties of nature, the convenient proximity of Montreal through the Grand Trunk and Canadian Pacific Railways. Some thirty trains daily keep up a constant circulation to and from the city. Several of Montreal's wealthy men have erected their country villas. The Forest and Stream, as a country club, is perhaps unsurpassed on the continent of America. The St. Lawrence Yacht Club is the most extensive river club in the Province. Within the last few years, a marvellous growth is to be found in the value of real estate all along the shores of Lake St. Louis. River frontage is sold by the square foot. Who can foretell the Montreal island of twenty five years hence? It can be predicted within the bounds of probability, that the whole island will form but so many wards of one city, with no other boundaries than the waters which surround it. With Mount Royal in the centre, the noblest of rivers to the south, the Back River north wards, and a territorial tract of sufficient dimensions to permit of all the necessary embellishments and luxuries of a modern city, Montreal is destined to become the finest maritime city in the world.

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