

MAIN POINTS & CHRONOLOGY OF

CHAMPLAIN IN FRANCE

1570 - 1633



#CHAMPLAIN1615

MAIN POINTS

THE PERIODS WHEN CHAMPLAIN IS IN FRANCE



- ✕ STARTING IN 1598, DURING 37 YEARS, CHAMPLAIN SPENDS ABOUT THE SAME AMOUNT OF TIME IN THE NEW WORLD AS IN FRANCE.
- ✕ CHAMPLAIN USES HIS YEARS IN FRANCE TO TRY TO GAIN SUPPORT FROM THE FRENCH COURT FOR HIS NEW FRANCE COLONIZATION PROJECTS. EVERY TIME THERE IS A CHANGE IN GOVERNMENT, HE MUST START ALL OVER AND OVERCOME MAJOR CHALLENGES.
- ✕ DURING HIS STAYS IN FRANCE, CHAMPLAIN WRITES THE ACCOUNTS OF HIS VOYAGES AND PRODUCES MAPS OF THE TERRITORIES HE HAS EXPLORED. SOME OF HIS MAPS SHOW LANDS THAT HAVE YET TO BE SEEN BY EUROPEANS BUT THAT THE FIRST NATIONS PEOPLE HAVE DESCRIBED TO HIM.
- ✕ HIS MARRIAGE TO HÉLÈNE BOULLÉ IN 1610 GOES THROUGH GOOD AND BAD PERIODS. CHAMPLAIN GAINS BOTH A SIZEABLE DOWRY AND THE HELP OF AN INFLUENTIAL FATHER-IN-LAW FROM THIS MARRIAGE.

This chronology uses information and text found on pages 364 to 371 of the book, ***Champlain: The Birth of French America***.

Edited by Raymonde L'Italien and Denis Vaugeois, translated by Käthe Roth, Montréal: McGill-Queen's University Press, co-published by Septentrion, 2004, 397 pages.

CHRONOLOGY



BETWEEN 1567 AND 1580, WITH 1570 BEING THE MOST LIKELY YEAR

Samuel Champlain is born in Brouage, Saintonge, to Antoine Champlain, navy captain, and Marguerite Le Roy.

NOVEMBER 1594

Champlain, takes part in the battle of Crozon where French and English troops defeat the Spaniards.

MARCH 1595 UP TO 1598

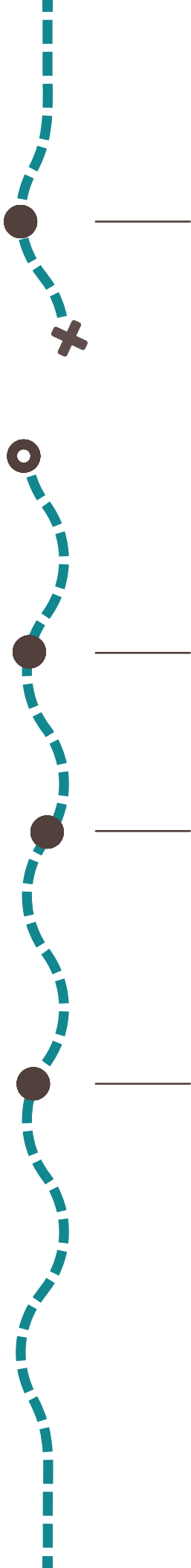
Champlain is employed in the Breton royal army, which is charged with defeating the Leaguers of Duc de Mercœur opposed to king Henry IV. First a "quartermaster," then called an "aide" by Jean Hardy, sergeant-in-arms of the army, Champlain becomes an "ensign" of Sieur de Millaubourg, then becomes a sergeant-in-arms.

APRIL 13, 1598

Henry IV promulgates the Edict of Nantes, which recognizes freedom of conscience for Protestants.

MAY 2, 1598

Signing of the Treaty of Vervins, which ends the war between France and Spain.



JULY 1598

Troops stationed in Brittany (in Blavet, today Port-Louis in Morbihan) are transported to Spain by Guillaume Allène, Champlain's uncle, known as "Capitaine provençal." Champlain accompanies Allène to Cadix on the Saint-Julien.

1601

(see chronology of Champlain in the Caribbean)

JUNE TO JULY 1601

Guillaume Allène dies in Cadix; he leaves his assets to his nephew, Samuel Champlain.

FALL 1601

Back in France after his trip to the Caribbean and the Gulf of Mexico Champlain puts together a manuscript with his observations accompanied by drawings: the *Brief Discours*. It is presented to the members of the Court. Champlain receives a pension in Henry IV's Court.

MARCH 15, 1603

First voyage to New France. Three ships, including the *Bonne Renommée*, commanded by François Gravé Du Pont, leave the port of Honfleur under the trade monopoly in New France held by Aymar de Chaste. Champlain embarks as an observer.



SEPTEMBER 20, 1603

Arrival at Honfleur, after his voyage of exploration of the St. Lawrence. Champlain presents the king with a map of the St. Lawrence, relates his observations and publishes his account, *Des Sauvages, ou Voyage de Samuel Champlain, de Brouage, fait en la France nouvelle, l'an mil six cens trois*. Note that here he is "Samuel Champlain".

NOVEMBER 8, 1603

The king grants a commission to Pierre Dugua, Sieur de Monts, to establish a settlement in his capacity as lieutenant general of Acadia.

MARCH 1604

Henry IV gives Champlain permission to sail with Dugua de Monts.

APRIL 7, 1604

Two ships leave the port of Le Havre, the *Bonne Renommée* the *Don de Dieu* on which Samuel Champlain sails.

(see chronology of Champlain in Acadia and New-England)

SEPTEMBER 30, 1607

The *Jonas* arrives at Saint-Malo with all the inhabitants of Port-Royal aboard, including Champlain who has spent three years in Acadia and New England.



JANUARY 7, 1608

Henry IV awards Pierre Dugua de Monts a one year extension on his trade monopoly.

APRIL 5, 1608

The *Lièvre* leaves Honfleur, commanded by François Gravé Du Pont, to trade at Tadoussac.

APRIL 13, 1608

Champlain leaves a third time for New France, with the title of lieutenant under Pierre Dugua de Monts, on board the *Don de Dieu*.

OCTOBER 13, 1609

Arrival at Honfleur. Champlain presents his report to Dugua de Monts and to the king. As his monopoly is not renewed, de Monts forms a company with merchants from Rouen who will support the Québec settlement if it is used as a storage depot for trading.

APRIL 8, 1610

Start of Champlain's fourth crossing to Canada, with artisans, on the *Loyal*, commanded by Gravé Du Pont.



MAY 14, 1610

Henry IV is assassinated. His son Louis succeeds him under the regency of his mother, Maria de Medici.

SEPTEMBER 27, 1610

Champlain arrives at Honfleur.

DECEMBER 27, 1610

Signing of a marriage contract between Champlain and H  l  ne Boull  , a twelve-year-old girl.

DECEMBER 30, 1610

Nuptial benediction of Champlain and H  l  ne Boull  , in Paris. Champlain receives 4,500 pounds of Boull  's 6,000-pound dowry. Because of H  l  ne's age, they will not be authorized to live as a couple for another two years.

JANUARY 26, 1611

Poutrincourt's ship, the *Gr  ce de Dieu*, sets sail with a group of thirty-six Frenchmen, including Fathers Biard and Mass  .

MARCH 1, 1611

Champlain's **fifth departure** for New France.



SEPTEMBER 10, 1611

Arrival at La Rochelle. De Monts' partners have not obtained a monopoly and decide to discontinue their support for the undertaking at Québec. Champlain writes memoranda, publishes a map, and asks the king to intervene.

SEPTEMBER 27, 1612

A twelve-year monopoly on the fur trade in the St. Lawrence is awarded to Charles de Bourbon, Comte de Soissons, Louis XIII's cousin. Awarded the title of lieutenant general in New France, he replaces Pierre Dugua de Monts.

OCTOBER 15, 1612

Power of command in the name of the lieutenant general is accorded to Champlain to continue with the settlement at Québec. Included in his mission are finding a route to China and the East Indies and discovering valuable minerals.

NOVEMBER 1, 1612

Comte de Soissons, Champlain's protector, dies.

NOVEMBER 22, 1612

Prince de Condé is designated viceroy of New France, and he confirms Champlain's position

In Paris, Champlain meets Nicolas de Vignau who tells him of his journey to the Sea of the North (Hudson's Bay) that he claims can be reached from the Ottawa River.



JANUARY 9, 1613

Les Voyages du sieur de Champlain Xaintongeois, an account of his travels from 1604 to 1612, is published under royal privilege. The work also contains a map, the *Carte géographique de la Nouvelle France*. Note the presence of the particle (*de Champlain*) in the title of the work and on the 1613 map.

MARCH 6 TO APRIL 29, 1613

Champlain's **sixth crossing** to New France, from Honfleur, to Tadoussac.

AUGUST 26, 1613

Champlain arrives in Saint-Malo.

NOVEMBER 15, 1613

In the presence of the viceroy, a company of merchants from Rouen and Saint-Malo is created. It has an eleven-year trade monopoly up the St. Lawrence from Matane and on both shores of the river. This is the "Compagnie de Canada," known also as the Compagnie de Condé.

END OF 1613

Champlain prepares to publish the account of his latest explorations under the title *Quatriesme Voyage*. This text, and a completely new map, will be added in a new edition of the *Voyages* (1604-1612).

1614

At Fontainebleau, Champlain presents the king with an accounting of the circumstances of New France, where the business in trade is excellent. Champlain obtains permission to take priests, whose upkeep the company must support, to the colony.



APRIL 24, 1615

Champlain's **seventh crossing** to Canada. He is accompanied by four Recollet missionaries.

SEPTEMBER 10, 1616

Arrival at Honfleur, where Champlain learns that his protector, Prince de Condé, has been imprisoned at the Bastille on the order of the queen regent, Maria de Medici.

1616

Champlain draws a general map of New France based on the 1612 and 1613 maps, to which he adds data gathered during the war in Iroquois country, as well as details uncovered during explorations in the autumn of 1615 and the spring of 1616. This map will be published in 1653 by the cartographer Pierre Duval.

JANUARY 15, 1617

Confirmation of Champlain's mandate as lieutenant of the viceroy.

MARCH 11 TO JUNE 14, 1617

Champlain crosses to Canada for the **eighth time**, from Honfleur, on the *Saint-Étienne*. The first French family to emigrate to Canada, that of Louis Hébert, is on board. Misery reigns at Québec, where there are only fifty to sixty Frenchmen.



APRIL 24, 1617

Louis XIII announces that he will now govern the kingdom.
The regent retires to Blois, accompanied by Richelieu.

JULY 22, 1617

Champlain and Hélène Boullé hire Isabelle Terrier as
a servant. The contract is signed in Paris.

FEBRUARY 1618

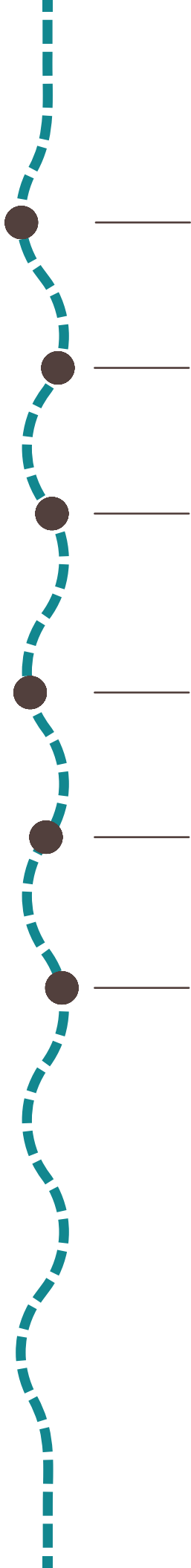
Champlain addresses memoranda to the king and the Chamber of Commerce in which he explains his plan for the colony: build fortifications, set up a government, found towns, convert Aborigines to the Christian faith, and finally find the route to the East Indies and China. Champlain hopes to attract investors by listing the many riches, aside from furs, that may be exploited: fisheries, forestry, root crops, mines, livestock. The civilizing project has been included to please the king.

FEBRUARY 9, 1618

The Chamber of Commerce asks the king to find the means for
Champlain to settle three hundred families per year in New France
and assure the partners a monopoly on the fur trade.

MARCH 12, 1618

The king agrees to Champlain's project. The partners are asked to assist
Champlain in the execution of his mandate as lieutenant of the viceroy.



MAY 24, 1618

Champlain's **ninth crossing**, departing from Honfleur.

JULY 26 TO AUGUST 28, 1618

Crossing from Tadoussac to Honfleur.

DECEMBER 21, 1618

The trading partners sign an agreement to maintain eighty people at Québec, with livestock and seeds for agriculture.

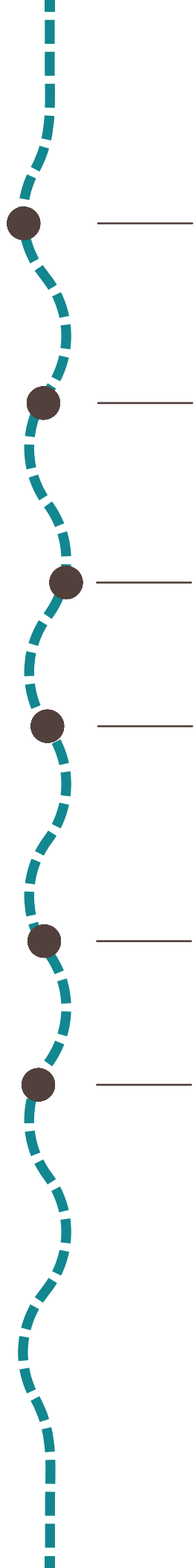
DECEMBER 24, 1618

Champlain receives a royal pension of 600 pounds.

JANUARY 14, 1619

Champlain receives the balance of 1,500 pounds on his wife's dowry.

On the advice of Daniel Boyer, merchant of Rouen, the partners want to limit Champlain to the role of explorer in New France and entrust the government to Gragé Du Pont. Champlain protests and claims his right to command Québec. A decree confirms Champlain's command.



MAY 18, 1619

Publication, with royal privilege, of *Les Voyages du Sr de Champlain en la Nouvelle France, depuis l'année 1615 jusques à la fin de l'année 1618*, by Champlain.

MAY 7, 1620

Confirmation, by Louis XIII, of Champlain's administrative functions as lieutenant of the viceroy of New France.

SPRING 1620

Champlain's **tenth departure** for New France, with his wife, on the *Saint-Étienne*.

NOVEMBER 1620

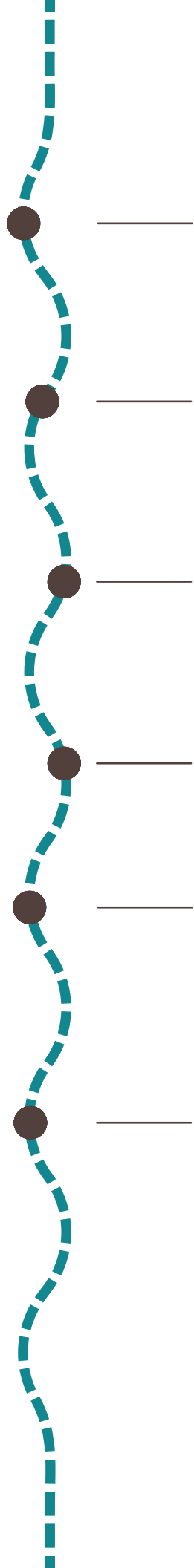
Cession by the viceroy for a fifteen-year period of his monopoly on trade in New France to the Protestant Guillaume de Caën, son of a powerful Dieppe shipowner living in Rouen.

APRIL 1, 1622

The State Council confirms the legitimacy of the de Caëns' company.

DECEMBER 24, 1622

The State Council specifies the conditions for the alliance between the two trade companies.



1624

In April, Cardinal Richelieu enters the State Council, of which he becomes leader in August.

AUGUST 15, 1624

Champlain and his wife leave for France after four years in New France, his longest stay. Hélène Boullé will never return to the colony.

FEBRUARY 15, 1625

Champlain is confirmed as lieutenant of the viceroy, with his brother-in-law, Eustache Boullé, as his second.

1625

War breaks out between France and England.

APRIL 15 TO JULY 5, 1626

Champlain crosses to New France **for the eleventh time**, this time from Dieppe. Five ships make the voyage, among them the *Catherine*, with Champlain aboard, the *Flèche*, and the *Alouette*.

SPRING 1627

Cardinal Richelieu assumes direct authority over New France.



APRIL 29, 1627

The de Caëns' company is abolished and Richelieu establishes the Compagnie de la Nouvelle-France, known as the Compagnie des Cent-Associés. Champlain is an associate.

APRIL 24, 1629

The Treaty of Suse ends the French-English conflict. The capture of Québec will thus take place in peacetime.

OCTOBER 27, 1629

The Kirke brothers land with Champlain in Dover.

OCTOBER 29, 1629

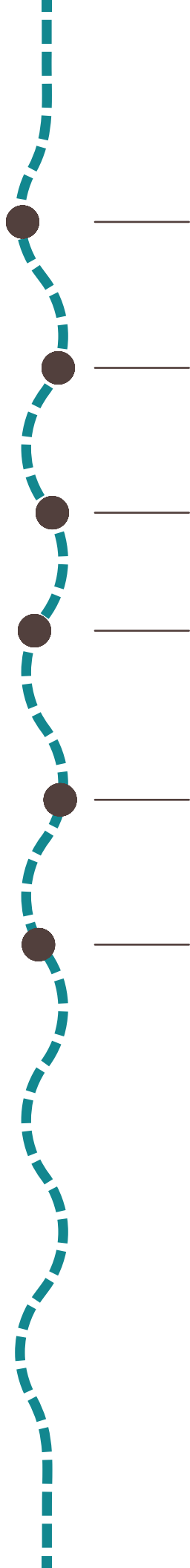
Champlain arrives in London, where he proves to the French ambassador that Québec was taken two months after the peace was signed.

BEGINNING OF DECEMBER 1629

Having returned to France, Champlain asks the king, Richelieu, and members of the company to expedite the return of the colony.

1630

In an appeal to the king, Champlain revisits his arguments of 1618, insisting on the need to develop agriculture in Canada and thus avoid too great a dependence on the homeland.



APRIL 1630

Louis XIII asks England to return the colony. Negotiations drag on.

SEPTEMBER 27, 1630

Champlain is in Brouage to sell his two houses.

JULY 1631

Charles I orders the Merchant Adventurers to surrender Québec.

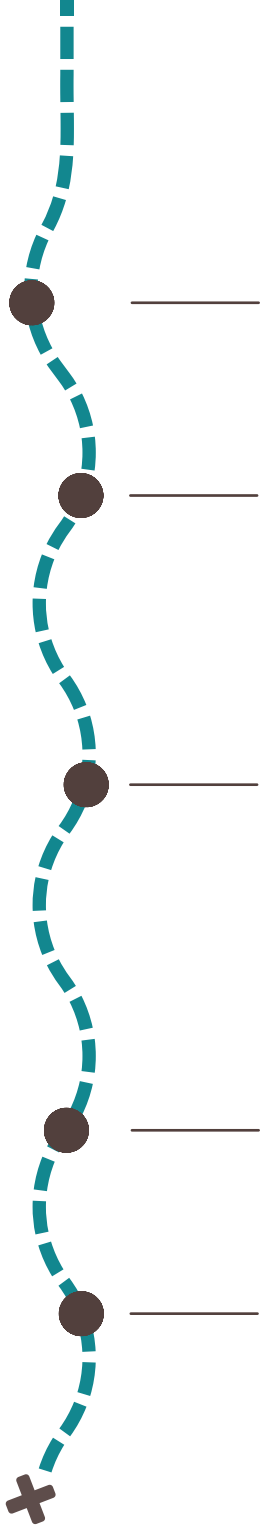
Champlain publishes *Voyages de la Nouvelle France occidentale, dicte Canada faites par le Sr de Champlain depuis l'an 1603 jusqu'en l'an 1629*, followed by *Traité de la marine et du devoir d'un bon marinier*.

FEBRUARY 13, 1632

Mutual donation of assets between Champlain and Hélène Boullé.

MARCH 29, 1632

In the Treaty of Saint-Germain-en-Laye, Québec is officially returned to France. England agrees to leave "all occupied sites in New France, Acadia, and Canada" in the state in which they were found.



MARCH 1, 1633

Champlain is once again made commander of New France.

MARCH 23 TO MAY 22, 1633

Champlain's **twelfth and last crossing**, after four years' absence.

Three ships set sail from Rouen for Cape Breton Island: the *Saint-Jean*, the *Don de Dieu*, and the *Saint-Pierre*.

NOVEMBER 17, 1635

Champlain signs his will. He makes the Virgin Mary his heir. His will is confirmed in Paris in 1637, but, upon request of Marie Camarat, Champlain's first cousin, it is quashed. On September 6th, 1639, she obtains the partnership share that H  l  ne Boull   had inherited.

DECEMBER 25, 1635

Champlain (aged between 55 and 65 years old) dies.

JANUARY 15, 1636

News of Champlain's death reaches France. Charles Huault de Montmagny succeeds him at the head of a colony with 150 inhabitants.



#CHAMPLAIN1615