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*** START OF THE PROJECT GUTENBERG EBOOK ADIEU À LA FRANCE ***

ADIEU A LA FRANCE

SUR L'EMBARQUEMENT
DU SIEUR DE POUTRINCOURT
ET DE SON ÉQUIPAGE

faisant voile en la terre de Canadas
dicte la France Occidentale
Le vingt-sixiesme de
May, 1606

Avec une lettre de l'Autheur, addressante à
Mademoiselle sa Mère.

PAR MARC L'ESCARBOT

Vervinois



A ROUEN,
De l'Imprimerie de Jean Petit.
Jouxte la copie Imprimée à la Rochelle,
1606





res que la saison du Printemps nous invite
A seillonner le dos de la vague Amphitrite,
Et kaler vers les lieux où Phoebus chaque jour
Va faire tout lassé son humide séjour,
Je veux ains que partir dire Adieu à la France
Celle qui m'a produit, et nourri dès l'enfance,
Adieu non pour tousjours, mais bien sous cet espoir
Qu'encores quelque jour je la pourray revoir.

A dieu donc douce mère, à dieu France amiable
A dieu de tous humains le séjour délectable;
A dieu riches palais, à dieu nobles citez
Dont l'aspect a mes yeux mille fois contentéz;
A dieu tours & clochers dont les pointes cornues
Avoisinans les cieux s'élèvent sur les nues:
Adieu prez émaillez d'un million de fleurs
Ravissans mes esprits de leur soüesves odeurs;
Adieu belles forests, à dieu larges campagnes,
A dieu encore à vous sourcilleuses montagnes:
Adieu costaux vineux, & superbes chasteaux;
A dieu honneur des champs; bleds, vins & gras troupeux
Et vous, ô ruisselets, fontaines et rivières,
Qui m'avez délecté en cent mille manières,
Et mille fois charmé au doux gazouillement
De vos brûlantes eaux, à dieu semblablement;
Nous allons sous l'espoir d'une bonne fortune
Combattans la fureur du tempestueux Neptune
Pour parvenir aux lieux où d'une ample moisson
Se présente aux Chrestiens une belle saison.

O combien se prépare & d'honneur & de gloire
Et à jamais sera louable la mémoire.
A ceux-là qui poussez de sainte intention
Auront le bel object de cette ambition
Les peuples à jamais béniront l'entreprise
Des autheurs d'un tel bien: & d'une plume apprise
A graver dans l'airain de l'immortalité
J'en laisserai mémoire à la postérité.

DE MONTS tu es celui de qui le haut courage
A tracé le chemin à un si grand ouvrage;
Et pource de ton nom malgré l'effort des ans
La fueille verdoira d'un éternel printemps.
Que si en ce devoir que j'ai desja tracé,
Je veux de ton mérite exalter la louange
Sur l'Esquille, & le Nil, & la Seine, & le Gange,
Et faire l'univers bruire de ton renom,
Si bien qu'en tout endroit on révère ton nom
Mais je ne pourrai pas faire de Roy mémoire,
Qu'à la suite de ce je ne couche en l'histoire
Celui duquel ayant cognu la probité:
Le sens & la valeur & la fidelité,
Tu l'as digne trouvé à qui ta lieutenance
Fust seurement commise en la nouvelle France
Pour te servir d'Hercule & soulager le faix
Que se surchargerait au dessein que tu en fais.

POUTRINCOURT, c'est donc toi qui as touché mon ame,
Et lui a inspiré une dévoute flamme
A célébrer ton los; & faire par mes vers
Qu'à l'advenir ton nom vole par l'univers.
Ta valeur dès long temps en la France connue
Cherche une nation aux hommes incognue
Pour la rendre sujette de l'empire François,
Et encore y asseoir le throne de nos Rois:
Ains plustost (car en toi la sagesse éternelle
A mis je ne sçai quoi digne d'une ame belle)
Le motif qui premier a excité ton coeur
A si loin rechercher un immortel honneur,

Est le zèle dévot & l'affection grande
De rendre à l'Eternel une agréable offrande,
Lui vouant toi, tes biens, ta vie, & tes enfans,
Que tu vas exposer à la merci des vents,
Et d'un pole voguant jusques à l'autre pole
Pour son nom exalter & sa sainte parole.

Ainsi tous deux portez de mesme affection:
Ainsi l'un fécondant l'autre en intention,
Heureux vous acquerrez une immortelle vie
Qui de félicité tousjours sera suivie:
Vie non point semblable à celle de ces dieux
Que l'antique ignorance a peinte dans les cieux
Pour avoir (comme vous) reformé la nature,
Les moeurs & la raison des hommes sans culture,
Mais une vie où gist ceste félicité,
Que les oracles saints de la Divinité
Ont libéralement promis aux saintes ames
Que le ciel a formé de ses plus pures flammes.

Tel est vostre destin, & cependant ça bas
Vostre nom glorieux ne craindra le trespas,
Et la postérité de vostre gloire esprise
Sera esmue à suivre une mesme entreprise,
Mais vous serez le centre où se rapportera
Ce que l'ange futur en vous suivant fera.

Toi qui par la terreur de ta sainte parole
Regis à ton vouloir les postillons d'Æole,
Qui des flots irritez peux l'orgueil abbaïsser,
Et les vallons des eaux en un moment hausser,
Gran Dieu, sois nostre Guide en ce douteux voyage
Puis que tu nous y as enflammé le courage;
Lasche de tes thrésors un favorable vent
Qui pousse notre barque en peu d'heures au Pouant,
Et fay que là puissions arriver par ta grâce
Jetter le fondement d'une Chrestienne race.

*Pour m'esgayer l'esprit ces vers je composois
Lors que premier je vis les murs des Rochelois.*



**A MESSIEURS DE MONTS ET SES
Lieutenant et officiez, sur le voyage en la
France Occidentale.**

SONNET



i les siècles premiers ont célébré la gloire
De celui qui conquit la Colchide toison,
Si en ce temps encor du brave fils d'Asson
Pour peu de chose vit en honneur la mémoire.

Nous devons beaucoup mieux célébrer en l'histoire
La générosité non du Grégeois Jason
Mais de vous ô François, que en ceste saison

D'un plus digne sujet recherchez la victoire.

**Le Grec acquit ça bas un terrestre trésor,
Il avoit des moyens & des hommes encor
Tels que les peut avoir entre nous un grand Prince.**

**Mais vous à vos dépens sans recevoir support
Que de l'adveu du Roy, pour un nouvel effort
Ravissez courageux la celeste province.**

Par MARC L'ESCARBOT Vervinois.

A MADEMOISELLE ma Mère.

Mademoiselle ma Mère, vous trouverez par aventure estrange mon départ d'auprès de vous, lequel est procédé plus du courage violence de jeunesse, que de mespris ou désobéissance. Quoy que s'en soit, je me fais fort qu'avec l'aide de Dieu vous aurés à l'advenir du contentement de moy. Monsieur de Poutrincourt m'a fait cette faveur de me recevoir en sa compagnie pour aller en une entreprise la plus généreuse qui fut jamais tentée(?), qui est d'establir la foy Chrestienne & le nom François, parmi les peuples barbares destituez de la cognoissance de Dieu. Il est accompagné de beaucoup de gens d'honneur, de la société desquelles je ne puis qu'estre bien édifié. Je vous supplie donc pardonner à ma jeunesse, si j'ay fait chose que vous n'aurez point approuvé du commencement. Car j'ose me promettre que l'issue vous sera agréable, & que Dieu favorisera nostre voyage, lequel je prie nous assister pendant que j'espère bien & bonheur de vous revoir, qui sera dans un an & demy au plus tard, moyennant sa sainte grace. De La Rochelle ce cinquiesme May mil six cent six.

*** END OF THE PROJECT GUTENBERG EBOOK ADIEU À LA FRANCE ***

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