



Outline: CHWNE Module 5 Lesson 3: de Tonnetuit / de Chaste / du Pont

Pierre Chauvin de Tonnetuit (1515-1603)

- **(Naval officer / Military Captain) Pierre Chauvin de Tonnetuit** was born in **Dieppe, Normandy**. Son of a wealthy Huguenot merchant. Was appointed **Lieutenant of New France by Henry IV**.
- **De Tonnetuit** fought in the **Wars against the Catholic League &** held a position of **'gentleman of the court'** while **King Henry IV** lived, and for a short time when **Marie de Medici** was regent.
- **He was 38 years older than King Henry IV**, it's possible they fought in the Wars of Religion from **1562 to 1598**.
- **In 1589**, at age 74 - the year that **Henry III** was assassinated, de Tonnetuit was captain of a very important **Huguenot garrison at Honfleur**.

Note: **(Naval officer / Military Captain) Pierre Chauvin de Tonnetuit, Aymar de Chaste, and Pierre du Gua de Mons** all served in Henry's navy at Honfleur. In 1600, **(Naval Captain) Francois Grave du Pont** moved from St. Malo to Honfleur.

- **In 1596**, even at **81 years old**, Pierre Chauvin de Tonnetuit was still interested in maritime and commercial trade.

Note: He owned four vessels: **Don De Dieu, Espérance, Bon Espoir, and St. Jean**. These ships were engaged in cod fishing and fur trading in the **Grand Banks off Newfoundland and Nova Scotia in Canada**.

Note: (meaning of the names of the ships: *Don de Dieu* - Gift of God; *Esperance* - Hope; *Bon Espoir* - Good Hope; *St. Jean* - St John)

Did de Tonnetuit know Guillaume Allene? Did Allene purchase the Esperance from the estate of de Tonnetuit?



Notarised accounts from La Rochelle to Cadiz Spain, suggest that the **Esperance** was owned by **Samuel de Champlain's uncle, Guillaume Allène, a Huguenot bourgeoisie merchant from La Rochelle who settled there in 1562 and in Brouage in 1583.**

Guillaume and his wife **Guillemette Gousse** were childless.

- **(Naval Captain) François Gravé du Pont**, encouraged Pierre Chauvin **de Tonnetuit** to apply to **Henry IV** for a ten-year fur trading monopoly in New France.
- **In 1599, de Tonnetuit & (Naval Captain) François Gravé Du Pont** together received a fur trading monopoly from **King Henry IV to settle New France.**
- **Spring of 1600 --Pierre Chauvin de Tonnetuit** left **Honfleur** with some colonists and his four ships in tow: **Don De Dieu, Espérance, Bon Espoir, and St. Jean.** **Pierre Du Gua de Monts** joined them. They landed at **Tadoussac**

Note: *For 50 years, Tadoussac was the destination for fur traders, and Spanish and French whalers. at the juncture of the **Saguenay River** in Quebec and the north shore of the St. Lawrence River.*

- **De Tonnetuit built a fort in Tadoussac which is now the oldest standing structure in Canada. It has been designated a World Heritage site and is now a tourist attraction.**

Note: There was fierce competition for **fur trading with the Montagnais** (innu) natives who summered there.

- **In the fall of 1600, Pierre Chauvin de Tonnetuit** left for France with a cargo of beaver and other pelts, leaving 16 men to 'man the fort'. **Only five survived** the harsh winter with the help of native kindness and hospitality.
- **In 1601, Pierre Chauvin de Tonnetuit** sent only the **Espérance** back to Tadoussac, but he never returned. **He died in 1603.**



Champlain first visited **Tadoussac in 1603**. He described the building as being *25' long by 18' wide by 8' tall, with wooden siding and a fireplace in the middle of the structure. There was a palisade surrounding it with a ditch to make entry difficult.*

In **1603**, when Tonnetuit passed away at **88** years old. **(Admiral) Aymar Du Chaste** inherited the fur trading monopoly .

Aymar de Chaste (1514 -1603)

Admiral Aymar de Chaste was the **Governor of Dieppe**, a moderate Catholic who supported **Henry IV** in the **war against the Catholic League**. Henry lived in the outskirts of Dieppe while he battled against the **League at Arques**.

- **Admiral de Chaste** was commissioned by **Henry IV** to lead an expedition to **Acadia and New France**. He was given the title of **Viceroy of Canada in February 1602**, and later, **Lieutenant Governor of New France**.

With **Admiral de Chaste** were other noblemen and officers of Henry's court. These included **Pierre Du Gua Sieur de Mons** and **(Naval Captain) François Gravé Du Pont**. **Samuel de Champlain** was sent along as an observer and cartographer.

Aymar de Chaste died in 1603.

François Gravé Du Pont (1554 -1629)

(Naval Captain) François Gravé Du Pont was a nobleman and a soldier. Also, **at the age of 26 years old** from around **1580** he became one of the earliest fur traders in New France.

In **1599**, he traded for furs at **Trois Rivières** when he was 45 years old.

In **1600**, he changed residence from **St Malo** to **Honfleur** and helped **Pierre Chauvin de Tonnetuit** to receive a fur trading monopoly from **King Henry IV**.



In the **Spring of 1600**, **Captain François Gravé Du Pont** accompanied his fur trading partner, **Pierre Chauvin de Tonnetuit**, to establish a fur trading post at Tadoussac. This trading post is the longest surviving settlement in Canada. (see picture of house below)

They left **Honfleur** with some colonists in de **Tonnetuit's** four ships: **Don De Dieu**, **Espérance**, **Bon Espoir** and **St Jean**.

With them was **Pierre Du Gua de Mons**, who would later become an influential colonist. **Gravé du Pont** wanted to explore the St. Lawrence further but **Chauvin de Tonnetuit** did not.

Captain François Gravé met with two Innu chiefs at that time - **Begourat** and **Anadabijou**. He became allies with them and their nation.

In **1603**, **Captain Gravé du Pont** returned to France with **2 Innu Natives (Montagnais)**. Later he returned to the Tadoussac area with them, and **Samuel de Champlain**, in the role of observer.

Captain François Gravé Du Pont and **Samuel de Champlain** went exploring the **St. Lawrence** as far as the **St Louis Falls**.

In **1603** **Pierre Chauvin de Tonnetuit** passed away. **Aymar de Chaste** was given the new fur trading monopoly.

Captain François Gravé Du Pont continued trading furs in de **Chaste's** service.

In **1604**, he joined the service of **Pierre Du Gua de Mons**, who held the fur trading monopoly for **Acadia**.

In **1604**, as **deputy for Pierre Du Gua de Mons**, he sailed with 67 other men to the Bay of Fundy for exploration.

With **Champlain**, they spent 6 weeks exploring the coast and looking for a safe place to settle. They settled on an island at the St. Croix River.

Before winter of 1604. **Gravé du Pont** and **Pierre de Biencourt de Poutrincourt**,



another leader in Du Gua's expedition, sailed back to France

In Spring 1605 Gragé du Pont arrived back at the St. Croix River settlement with two ships, men and supplies. Eventually, they moved to **Port Royal** rebuilding housing structures with the dismantled materials from the island.

In 1605/1606, Gragé du Pont was entrusted with command of the colony, when **Du Gua** had to return to France to protect his monopoly and continue to raise funds to keep the colony going.

1608, 2 ships were sent from France by Du Gua to the new settlement in New France. The **Levrier**, left on **April 5th** - commandeered by **François Gragé** to trade at the settlement of **Tadoussac**.

On April 13th, Samuel de Champlain commandeered the Don de Dieu to set up the colony at Quebec City.

On June 3rd 1608, when Samuel de Champlain returned to Tadoussac (the main trading post used by all the other European countries) **François Gragé**, had been terribly wounded while trying to stave off the incursions of Basque (Spanish) fur traders on behalf of Du Gua who held the monopoly.

Champlain negotiated a truce with the aggressors, and **François Gragé** agreed to share the **Innu** fur trade with the other traders.

François Gragé returned to France in 1608, taking the accomplices in the plot against Champlain's leadership in Quebec, returning every year until 1629.

From 1619 to 1620 he returned to the Quebec colony. In **1619**, the merchants moved to have him replace **Champlain** in Quebec.

In 1620, Champlain returned from France as the Viceroy of the colony of New France.

In 1621, the monopoly rested with the de Caen Brothers but **Gragé du Pont** appeared to trade *on behalf of Pierre Du Gua de Monts*. His ship was temporarily seized but then returned to him.



De Caen's company was merged by the King (Louis XIII) with the former associates so Gravé du Pont entered their service, working continuously for the De Caens until 1629.

He had a long relationship with the natives and was considered to be indispensable to the de Caens.

In 1622/1623, he spent the winter in Quebec with Champlain.

He returned to France in 1624

For the winter of 1625/1626 and again in 1627 he returned to Quebec again

He eventually set sail with the Jesuits to Tadoussac and then to England. Nothing more is heard about him.

He was helpful to the **Récollets**, willing to help with exploration

Not Part of the lesson. I came across this info and was not sure where to file it. I put it here for now.

It is said that the Catholic Church owned a quarter of the land in France and had an income of one hundred million livres.

<https://pierredubeaublog.wordpress.com/2018/11/02/aymar-de-clermont-chaste-et-samuel-de-champlain/>