

THE LAST SIEGE OF LOUISBURG. 173

Louisburg." This vessel was probably the *Lys*, a sixty-four, armed, however, on this occasion, with only twenty-two guns, which, with her sister ship, the *Alcide*, struck her flag after a five-hour battle with the *Dunkirk* and *Defiance* "sixties." The *Dunkirk* lost 90 men in this affair.

The combatants formed units of the powerful French armament despatched to strengthen the garrison of Louisburg and the Great Lakes and Ohio forts and a pursuing squadron of 19 British ships respectively.

The *Lys* was a very valuable prize, according to Brown, the Cape Breton historian, "having nearly £80,000 on board, besides eight companies of infantry and several officers of distinction." From the notes of Mr. S. D. Macdonald it would appear that one of the latter was the Governor of Louisburg, but whether Drucour, the last defender of the city, himself, or some other appointee to the high office of Governor of Ile Royale, is not clear.

Mr. Joseph Plimsoll Edwards, of Londonderry, Nova Scotia (Coll. Nova Scotia Hist. Society), draws attention to the interesting fact that M. de Forant, the third Governor of Louisburg, bequeathed an endowment or foundation to defray the board and tuition of eight pupils, daughters of officers, at the Louisburg convent. This, writes Mr. Edwards, is probably the first act of the sort that took place in any part of the Province. The philanthropist, who had accepted the Governorship at the special request of the King of France, died at Louisburg in May, A.D. 1740, eight months after his arrival.

Pichon, the celebrated secretary of Count Raymond, the seventh French and tenth Governor of Louisburg, bequeathed to his native town of Vire an excellent library, which was opened to the public in A.D. 1783.

Count Raymond celebrated the birth of the Duc de Bourgogne by joyous fêtes, dinners, splendid illuminations, a ball, and other generous entertainments, which delighted all Louisburg and dazzled the humble habitants of the neighbouring hamlets.