

reinforcements for the Louisbourg garrison, if required. But that officer felt himself quite safe in his stronghold, and declined the offer. When, however, he found himself sorely pressed by the enemy, he repented of his decision. He then bethought him of a force under Marin, which had been sent in the previous year to aid in the attack on Annapolis. It had wintered at Beaubassin, and was now on its way to make another attack on Annapolis. It was supposed to be at Minas, and thither Duchambon sent messengers, ordering Marin to come at once to Louisbourg with all the troops under his command. On the arrival of the messengers at Minas, they found that Marin and his party had already gone on to Annapolis. They followed thither. On receipt of Duchambon's order, Marin held a council of war. Some of his officers were disposed to disregard the order, and go on with the attack of Annapolis. But Marin persuaded the bulk of his party to obey. But then came the difficulty of transport. All Acadia could not furnish ships enough for the purpose. At last, however, Marin succeeded in procuring a vessel of twenty-five tons and also some 150 bark canoes. In these he embarked his men, numbering—Canadians and Indians together—some 400 men, and set off for Louisbourg. He made fair progress down the bay, till in doubling a headland near Cape Sable, he found himself close upon a British privateer, which immediately opened fire. Nothing daunted, Marin and his party returned the fire, and rushed on the privateer. They were already sealing her sides, with a prospect of soon getting possession of her, when a second privateer, a comrade of the other, hove in sight and prepared to take part in the contest. The Canadians and Indians, seeing that there was no further chance for them, abandoned the attack and, flying in their canoes to the shore, hid themselves in the forest. When the privateers left, the party gathered themselves together. The skirmish had thinned their ranks. They had lost their vessel and many of their canoes. At length they got afloat again and proceeded on their voyage. But the delay was fatal. They did not reach Isle Royale till over a fortnight after Louisbourg had fallen. Duchambon, in his report to the minister, says that, if they had arrived when he expected them, the fort would have been saved; that the English supposed the force to consist of 2,500 men, and would have raised the siege on the arrival of Marin's force. This is one of the many excuses which Duchambon assigns for his failure.

The English forces entered into possession of Louisbourg. The garrison marched out with the honors of war, flags flying and drums beating. The men, after giving up their arms, went on board the English ships. Under the terms of the capitulation, over 4,000 souls were afterwards sent to France.

All England was in a state of delirious excitement, over the capture. Church bells proclaimed the joyful tidings in every town of the kingdom. The grateful monarch gave Pepperel a title and Warren a flag. The spoils of war taken at Louisbourg were enormous. To these were added, a few days afterwards, two Indiamen, richly laden, decoyed into Louisbourg by the French flag, left purposely floating on the citadel. One of these carried half a million of Spanish dollars, hidden under a cargo of cocoa. The value of the captures exceeded three millions of pounds sterling.

We have alluded to the strong element of religious enthusiasm in the adventurers. One of the chaplains brought with him a hatchet for the express purpose of hewing down idolatrous images in the Roman Catholic churches. When the miracle of the capture of the grand battery took place, it was looked upon, and not unnaturally, as a special inter-