

TRANSLATOR'S PREFACE.

So many persons who do not understand French, now take an interest in the early state of this part of Canada, that the time seems to me to have come for an English version of the following work to meet with acceptance.

Its author was a brave and hardy Norman, who quitted the old world for the new at an early age, and both for one that is better than either at a very advanced one. Born in France about 1620, he came to Quebec, with his father, Gaspard Boucher, in 1635, and died at Boucherville, near Montreal, in 1717*—having served his King and country zealously and well, in Canada, for many years, from 1639.

For such his services in general, and for his gallant and successful defence of the fort at Three Rivers against Indians, in August 1653 in particular, he was handsomely rewarded by the former, and he has ever been held in grateful remembrance by the latter.

He was Governor of the settlement at Three Rivers, from July 1653 to July 1658, and from November 1662 to some time between September 1667 and April 1668.

Charlevoix writes of him as follows :

“ By the last vessels that sailed from Quebec, † this general, Baron d'Avaugour, and all the persons in office in the country, had written strongly to the Court, to implore the King to take under his protection a colony which was utterly abandoned and reduced to the last extremity.”

* The entry in the register of the Parish Church, recording his burial under his own pew, in it sets forth that he was aged about ninety seven, (*agé d'environ nonante sept ans.*)

† 22nd October, 1661,—E. L. M.