

chiefly Abenakis*—a branch of the Algonquin family—and married the daughter of Madockawando, chief Sachem of the Eastern tribes. These Abenakis appear to have been the firm friends of the French, and to have been always ready to carry the scalping knife into the British settlements. St. Castine carried on a very profitable trade with his Indian neighbors, and exercised such influence over them in the course of time that they would rise at his summons, and march wherever he chose to lead them. The Baron De Hontan—an intelligent but prejudiced writer who visited the Colonies during the time that St. Castine was living at Pentagouet—gives a few particulars of his mode of life:—"He married among them according to their fashion, and preferred the forests of Acadia to the Pyrenean Mountains that surround the place of his nativity. For the first years of his abode with the savages he behaved so as to draw an inexpressible esteem from them. They made him their great Chief or leader, who is in a manner the Sovereign of a nation; and by degrees he has worked himself into such a fortune, which any man but he would have made such use of, as to draw out of that country above two or three hundred thousand crowns which he has now in his pocket in good dry gold. But all the use of it is to buy up goods for presents to his fellow savages, who, upon their return from hunting, present him with beaver and skins to a treble value. . . . The Governors General of Canada keep in with him, and the Governors of New England are afraid of him. He has several daughters, who are all of them married very handsomely to Frenchmen, and who had good dowries. He has never changed his wife, by which means he would give the

savages to understand that God does not love inconstant folks."

We must content ourselves with briefly sketching the leading incidents in St. Castine's life at Pentagouet, where he remained over thirty years altogether. As the extract we have given shows, he was much feared by the New Englanders, for he was one of those impetuous, daring spirits, always ready to resist any thing like an insult or an injury—always willing to take up the sword when a favorable opportunity for harassing his English neighbors offered. As the English had settled and erected a fort at Pemaquid, not far from Pentagouet, difficulties were constantly arising between the rival settlements, even in the time of peace.

St. Castine appears to have carried on a considerable illicit trade with the Indians, as well as with the New England colonies, and to have consequently incurred the displeasure of his own government, who sent out orders in 1687 to M. de Mannevall, then governor of Acadia, to remonstrate with him on his mode of life. Indeed, at that time he appears to have sunk into a mere trader, and to have forgotten all his old associations. Some years later, however, he awoke from his apathy and showed himself once more the brave soldier and loyal Frenchman.

The first blow St. Castine received was directed against his traffic, by the New England Government. In the year 1687, Sir Edmund Andros, Governor-in-chief, determined to make an effort to drive off the French from the settlements they had made as far as St. Croix. At Pemaquid he embarked on the "Rose," a British frigate, and proceeded to the Penobscot for the purpose of intimidating St. Castine. Sir Edmund caused his ship to be anchored "before St. Castine's door," and sent an officer to announce his arrival, but the French, instead of conferring with the English, fled into the woods. "The Governor landed with other gentlemen, and went into the house, and found a small altar in the common room," but they did not interfere with the altar or the pictures, or the ornaments. They "took away all the arms, powder, shot, iron kettles, and some trucking-cloth, and his chairs; all of which

* The Etchemins, or Canoemen, dwelt not only on the St. John river, the Ouygondy of the natives, but on the St. Croix, which Champlain always called from their name, and extended as far west, at least as Mount Desert. Next to these came the Abenakis, of whom one tribe has left its name to the Penobscot, and another to the Androscoggin; while a third, under the auspices of the Jesuits had its chapel and fixed abode in the fertile fields of Norridgewock. The Micmacs occupied the east of the continent, holding possession of Nova Scotia and the adjacent Islands.
—BANCROFT, III. 237.3.