

Your Majesty those things which I cannot make public."

In Charlevoix's History of New France Denys is called one of the best governors that France ever sent to America. His father, Jacques Denys, Sieur de La Thibaudière, was captain of the King's Guard as his grandfather had been before him, and a descendant of the great navigator, Capt. Jehan Denys, of Honfleur, who published the first chart of the Gulf of Canada in 1506 and visited Brazil in 1504. Of Denys's brothers, one, Simon Denys, Seigneur de La Trinite, was a captain in the Regiment Carignan Salieres, sent into Canada in 1664, and afterwards receiver-general for the Company of New France at Quebec; another, Jacques, was quartermaster-general of

the armies of the King, killed at Cardia in naval battle against the Venetians, and the last was Henry, of the Royal Guards, killed in Italy. Nicolas, himself, bore the title of de Fronsac as did his relatives, the Forsythas, before him and the Ducs de Richelieu and de Fronsac after him.

The immense possessions of the three families were divided afterwards into smaller lordships, the d'Entremonts and Melancons, principal heirs of La Tour, inheriting the greater part of the La Tour principality. In 1687 the de Fronsac lordship of 2500 square miles was carved out of the Bay of Chaleurs and Gaspe district and given to the Denys de Fronsac family in exchange for Cape Breton, which the King of France resumed to himself.

CHAPTER IV.

In Acadia, which embraced New Brunswick, Nova Scotia, and the greater part of Maine the fight between the English provincials and the French was made more successful for the English as the time went on by the proximity of the British fleet. Although by the treaty of St. Germain-en-Laye in 1632, Acadia had been restored to France and Comma-deur de Razilli had been ordered to receive it for that power, the English provincials would not let the French rest in peace. Although greatly outnumbered the French maintained their own even on the sea in the lower provinces for nearly 100 years.

In 1696 the Chevalier Simon Denys de Bonnaventure departed from France in command of the *Envieux*, of 44 guns, accompanied by the Chevalier Le Moyne d'Iberville in the *Profond*, for the protection of the Acadian coasts and to fight the English. He was the son of Pierre Denys, Sieur de La Ronde, grandmaster of the forests and waters of New France and grandson of Simon Denys, Seigneur de la Trinite, receiver-general of the company of New France at Quebec. He inherited the great seigneurie of Bonnaventure, whose extent embraces a county of the same name in the Province of Quebec.

In the same year (1696) the Chevalier de Bonnaventure participated in the capture of Permaquid, on the Penobscot, from the English, as well as in the seiz-

ure of their frigate *Newport*, and he chased the *Solings*, of 34 guns, and its consort back into the port of Boston. In his career as commander on the coast, he was the terror of the English privateers and pirates, many of whom he captured, even under the guns of the New England forts. In 1705, being next in authority to the royal governor, de Brouillan, he was deputized by him to act as governor, when de Brouillan returned to France. He expected to be confirmed in that position by the King, but the Jesuits, of whose intermeddling with civil affairs he had complained, obtained the appointment of the Baron de Subercase instead. But, says Kingsford, in his History of Canada (vol. III. p. 85) he aided the man who was chosen in his stead conscientiously and for the good of the country through the difficulties and dangers of the time. His son, Claude Denys, de Bonnaventure, became an admiral of France, after participating in the defence of Cape Breton as major of the marines in that province, the only full admiral in all Canadian history being his father's comrade, the Chevalier d'Iberville.

Another of these Denys—brother of the first Bonnaventure—Louis Denys de La Ronde, had military command in 1704 at Port Royal, and on his part chased the Anglo-Americans from that province, by his vigorous military expeditions. It seems that the cause of these hostilities was the encouragement given by Dongan, governor of New York in 1690 to the Iroquois Indians against the