

Newfoundland to the south shores of the great lakes. That figure seems to me a very large one.

In the spring of 1649 a *Camp Volant* was organized under the command of Charles J. d'Ailleboust des Musseaux, nephew of the new Governor-General, M. d'Ailleboust. It numbered forty men, and its duty consisted in patrolling on the St. Lawrence between Montreal and Three Rivers. At Quebec, ten or twelve soldiers only remained.

On the 6th June, 1651, the Governor-General, being at Three Rivers, appointed Pierre Boucher* as captain of the militia at that place, and Nicholas Rivard† captain at Cap de la Magdelaine. The instructions given to Boucher are very interesting. He was ordered to divide the borough into four sections, to drill his men, to have target practice and instruction in cleaning and preserving their arms, and to have a guard constantly on the look-out, &c.

Thus we have soldiers from 1642; volunteers from 1649, and sedentary militia from 1651, if not before.

A document dated Three Rivers, August 5th, 1652, states that the purchaser of a certain lot of land that day was "Guillaume Guillemot, Escuyer, Sieur Duplessis Kerbodot, Capitaine du *Camp Volant*, gouverneur du fort et habitation des Trois-Rivières, nommé par M. de Lauzon." This would show that M. de Lauzon on taking the reins of administration in the autumn of 1651, put his relative Duplessis in the position occupied formerly (since 1649) by d'Ailleboust des Musseaux.

As Duplessis Kerbodot was killed on the 19th August 1652, near Three Rivers, together with about fifteen Frenchmen—of whom three are noted down as being soldiers—the *Camp Volant* became disorganized during the following

*Hon. Pierre Boucher de Boucherville is his direct descendant.

†Ancestor of the present Mayor of Montreal.