

Territories of Hudson's Bay, declared war on the 8th May, 1689. On the 7th June, the King of France, presuming that owing to "the present troublesome conjuncture" in England, the English would not have adopted "great precautions in those parts" (Hudson's Bay) desired de Frontenac to afford the Canadian Company the protection it might need "as well for the expulsion of the English from the posts they occupy at Hudson's Bay as for the continuation of trade." (1) On the 25th June the French declared war. (2)

APPENDIX
OF MANITOBA.

Sec. III.

Report of T.
K. Ramsay,
Q.C., March,
1873.

17. Hostilities which had been carried on at Hudson's Bay in spite of the Treaty of Neutrality, sanctioned by the Declaration of War, continued with all the force the rival Companies could command. The dashing courage of d'Iberville turned the scale in favour of the French, and the English Companies loudly complained of their losses (*note P*). In Europe William's appeal to arms had not produced all the results he desired, and the Treaty of Ryswick (3), by which his title to the English throne was acknowledged, was concluded with a total disregard of the rights and interests of "The Merchants Adventurers of England trading into Hudson's Bay." Most dolefully did they complain that in the general rejoicings at peace, they alone were left to grieve (4). Nevertheless it would seem that their sufferings were not altogether insupportable, for the Commissaries named never reported (*note Q*), and things went on at Hudson's Bay pretty much as they had done before, until the Treaty of Utrecht (5) transferred to the English the "Bay and Straits of Hudson, together with all lands, seas, sea-coasts, rivers and places situate in the said Bay and Straits, and which belong thereunto, no tracts of land or of sea being excepted which are at present possessed by the subjects of France." But it is agreed on both sides to determine within a year by Commissaries, to be forthwith named by each party, the limits which are to be fixed between the said Bay of Hudson and the places appertaining to the French. And "the above-mentioned most Christian King" undertook that satisfaction should be given according to the rule of justice and equity, to the English Company trading to the Bay of Hudson, for all damage and spoil done to their colonies, ships, persons, and goods, by the hostile incursions and depredations of the French in time of peace, an estimate being made thereof by Commissaries to be named at the requisition of each party (6).

18. The stipulation to surrender the posts near Hudson's Bay, in the possession of the French at the time of the Treaty was at once carried out, the forts being delivered up under orders from the King of France in 1714 (7).

19. Commissaries were appointed to define the limits, but they never arrived at any decision (*note R*); but both countries seem to have acquiesced in the idea that the watershed, or the height of land dividing the waters which flow north from those which flow south, was the real boundary between Canada and the Hudson's Bay territory.

20. This conclusion, with only slight variation, is supported by numerous maps, both French and English, by Douglas, who gives the whole line from the Atlantic Coast; by Bellin (8), who gives the limits of Canada, and by Mr. Bouchette, Surveyor-General of Canada. In the map published by the Government of Quebec in 1870, the same line of highlands is unhesitatingly adopted. As it has been already shown, the principle that the watershed was the natural limit of an unexplored country was generally acquiesced in. The rivers were the only highways, and the utmost limit of a possession could hardly be interpreted to extend further than those claiming it could go.

21. Nor is there anything to contradict this view to be found in the voluminous correspondence

(1) Garneau 2, p. 51.

(2) Garneau 2, p. 137, says the English lost all their forts by the capture of Fort Nelson, 1697; but this is an error. See *note G*.

(3) 10-20 Sept., 1697.

(4) Memorial of Company, exposing state of their affairs, 19th January, 170½, Pownall papers: M.S. in Parl. Lib. In the Quebec Act, the Company is thus styled: "The Merchants Adventurers of England, trading into Hudson's Bay."

(5) Article 10.

(6) Article 11.

(7) Jeremie (Noel Jeremie Lamontagne, see l'Abbe Ferland, 2de partie, p. 279 *note*) Recueil de Voyages du Nord, vol. 5, Amsterdam, 1732.

(8) Already quoted, p. 8.