

York. In 1763, when Canada passed definitively into the hands of the British, the fortifications of Isle-aux-Noix fell into decay and the island was lost sight of till the outbreak of the American Revolution. In 1775, the Americans planned a campaign against Canada and made Isle-aux-Noix, one of their bases. From this post Montgomery issued his famous proclamation to the French Canadians, declaring that he came to wage war not on them or their religion, but solely on the British. In the Autumn of 1776, the island was evacuated by Benedict Arnold and his army, who were pursued by Burgoyne.

In 1781, Isle-aux-Noix became the scene of diplomatic negotiations. The people of Vermont, becoming dissatisfied with Congress, in consequence of what they regarded as an unjust dismemberment of their state in favor of New Hampshire and New York, dispatched commissioners to the British authorities on the frontier, ostensibly for exchange of prisoners, but in reality to treat with them about a return to British allegiance. The place of meeting was Isle-aux-Noix. The conference led to no result, except that it probably induced Congress to come to terms with Vermont.

After the American Revolution, the works at Isle-aux-Noix were once more allowed to fall to ruins. They remained in that condition for nearly thirty years, but in 1813, when England and the United States were again at war, regular fortifications were set up and have been retained ever since. They were strengthened during the excitement of the Trent affair and are, at the present time, in a high state of efficiency. There is no question that the point is a strong one for defensive operations.

#### II.—ST. JOHNS.

The situation of this Town, at the head of navigation in the direction of Lake Champlain, pointed it out to the early French engineers as a proper place for the erection of