

for firearms; so it was proposed to form a naval establishment in Canada and make use of this Canadian iron in shipbuilding. Orders were accordingly given for erecting docks at Quebec for building men-of-war, but nothing was in effect accomplished.\*

We next hear of these forges in the articles of capitulation between their Excellencies Major-General Amherst, Commander-in-chief of His Britannic Majesty's troops and forces in North America, on the one part, and the Marquis de Vaudrenil, etc., Governor and Lieutenant-Governor for the King in Canada, on the other, on the 8th of September 1760.

Article XLIV says: "The papers of the Intendancy, of the officers of Comptroller of the Marine, of the ancient and new treasurers of the King's magazines, of the officers of the revenue, and *forges of St. Maurice*, shall remain in the power of M. Bigot, the Intendant, and shall be embarked for France in the same vessel with him; these papers shall not be examined."

The Intendant arrived safely in France, but was at once seized and imprisoned, and made to disgorge most of his ill-gotten gains.† The forges and all pertaining to them now passed into the hands of the British Crown, and, although for some years there are no records, there is no doubt that they were worked.

In 1767 the Crown, which was represented at that time by Governor Murray, leased the tract of land and works for sixteen years from the 19th of June, to Christophe Pellisier, Alexandre Dumas, Thomas Dunn, Benjamin Price, Colin Drummond, Dumas St. Martin, George Alsopp, James Johnson, and Brook Watson, at a rental of £25 currency per annum. In 1775 the American invasion occurred, when it appears that Pellisier helped the invaders with both goods and money, and went to see them at Holland House, near Quebec; he also cast shot and shell for them to be used in the siege of Quebec, and finally, the night before the battle of Point du Lac, where the invaders were beaten by the English under General Carlton, he ran off to Sorel and the United States, taking with him all the funds, as also the vouchers for the money advanced to the Americans, about £2000, got them cashed, and sailed for France. This crippled the company, but, by dint of hard work, they managed to recover and continued operations till the expiration of their lease.‡

\* *History of America* by William Russell, of Gray's Inn., London, 1778, Book iv., p. 372.

† Farkman's *Montcalm and Wolfe*.

‡ F. C. Wurtele.