

La Tour heard of his coming and fortified his place and armed his troops.

Le Borgne, to get experience in warfare, thought he would attack first Denys de Fronsac, because that individual, not expecting an attack, was unprepared. He captured Denys, who was alone, and obtained by ruse, while Denys was asleep, the fort St. Pierre, but Denys escaped and recaptured it. At this period, 1654, however, the greedy Puritans, who had been watching their chance, swooped down on La Tour and Le Borgne—one after the other—with a safely contrived, overwhelming force and captured both. They feared, however, to proceed further north into Denys de Fronsac's country, for in the meantime, although greatly inferior in men, he had fortified his positions and had driven the English out of the islands of La Madeleine. By the treaty of Breda (1667) Charles II of England restored to France the portions taken by this enterprise. But Denys's turn was coming next. He had been commissioned governor-in-chief of the country in 1654, and in 1670 an adventurer, named La Giraudiere, with considerable influence among the West Indian Company, obtained a commission of command over the same country. La Giraudiere, with this commission made use of one of the King's ships of war and presented himself before Denys's fort at Chedabucton (Guysborough, Nova Scotia, where remains of the fort are visible to this day). He demanded the surrender of the fort in the name of the King. The men of Denys were terrified at the idea of fighting against the King's officer, and he dismissed twenty of them who were weak-hearted. The rest decided to stand by their chief. Then he loaded his cannon at the fort and training them on the ship declared he would fire if La Giraudiere offered any further hostile move. Other parties sent out by La Giraudiere persuaded Denys's commandant at another fort up the country (fort St. Pierre) to surrender in the name of the King.

In the meantime Denys's men became fearful of the consequences of fighting the ships and troops of the King of France and he, to pacify them, had an interview with La Giraudiere in which he offered to go before the King and allow him to settle the matter. To this La Giraudiere agreed, and the King not only confirmed Denys in the government, but extended it further, making him viceroy of Acadia, Gasparias and Newfoundland, Cape Breton and St. John's Is-

land (Prince Edward's Island) with authority to make war and peace for the protection of his domains, treaties for the improvement of trade and industry, and to grant titles of honor. By the same commission, all the officers of the King coming into Denys's domain were commanded to obey his orders as they would the King's own. But while he obtained this signal triumph in commissions, he could obtain no indemnity for the losses he had sustained, and as though to deprive him of all means of continuing his establishment for the benefit of the country, a great fire destroyed his principal town of St. Pierre with all the stores and many of the vessels in the harbor. After this, he retired to his chateau at Nipisiguit and there wrote the first "History of North America," in the French language, which was printed in Paris in 1672. In the address to the King at the beginning he speaks thus of the needs and possibilities of Canada:

"Canada has commenced to breathe only since the attention of Your Majesty has given fresh vitality to this wavering colony. Truly Acadia would have been in the hands of our neighbors had not the same care watched for what would enrich your subjects through maritime commerce; but, Sire, since the country with which I take the liberty to present you with a description, forms the principal part of New France, the most useful and the easiest peopled, I dare to hope that Your Majesty might make to it some application of that universal means by which we see every day abundance brought out of what was formerly unfruitful. I have had leisure to examine and he convinced of the advantages offered for naval architecture and of the means of establishing permanent fisheries with an almost incredible gain in economy. Thirty-five or forty years of frequentation and dwelling in this part of America, where for the last fifteen years I have had the honor to command for Your Majesty, have given me a knowledge of its fertility. Sire, this country, such and better yet than I can represent it, in order to become profitable, has need of those fortunate influences which Your Majesty may see among his neighbors."

"Sire, I do not propose the discovery of an unknown land or promise mines of gold. . . . I offer only the experience I have gained after so many years. I hope that these will procure an audience which will give me the means of explaining to