

squadron arrived to recapture St. John's they found not a single house standing. After this a permanent garrison was stationed at St. John's. Nevertheless, in 1708 St. John's was razed again by the French.

This phase of the French-English struggle was ended in 1713 by the Treaty of Utrecht, in which France recognized English sovereignty over the whole of Newfoundland, subject to special French fishing rights on the north and west coasts.

A further attempt to seize the Island was made, however, in the closing stages of the Seven Years' War. In 1762, in a belated attempt to cut off British forces in Quebec, the French fleet landed at Bay Bulls with about 700 men and seized St. John's. They were soon ousted by a British force hastily organized and promptly despatched from Halifax. There was one more half-hearted attempt to take Newfoundland during the war following the French Revolution. Fearing a French attack, the Governor of Newfoundland took active steps to fortify the Island. About 600 Newfoundland men were trained in readiness, and a great chain was stretched across the entrance to St. John's harbour fastened to a rock which is still known as Chain Rock. In 1796 the French fleet appeared outside St. John's but after manœuvring for two days the French contented themselves with burning Bay Bulls and taking a few prisoners. So ended the last French attack on Newfoundland.

Growth of the Colony.—The century following the Treaty of Utrecht of 1713 witnessed substantial if not steady progress in Newfoundland. During the peace following 1713 the fishery expanded greatly. With the removal of the constant threat of French raids, the population began to increase despite the prohibition against settlement. Even the wars in the latter part of the century indirectly encouraged development: the laws against settlement remained largely in abeyance and, since annual fishing expeditions from English ports ran the risk of enemy action at sea, a local fishery tended to develop in Newfoundland. It is estimated that the resident population, which was perhaps 2,000 in the early 1700's, had increased by 1804 to about 20,000.

Progress was made in other directions. In 1704 Newfoundland got its first resident clergyman, in 1729 the first Governor over the whole Island, Captain Henry Osborne, was appointed. He was the first of a succession of naval governors during the 18th century who resided in Newfoundland only during the summer while the fleet was there. Some of them were outstanding men who did much for the development of the Island. With Osborne's appointment some effort was made to establish a system of civil justice. He was given authority to appoint justices of the peace and to erect court houses and prisons but, since his authority was conferred by the King and not by Act of Parliament, it was not accepted by the Fishing Admirals who continued for years to exercise their judicial powers in rivalry with the magistrates appointed by the Governor. It was not until the establishment of the first civil court in 1791 and the