

letters these words REGN. VINC. IMP. CHRIS. (Regnat, Vincit Imperat Christus, Christ Rules, Conquers, Governs,) which was erected last Good Friday by all the officers and solemnly blessed by the Reverend Father Millet. Then follow descriptions of eight buildings giving number of doors, windows, chimneys, hinges, fastenings, locks with number of boards as covering bedsteads, among the buildings are mentioned that of the commandant, the missionary's, the bake house, the chapel (probably storehouse,) a well with its cover, all which are inhabitable. the description which includes number of boards as covering on floor is signed by the witnesses.

The settlement of the country went on and wars between French, British and Indians for possession of the fur trade, The next we hear of is the order of the king by Marquis de Vaudreuil to Joncaire to obtain permission from the Senecas to build a blockhouse. Joncaire had been a prisoner with the Indians in his youth, had become a favorite, been adopted and on assembling their chiefs obtained permission to build which seems to have been at Lewiston. In a long letter from Charlevoix in 1721 to Madame de Maintenon the following descriptive passage occurs: "Now Madame, we must acknowledge that nothing but zeal for the public good could possibly induce any officer to remain in such a wild and frightful country. On the one side you may see just under your feet and at the bottom of an abyss like a torrent in its rapidity a whirlpool formed by a thousand rocks through which it with difficulty finds a passage and by the foam of which it is always covered. On the other the river is confined by three mountains placed one over the other, a proper place for the poets to make the Titans attempt to scale the heavens. On every side you discover nothing which does not inspire a secret terror.

You have, however, but a very short way to go to behold a very different prospect, behind these uncultivated and uninhabited mountains you enjoy the sight of a rich country, magnificent forests, beautiful und fruitful hills, you breathe the purest air under the mildest and most temperate climate imaginable situated between two lakes."

To return to Fort Niagara. In 1725 the fortress at the mouth of the river was rebuilt on a scale of strength and permanence far superior to Denonville's hasty structure. The tradition is well supported by evidence that strategy was used for the erection of the New House or castle opposed by the Senecas who had only given permission for the erection of a storehouse. A large body of troops had arrived, but a still larger force of Indians surrounded