

due to the merchant from St. Malo, Captain Pontgravee. With these two came also Baron de Poutrincourt, who, more than either, took to the land, and found grow around Port Royal the sweet associations of a home.

In 1604 the shadow of the priest appeared, and in the early years of the seventeenth century, a certain English Captain Argall seized a Frenchman who had dared set foot ashore at Gaspe to claim the mainland, and, burning Port Royal, began that stern conflict which, only after a hundred and fifty years of stintless waste in men and money, decided what should be the character of this continent.

Eighteen years after Argall's exploit, Canada and Acadia were ceded to France by the treaty of St. Germain. But by the treaty of Utrecht in 1713, Acadia was restored to England. Quickly the war clouds gathered, for just what Acadia meant had never been officially announced. Certainly no one had dreamt before of excluding Cape Breton from the term. Yet into the treaty these words were gotten: "The island of Cape Breton . . . shall hereafter belong of right to the King of France, who shall have liberty to fortify any place or places therein." It had suddenly dawned on the court at Versailles that the place was, strategically, of prime importance.

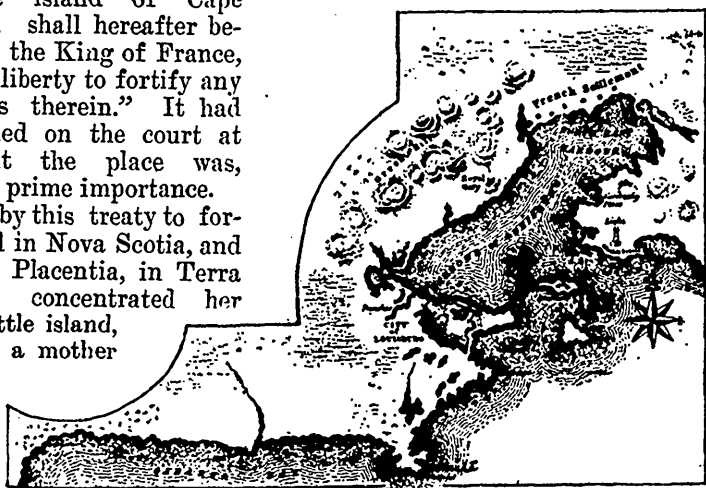
Forced, then, by this treaty to forsake Port Royal in Nova Scotia, and Plaisance, now Placentia, in Terra Nova, France concentrated her forces in this little island, and held it as a mother holds the one child left of a large family. She fixed on Louisbourg as

the harbour best suited to her purposes.



CAPTURE OF LOUISBOURG, 1745.

What these were was soon to be seen. Scarcely had she settled at Louisbourg when men were moving to and fro, trying to stir the Acadians to revolt in hope of winning back what had been bartered away. Failing any immediate result it was hoped that the seed thus sown would yield a happy harvest by and by. In view of this, and to prepare for it, fortifications were begun in 1720. "Henceforth for more than twenty-five years the French Government devoted all



MAP OF LOUISBOURG, 1758.