

lished in 1652. Two years later he went to France to arrange for the publication of his book, leaving as Lieutenant his young son, Richard.

It is at this point that the latter enters the arena of New Brunswick history and that the series of documents treated of by Dr. Ganong has its beginning. Nicholas Denys remained in France until 1685, leaving Richard in command until his return to Nepisiguit, where he died in 1688, aged ninety years.

Richard Denys was probably born at Saint Peters, in Cape Breton, in 1654. He was, I think, the first Frenchman born in Acadia who rose to prominence in his native land. His mother was Marguerite de la Faye, who shared her husband's life in Acadia, and died a few years before him. Richard, no doubt, grew up at Saint Peters amid the primitive surroundings of a frontier post, in the company of Indians, hunters, fishermen and traders. This is the happiest life in the world for a healthy youth, and it prepared him well for the duties which fell to him when, at the age of seventeen, his father placed him in command of all his vast government.

In a decree of the Sovereign Council, dated October 31, 1676, we are informed that three English ketches, taking coal from the island of Cape Breton, which belonged to Sieur Nicholas Denys, were captured by Michael Le Neuf, Sieur de la Valliere, whose wife was Françoise Denys, daughter of Simon and cousin of Richard.

The third of the series of documents treated of by Dr. Ganong, contains account of Nepisiguit and Miramichi in 1677 and 1678. A quotation follows from the work of that scholarly and appreciative Recollet missionary, Father le Clercq, descriptive of a visit he made in the above-mentioned years, although his book was published in 1691.

Document No. 4 is a Certificate of the intendant Du Chesneau concerning the nobility of the family Denys, the facts therein stated being confirmatory of the account of the Denys family given by F. G. Forsyth de Fronsac in his memorial of his family privately printed at Boston, 1903.

Regarding the assumption by Richard Denys of the title Sieur de Fronsac, we are informed that his father, Nicholas Denys, never bore the title, although it is ascribed to him in many recent books. It was probably in consequence of the "lettres de noblesse" of 1668 to his uncle that Richard assumed the title. Dr. Ganong presumes that the name Fronsac was taken from a place of that name in the Strait of Canso, near where Richard was born, which place was probably named in honor of Richelieu, who was Duc de Fronsac, and a patron of Nicholas Denys's friend, Razilly, if not of Denys himself.

While Richard's family name is commonly spelled Denis in