

field and Haverhill. Indeed, there was scarcely a hamlet of the Massachusetts and New Hampshire borders that did not suffer at the hands of these marauding bodies of French and Indians. The inhabitants were put to an immense expense in protecting themselves; and one writer calculates that it cost Massachusetts a thousand pounds to kill an Indian. The only excuse which has been offered for this savagery, is the fear lest the Indian allies of the French might either pass over to the English, or become neutral.

ACADIA.

It was not to be expected that the people of New England should receive so many injuries from their neighbors without some attempt at retaliation; and the French settlement in Acadia was temptingly near at hand; and, not for the first time, they determined to carry the war into the enemy's country. Port Royal, soon to receive the name of Annapolis from the reigning English Sovereign, was the centre of Acadia, and very badly governed, and matters went ill between the civil powers and the clergy. The government at home were harassed with complaints from the colony, whilst Blenheim and the other victories of their enemies were endangering the throne. Major Church was the first to make an attack on Acadia, and he was guilty of considerable cruelty, but did nothing really in the way of reprisals, although the governor, Dudley, of Massachusetts, must share the blame. At last, Colonel Nicholson was appointed by the united governors of the English provinces to take command of an expedition against Canada.

Preparations to resist his progress were made by the French, but they were ill-directed, and a great alarm spread throughout the country when it became known that the English were aiming at the conquest of the colony. The English found many difficulties in their way, a pestilence having broken out among them; they were detained by the non-arrival of the fleet expected at Boston, and they learnt at last, that the promised forces had been sent to Portugal.

After a good deal of delay, in the following year (1710), Viscount Shannon

was ordered to Boston with reinforcements; more men were raised in Massachusetts, who were promised leave to return home as soon as Port Royal should be taken. On September 24th, the squadron entered the narrow entrance to Port Royal. One vessel was lost, with twenty-six men. The others got in and landed their troops. The governor, Subercase, soon saw that there was no hope of holding the place and made proposals for a capitulation on honorable terms. The garrison were allowed to march out with the honors of war, and were sent by English ships to France. It was at this time, that Nicholson, on taking possession of Port Royal, gave it the new name of Annapolis Royal. It had twice before been taken by the New Englanders, and had been twice restored by treaty, to the French. It now passed, finally, to the English, and with it the province of Acadia.

FRENCH AND NEW ENGLAND.

About this time began the intermeddling of the French with the internal affairs of the British Colonies. The happy thought occurred to a French officer that the English were not so much thinking of conquering Canada as of keeping down their own colonists. It was an excellent device to convey this information to the Bostonians, and to offer them complete exemption from French attacks, if they would promise to give no more assistance to England, in ships or men. But, when the emissary got to Boston, he was detained on account of preparations being then made for an attack on Canada, and the mission proved a failure. The French suggestion, however, was not entirely groundless.

ANOTHER ENGLISH FAILURE.

We have seen how designs were formed in France for the destruction of British rule on this continent, and the annexation of her colonies. It now became the turn of Great Britain to aim at the overthrow of French rule in Canada. A considerable force was prepared and put under the command of Colonel Hill, who obtained the appointment simply because he was a brother of the Queen's favorite, Mrs. Masham. He was no soldier, and had obtained his rank of