

Montreal, Amherst being the Governor General. The active working of the iron forges of the St. Maurice was an object to which he at once directed his attention and very complete details of these forges will be found in the general correspondence as well as in the volumes specially devoted to the accounts (B 21-1 and 21-2.)

Haldimand complained of the litigious character of the inhabitants of his government who, he said, in a letter to Amherst of the 22nd June, 1762, were as bad as those of Montreal, and that the officers of militia were tormented with bad lawyers. He, therefore, called a meeting of the officers, submitted to them a placard which he had prepared for distribution, proposing a remedy for this state of things. This they approved of, and the result was the amicable settlement of nearly all the disputes. In the following July he reported a fire, which caused great distress; to relieve this, he had applied to the different parishes for assistance in wood, &c., to rebuild the houses, and had authorized a lottery, which he thought might produce £100 sterling; Gage also sent assistance from Montreal. Another fire in July of the following year did less damage.

On the 25th August, 1762, he reported that the receipt of the news of the taking of Newfoundland by the French produced no disquieting effect on the minds of the Canadians. His belief of their feelings is thus stated :

“I am persuaded that they would be in despair were they to see a French fleet and troops arrive in this country in any number whatever; they begin to taste too well the sweets of liberty to be the dupes of the French; they are now engaged at their harvest peacefully, and it is a good one this year.”

He believed also that the real object of the French in their attack on Newfoundland was to make a claim for certain rights over the fisheries should peace be concluded.

In March, 1763, Burton returned from the Havana, and Haldimand transferred to him the command at Three Rivers, but in October following, Burton and Gage having both declined the position, Haldimand became Governor of that place.

In March, 1764, General Amherst made application to the different Provinces for men to act against the Indians in conjunction with the regular troops, 300 to be Canadians, and of this number Three Rivers was to raise 60. On the 9th of March Haldimand called the captains of militia together, desiring them to assemble the young men, to lay the order before them and to ask for volunteers. On the 25th he wrote to Gage that his (Gage's) plan of offering the Canadians money had not been successful, they believing that this was an offer to purchase their services for life, having under the old rule been obliged to serve when called out. Haldimand's plan was certainly the best, if it be judged by results, as by the 9th of April he was able to write that his contingent had been complete for some days, whilst in Quebec men had to be draughted. The men he raised were stated by Gage, after they were reviewed in Montreal, to be the best of the contingents sent