

1759. munition left, and then to blow it up, and follow him; as to himself he set sail with the Remainder of the Army for ^a *St. Frederic*, and landed afterwards, according to his Instructions, at the *Isle Aux Noix*.— Upon this Island he erected such a Number of Works, as to render it by all Accounts impregnable, and every one agrees who has taken a View of them, that the *Isle Aux Noix*, had it been attacked, would have proved the Church-yard of the *British Army*.—I will not pretend to say that the insuperable Strength of this Island prevented General *Amberst* from presenting himself before it (as was daily expected) but thus much is certain, that he sent off some Bateauxs under Cover of three Vessels to reconnoitre it, and afterwards thought proper to postpone his Designs till the following Spring.

Sir *William Johnson* on his Side, who after the Conquest of *Niagara*, was to have advanced to *Presentation Fort*, and from thence to *Montreal*, never made his Appearance at all; contented, it seems, with the taking of *Niagara*, and having defeated the Reinforcements brought by *Monsieur De Lignery*, he had no Inclination to expose his Troops to new Dangers, or, as has been conjectured, was employed on more material Services elsewhere.

A thousand Causes have conspired to bring on the Calamities which have distressed this Colony; however, I don't undertake to give a History of them; I shall only observe, that we have committed one Mistake upon another in such a Manner, as to have the Appearance of Design, and as if they were done on Purpose, and that the Evil is grown to such a Height, as at this time scarcely to be remedied.

With regard to *France*, our Dependance upon it is so precarious, that

^a The Fort at *Crown Point*.

“ It was however like *Carillon* abandoned the following Year upon the Appearance of an Attack. “ Colonel *Haviland* with his Corps took Possession of the *Isle Aux Noix*, “ which the Enemy abandoned on the 28th (*August 1760*.)”

General Amberst's Letter of September 8, 1760.