

anxious to propitiate his neighbors, knowing how necessary it was to retain their friendship, approached them with amicable overtures, and finally succeeded in obtaining a partial revocation of the obnoxious order. But other dangers and difficulties soon presented themselves.

It would appear, as far as we can judge from the authorities at hand, that La Tour had still many enemies in France, who were industriously engaged in working his ruin. Among the number must be placed one La Borgne, a creditor of D'Aulnay, who had been deeply incensed at the marriage of the widow with La Tour. He determined on making an effort, not only to obtain possession of Charnisay's property, but to usurp the position he had held in Acadia. A man of large wealth, he had no difficulty in engaging the services of a large force, with which he sailed to America some time during the year 1654, and immediately commenced operations against M. Denys, who had been in the country ever since he accompanied De Razilli to Acadia in 1632. He had been industriously engaged in trade, at different places on the eastern coast of Nova Scotia and Cape Breton (Isle Royale). At the time of La Borgne's expedition he was on a visit to his post at St. Anne's (Port Dauphin) on the island, but before he could make any preparations for his defence he was surprised, and sent a prisoner to Port Royal, where his enemy already held possession. M. Denys appears to have been treated with great harshness by his captor; but after some months' imprisonment he was allowed his liberty, and enabled to go to France, where he laid his case before the King, and succeeded in obtaining a recognition of his rights in Acadia.\*

Whilst La Borgne was preparing to attack La Tour, another party appeared on the scene of action. By this time the civil war had been fought in England, the king

\* It was from Nicolas Denys, Sieur de Fronsac, that the Strait of Canso received its former name of Fronsac. He was of a very enterprising character.

beheaded, and Cromwell become Lord-Protector of the commonwealth. In the course of 1653 very strong representations had been made to the Protector by the New England colonies, respecting the movements of the French in America, and the necessity of immediate steps being taken to reduce the country to the dominion of Great Britain. Peace then nominally prevailed between the two countries, but we have seen in the case of Argall that such a fact made little difference in America—that there matters were carried with a high hand, and without reference to international obligations. A fleet, which had been sent out by Cromwell, to operate against the Dutch colony of Manhattan, arrived at Boston in June, 1654, but the news came a few days afterwards, that peace had been proclaimed between England and Holland. Thereupon the fleet was secretly directed against the French in Acadia; and as La Tour was not in a position to make any resistance, he soon capitulated. A few weeks later all Acadia was in the hands of the English.

We have now very little to add to this historical sketch. Both La Borgne and Denys were almost ruined by the events that followed the fall of Acadia, and obliged to retire for a time from the country; but La Tour appears to have been more fortunate than the rest of his countrymen. He was now far advanced in years, and unable to resist the evil destiny that seemed to follow all the efforts of France to establish herself in Nova Scotia. He saw the folly of resisting the English, and bowed to the inevitable logic of events. No doubt the injuries he had received from his own countrymen, together with the apathy which the French Government displayed in the affairs of Acadia, induced him to place himself under the protection of the English. The representations he made to the Protector met with a favorable response, and obtained for him letters patent, dated Aug. 9, 1656, granting to him, Sir Charles La Tour, in conjunction with Sir Thomas Temple, and William Crowne, the whole territory of Acadia—the mines and mine-