

and even from the United States. Probably some twenty-five per cent of our population is from these sources, but it has come so gradually and been assimilated so well, that, except for numbers, it has hardly produced any great effect upon our people as they are to-day. In this period, we have of course, developed some new customs, words, laws, etc., and have developed the province in very many respects.

Perhaps in this hasty sketch of our indebtedness to past periods, I have missed some things of importance, and if so, I hope that others will properly set them forth.

NICHOLAS DENYS.

BY JAMES HANNAY, D.C.L.

The story of the rivalries and conflicts of Latour and Charnisay has been frequently told, but comparatively little has been written of their contemporary, Nicholas Denys, who was certainly a man of mark, and who enjoys the distinction of having written a book on Acadia which even at the present day can be read with interest. In these volumes, Nicholas Denys speaks to us still, while Latour and Charnisay are only known to us through the writings of others. Indeed, we are indebted in no small degree to Denys for what we know of the lives and characters of the two men we have named. Unfortunately the work of Denys is so rare that it is not available to the general public; but I am glad to know that a translation of it by Sir John Bourinot, is shortly to be published.

Nicholas Denys was born in France in the year 1598, and he came to Acadia with the Commander Isaac de Razilly in 1632, when the latter took possession of the country on behalf of the French King. Denys seems to have been well known to De Razilly prior to his voyage to Acadia, for he entered into partnership with him for the prosecution of the shore fisheries. De Razilly then dwelt at La Have, while the principal fishery was at Port Rossignol, the place now known as Liverpool, Nova Scotia. De Razilly and Denys had for a partner a Breton merchant of Auray, and a ship load of fish which was sent to him sold well. Denys afterwards sent the "Catherine," of two hundred tons, to Portugal with a load of codfish.