

remark, that I consider it one of the greatest pieces of good fortune of my life that this work had not earlier been done, and that there has fallen to me the highly congenial task of translating and editing this important book, devoted to a country and to subjects which interest me so much.

In making the translation my first intention was to keep as closely to the original as was consistent with making its meaning clear, but later I realised that it was best to try to render into plain English the exact meaning of the author as I understand it, making adherence to the form but secondary. It is probable that the translation suffers somewhat from relics of the earlier in the later plan. In order to make the meaning clear I have had often to depart rather widely from the literal diction, and especially from the arrangement of phrases and sentences, of the original. In places it has been necessary to add explanatory or equivalent words, but these I have always enclosed within square brackets; and in the same way I have added the pages of the original at the proper places, so that the reader may very readily turn from translation to original and *vice versa*. In every case I have retained Denys' own spelling of Acadian proper names, though I have capitalised them. But I have translated the geographical terms Cap, Baye, Isle, &c., except when these form an integral or inseparable part of the name; then they are left untranslated. In the interests of brevity I have omitted from the notes any discussion of the many philological or grammatical problems, no matter how curious or difficult, raised by the book, so long as the meaning is certain, though I have briefly discussed them in those few cases in which even the aid of competent scholars has failed to make the meaning perfectly plain. In addition to reprinting Denys' own illustrations, I have added various maps which I have myself drawn expressly to supplement the notes and text; and I have added also some photographs of the places most closely associated with the life of Denys in Acadia, in order to give the reader a somewhat