

Some days after, Mr. de Biencourt and Father Biart <sup>1612.</sup> set out to visit all the coast to the Kinibequi, which they ascended for some distance; they were well received by the Canibas, an Abenaqui nation, which has given name to this river;<sup>1</sup> they obtained of them provisions, which began to fail at Port Royal, and in return, the missionary, with the help of an Indian who knew French tolerably, announced Jesus Christ to them. He found a docile people, who heard him with respect, and did not seem to him far removed from the kingdom of God.<sup>2</sup> Some Englishmen had, but a short time previously, attempted to settle on this river; but they had acted so ill towards these Indians that the latter had forced them to withdraw.<sup>3</sup> The Canibas found the French more humane, and treated with them so cordially that all seemed to promise that they would one day have in that nation a barrier against enterprising neighbors, who recognize no limits to their colonies but such as they cannot pass by force.

Father Enemond Masse on his side had also set out to reconnoitre the country and the dispositions of the people in favor of Christianity. His guide was a son of Mambertou, a Christian, by name Louis; but he was not able to go far, having fallen dangerously ill. This mischance threw the Indian into great distress, which the missionary at first supposed sprung entirely from attachment to him; but he soon saw that it had another cause. One day, when he was very low, Louis came and begged him to write to Mr. de Biencourt that he was sick and dying;

Father Biart visits the Abenakis.

Strange idea of an Indian.

<sup>1</sup> It was formerly called Canibequi. —*Charlevoix.*

<sup>2</sup> Biard, *Relation de la Nouvelle France*, pp. 35, 36.

<sup>3</sup> Biard, *Relation de la Nouvelle France*, p. 36. He gives the date as 1608-9. Evidently Popham's colony, begun in 1607, abandoned in 1608. Biard, in his letter to the Provincial, January 31, 1612, would seem to in-

dicate that the Indians believed they had killed Popham by magic. *Carayon, Documents Inédits*, xii., p. 70. He puts the repulse of the English by the Indians in 1609, when eleven English were killed. Weymouth had been here in 1605. See Rosier, *Mass. Hist. Soc. Coll.*, series 3, vol. viii.; *Maine Hist. Soc. Coll.*, vol. v.; *Laverdière's Champlain* (1613), p. 74.