

1629.

and fought well. But besides the inability of his vessels to manœuvre as well as those of Kertk, they were of inferior force. They were soon crippled and compelled to surrender ;¹ so that the bark, after inspiring a brief joy at Quebec, "only served to increase," says Champlain in his *Memoirs*, "the number of mouths to eat his peas."²

Cham-
plain's em-
barrass-
ment.

The harvest, which was very scanty, the eel-fishery, and some elk brought in by the Indians from their hunt, restored for two or three months a little ease to the town and its people ;³ but this exhausted, they were plunged into greater scarcity than ever. One resource remained, on which great hopes were built. Father Philibert Noyrot, superior of the Jesuits, and Father Charles Lallemant had gone to France for aid, and had found in the generosity of their friends wherewith to charter a vessel and load it with provisions.⁴ They embarked themselves, together with Father Alexander de Vieuxpont and a brother named Louis Malot ; but this vessel never reached Quebec. A violent southeast wind drove it on the coast of Acadia, where it was wrecked. Father Noyrot and Brother Malot were lost. Father Vieuxpont joined Father Vimond on the island of Cape Breton ; and Father Lallemant having embarked in a Biscayan vessel to carry the news of the misfortune to France, was again wrecked near San Sebastian, but fortunately escaped.⁵

¹ The action took place July 18, 1628 (*Sagard, Histoire du Canada*, p. 939). Fathers Lalemant and Raguenau were taken and carried to London (*Creuxius*, p. 19).

² Champlain, pp. 164, 185 ; *Sagard, Histoire du Canada*, p. 940, 950 ; *Creuxius, Historia Canadensis*, p. 19. *Sagard* gives in his history (ch. ix., x.) an account of the loss of de Roquemont's fleet, and especially of one ship carrying two Recollects, Fathers Daniel Boursier and Francis Girard.

³ They bought the eels, etc., of the Indians with beaver-skins : *Champlain, Voyages*, p. 167 ; *Sagard, Histoire du Canada*, pp. 974, 975 ; *Creuxius*, p. 22.

⁴ This vessel, carrying Noyrot, was not with de Roquemont's fleet, and put back to France. Lalemant, who had been carried to London, rejoined Noyrot, and then the vessel sailed again : *Creuxius, Historia Canadensis*, p. 20.

⁵ Letter of Father Charles Lalemant to the superior of the college