

to the Chevalier de Grand-Fontaine a post which, as the English themselves avowed, brought him an income of 80,000 livres.<sup>1</sup> The commission, by virtue of which the French governor was put in possession of this place, bears date March 5, 1670,<sup>2</sup> and gives the limits of his government from the Quinibequi (Kennebec) to the river St. Lawrence, according to the act of taking possession drawn up in 1630, by Commander de Razilly, in the name of King Louis XIII. 1667-70.

Matters being thus arranged in regard to Acadia and the Provinces bordering on it, and the court of France having recognized the necessity of facilitating the deriving of any assistance to be had from Quebec, in order to put them beyond reach of a new invasion, it was necessary to open a convenient road between that capital and Port Royal, or Pentagoët;<sup>3</sup> for at first they confined themselves to the restoration of these two posts; Mr. de Courcelles, in the same letter to Colbert in which he solicited his recall, informed that minister that, but for his ill health, he would himself have already carried out this project. On his failure to do so, Mr. Colbert, who had its execution much at heart, sent Mr. Patoulet, Commissary in the Navy, to Acadia, with orders to visit all the posts, and give him an exact account. The visitation was performed with all possible care, but the projected road was not made, and Acadia has ever since remained in the same languid state, from which they seemed so determined to rescue it. The English have continued to conduct abundant fisheries there, which have enriched New England,<sup>4</sup> and that at the time when men were asking in France of what use that province could be? And yet this was only the least of the advantages which it might afford the province.

<sup>1</sup> Order of Charles II., Aug. 6, 1669: *Ib.*, p. 313.

<sup>2</sup> The commission produced to Temple, bore date July 22, 1669: *Memoires des Commissaires du Roi*, ii., p. 317.

<sup>3</sup> *Mem. des Commis.*, ii., p. 299.

<sup>4</sup> To prevent the Legislature from forgetting the fishing interests, a wooden codfish has long hung in the hall of the Massachusetts Legislature.