

1672. not time to effect it. He had, as we have seen, solicited his recall to France, and on arriving at Quebec, found there the Count de Frontenac, who had come to relieve him. He without difficulty induced him to favor the design which had led him to undertake his last excursion, and early in the following spring, the new general repaired to Cataracouy, and built a fort, which as well as the lake, at the entrance of which it stands,<sup>1</sup> long bore his name.<sup>2</sup>

Mr. Talon demands his recall to France, and why.

Mr. Talon on his side did not slumber, his active and vigilant zeal did not allow him to remain a single day idle, and his superior genius gave birth only to great projects; but the dissatisfaction which he constantly received from Mr. de Courcelles, and those which he foresaw from the Count de Frontenac, whose character he was not slow in reading, made him once more think of retiring. He deemed it imprudent to commit himself with that general in a colony, too small to give separate employment to two men, who were not of a disposition to depend on one another, nor consequently to act in all things with that harmony, which requires occasional relaxation and yielding.<sup>3</sup>

Character of Mr. de Courcelles.

All things fairly considered, the departure of Mr. de Courcelles was a real loss for New France. If he did not possess as eminent qualities as his successor, he had but the least of his faults, and his passions were much less violent. He aimed sincerely at good; his prejudices against the ecclesiastics and the missionaries never prevented his

<sup>1</sup> Lake Ontario. *Charlevoix*. Ontario in Iroquois means Lake, Ontario, Beautiful Lake. See Cuoq, *Etudes Philologiques*, p. 17.

<sup>2</sup> Perrot, *Mœurs et Costumes*, p. 129; *Journal of Count de Frontenac's Voyage to Lake Ontario in 1673*; N. Y. Col. Doc., ix., p. 95; *Canada Doc.*, II., ii., p. 323.

<sup>3</sup> John Talon had been intendant at Quesnoi in Flanders, was created Baron des Islets in 1671, and Count d'Orsainville in 1675. After return-

ing to France he became captain of the Castle of Marimont and secretary of the king's cabinet. He was alive in 1680. In Canada he was a great benefactor of the Hotel Dieu at Quebec. Mother Juchereau mentions their possession of his likeness (p. 217), and the portrait engraved in this work is from a copy of it made by Mr. Th. Hamel of Quebec. She praises greatly his piety and charity to the poor, pp. 235-6. He was the Colbert of Canada.