

1686.

Preparations in Canada to expel the English.

On the other hand, those interested in the Northern Company, to which the King had conceded the fort seized by the English, seeing no prospect of obtaining from his majesty a force sufficient to replace them in possession, resolved to raise means themselves.¹ They asked Mr. de Dénouville for soldiers, and an officer to command them. That general granted them eighty men, almost all Canadians, and as commander the Chevalier de Troye, a retired captain and a man of resolution. Sainte Helene, d'Iberville, and Maricourt, all three sons of Mr. le Moyne, volunteered to accompany the expedition.² This little force set out in March, 1686, and, after undergoing many hardships, arrived at the head of Hudson's Bay on the 20th of June.³

Success of the expedition.

It began operations at once, and the first fort to which the Chevalier de Troye laid siege was that of Monsipi, on the Monsoni River. It was a stockade fort, and had four bastions covered with earth. In the middle was a house forty feet square and as many high, terminating in a plat-

¹ The French king, by a decree in council, 20th May, 1685, gave the associates a grant of St. Teresa River: De la Potherie, i., p. 147.

² James le Moyne, Sieur de Ste. Helene, second son of Charles le Moyne, received his name from an island opposite Montreal. Born at Montreal April 16, 1659. After many services, he was mortally wounded at Beauport, repulsing the English, in October, 1690: Daniel, Une Page de Notre Histoire, p. 220. Peter le Moyne, Sieur d'Iberville, one of the greatest French naval commanders, third son of Charles le Moyne, born at Montreal July 16, 1661; midshipman at fourteen. After his service at Hudson's Bay, took Fort Pemquid in 1696, reduced Newfoundland, annually visited Hudson's Bay. In 1697 totally defeated the English there. Sailed from France in 1698

for the Mississippi; found mouth in 1699. In 1706 took Nevis, and died at Havana: Daniel, Une Page de Notre Histoire, p. 223. Paul le Moyne, Sieur de Maricourt, fourth son of Charles le Moyne, born at Montreal 15th December, 1663, subsequently negotiated a treaty with the Iroquois, and died at Montreal March 21, 1704, leaving no issue, though twice married: Daniel, Une Page de Notre Histoire, pp. 228-30. Father Anthony Silvy, S. J., accompanied the force: De la Potherie, i., p. 147. See his letter, July 30, 1686, in St. Valier, Etat Présent, p. 43. He arrived in Canada 30th September, 1673; died in Canada in 1711: Martin, Catalogue in Carayon, Doc. Inédits, xiv., p. 116.

³ De la Potherie, Hist. de l'Am. Sept., i., p. 147; Collection of Treaties, i., p. 447.