

It was undoubtedly objectionable for colonists to settle thus in spots so remote from each other that they were not within reach to afford mutual assistance in case of attack; but the shortest method of remedying it was apparently to fortify the frontier of the country well against the actual enemies, and those whom it was easy to foresee they could not fail to have sooner or later to contend with. The regulation here spoken of by Colbert was re-enacted more than once, but always ineffectually. Interest, more powerful than fear, has often induced individuals to place themselves in the most exposed spots, where advantages for trade blinded them to the peril, nor has the most disastrous experience taught them wisdom.<sup>1</sup>

1666.

To return to Mr. de Tracy. He would have been glad to treat the canton of Oneida as he had just treated that of Mohawk; but the end of October approached, and however little he might defer his homeward march, he would run the risk of finding the rivers frozen, and being harassed in his retreat by an enemy whom he had provoked without greatly enfeebling. Already, even, the roads were bad enough; the troops suffered much, and one officer, with some soldiers, was drowned in Lake Champlain.<sup>2</sup>

The Viceroy, on his arrival in Quebec,<sup>3</sup> hung two or three of his prisoners as an example, and sent all the rest home with the Flemish Bastard, after showing them much kindness.<sup>4</sup> A few days later he was informed that the Sieur de la Vallière, who commanded on Isle Royal, Cape Breton, was attacked by the English.<sup>5</sup> This is all that I can

<sup>1</sup> Edits et Ordonnances, i., p. 31.

<sup>2</sup> Relation de la Nouvelle France, 1666, p. 3; M. Marie de l'Incarnation, Lettre Nov. 12, 1666. The officer lost was a lieutenant, Sieur de Luques.

<sup>3</sup> He reached Quebec Nov. 5, 1666: Le Mercier, Journal.

<sup>4</sup> M. Marie de l'Incarnation mentions the hanging of one. See ante, III., p. 88; Perrot, Mœurs, etc., p. 114.

<sup>5</sup> Cape Breton was discovered by the Bretons at an early date, and took its name from them. It was constantly visited by French vessels, and a sort of trading-post was long maintained here. The Jesuits had missions there from 1629 to about this time: Relation, 1635, p. 42; *Ib.*, 1659, p. 7. It was included in Cromwell's grant of Acadia to Temple in 1656, recognized by Charles II., but