

This party was commanded by Mr. de Portneuf, the 1690. third son of the Baron of Bekancourt, and lieutenant of Manneval's company. Frontenac had ordered him to take all that company which was in Acadia, because de Manneval, his captain and brother, was Governor of that province. Raising, also, some Canadians, and sixty Abénaquis, from the Falls of the Chaudiere, he set out from Quebec the same day that Hertel left Three Rivers. Tilli de Courtemanche acted as his lieutenant.<sup>1</sup>

From the prevailing dearth of provisions that year in Canada, the authorities could allow them but scanty supplies. This compelled them to hunt on the way: so that it was the middle of May before they reached the Abénaqui village, where Portneuf had, apparently, reckoned on swelling his force. Finding no one there, he pushed on to a second village of the same nation, on the banks of the Kinibequi,<sup>2</sup> where he learned that some warriors had recently returned from a raid on the English territory, in which they had killed six men. He persuaded these braves to follow him, as well as some Indians of the neighborhood;<sup>3</sup> and, on the 25th, he proceeded to encamp four leagues from Casco (Kaskebé), which he had resolved to attack.<sup>4</sup>

Casco Bay (Kaskebé) was a town on the sea-coast, with a very well-built fort;<sup>5</sup> it had eight pieces of artillery

<sup>1</sup> De Monseignat, Relation de ce qui s'est passé, &c., 1689-90; N. Y. Col. Doc., ix., p. 472; and Le Clercq, Etablissement de la Foi, ii., p. 391, gives him fifty Frenchmen. Tilli de Repentigny Courtemanche, *ib.*, p. 392. They left Quebec, January 28. The New England accounts, which sadly confuse French names, and divide De Portneuf into himself and one Burneffé, also bring in de St. Castin as acting a prominent part; but it is pretty clear he was not there. Robineau de Portneuf was a brother of de Menneval and de Villebon.

<sup>2</sup> Kennebec.

<sup>3</sup> Le Clercq, *ii.*, p. 391, says 150.

<sup>4</sup> De la Potherie says they reached Keskebaye, May 23. Histoire de l'Am. Sept., iii., p. 78; but the Narrative, N. Y. Col. Doc., ix., p. 47; and Le Clercq, *ii.*, p. 391, say 25th.

<sup>5</sup> The place called by the French "Kaskebé"—their mode of writing Casco Bay, which they took for the name of the town—was Falmouth, now Portland, Maine. The fort was Fort Loyal. It stood at the foot of King street. Maine Hist. Coll., i., p. 203; N. Y. Col. Doc., ix., p. 472; Willis, Portland, p. 284.