

not a little to return with less glory than his colleagues ; 1690. besides, since Hertel's arrival, his whole force eagerly clamored to be led on to the assault. All things well considered, he concluded that, situated as he was, he might interpret the General's will, and it was resolved to continue the attack on Casco Bay. On their side, the English, seeing the impossibility of holding so many forts at once, evacuated the four smaller forts, concentrating all the men to reinforce the garrison at Casco Bay, and put it in a better condition to hold out.

On the night of May 26-7th, the besiegers encamped on the sea-shore, fifty paces from the fort, covered by a very steep hill, where they had nothing to fear from the artillery. The next night they opened the trenches. Neither Canadians nor Indians had any experience in this mode of attack; but courage, and a desire for victory, atoned for want of skill. All worked with the greatest ardor; and as they were fortunate enough to find in the abandoned forts all the implements needed for throwing up the earth, the works advanced with such celerity, that, on the evening of the 28th, the besieged asked to parley.

They were told that the French wished the fort, with all its ammunition and supplies. They asked six days<sup>1</sup> to deliberate, hoping to be relieved in the interval; but only that night was granted them, and the trenches were pushed on. The next day they threw out a number of grenades, which did no execution; the French approached the palisade, prepared, as soon as they got up, to set fire to a tar barrel, and other inflammable matter.<sup>2</sup>

The besieged, seeing this machine constantly advance, and having no means of preventing its operation—

Casco surrenders, and the garrison made prisoners.

<sup>1</sup> De Monseignat, Relation, &c.; i., pp. 101-112; Mather's Magnalia, N. Y. Col. Doc., ix., pp. 472-3; Canada Doc., I., iv., p. 365, &c.; De la Potherie, Histoire de l'Amérique Sept., iii., pp. 79-80; Declaration of Sylvanus Davis, Mass. Hist. Coll., iii., i., pp. 101-112; Mather's Magnalia, Book .vii, p. 73; Willis, Hist. of Portland; Maine H. C., i., pp. 203-5.

<sup>2</sup> Bradstreet to Leisler, mentions the use of birch-bark to fire the place. O'Callaghan's Doc. Hist., ii., p. 146.