

1690. Indians incessantly overran New England, nowhere scarcely meeting any resistance. It was even just announced that forty Abénaquis had but recently defeated six hundred Englishmen in open battle, losing only six of their men, and one Canadian, Bellefont, who, after distinguishing himself greatly at the siege of Casco Bay, had joined this troop of braves.

Exploit of
the Sieur
de Montor-
gueil.

In consequence of this deliberation, orders were sent to de Montorgueil to evacuate Chedabonctou, which he could not dream of defending against the English fleet, and to bury all the cannon that he could not bring off; but that officer was no longer on this post, having sallied forth by a more glorious gateway than that prescribed for him. Admiral Phibs, after making some stay at La Héve, had proceeded to Chedabouctou; and, landing eighty men, had summoned the *Cómmendant* to surrender at discretion.¹

To this summons Montorgueil replied, that he would be buried beneath the ruins of his fort rather than surrender it to the enemies of his royal master; and his little garrison promised to sustain him with all their might. Phibs twice sent back his trumpeter to show him the folly of any effort against so powerful a force; the answer was constantly the same. He then ordered an attack, which was briskly made, but failed. This unexpected resistance either heightened his esteem for so brave a man, or made him dread the disgrace of a repulse before a "shell," defended by a handful of soldiers. He made a fourth summons, adding threats, which he deemed most likely to intimidate Montorgueil; but it was as useless as the rest.

Then he threw matches, which set fire to a thatched building. In spite of all the efforts of the garrison, the fire spread. Phibs seized the moment to summon him

¹ *Lieut. de Montorgueil to Seigne-* 4, P. M. See *De la Potherie*, iii., lay, Sept. 16, 1690, says June 13, p. 89.