

1691.

after sent to Quebec, where Frontenac received them quite well. He treated Nelson with great courtesy, not only from gratitude, that gentleman having acted very kindly to the French in several instances, but also because he enjoyed great influence at Boston.¹

Mr. de
Villebon
made com-
mandant
there.

To return to Acadia. After Admiral Phibs had effected the conquest, the Court of England seemed not anxious to retain it, and Port Royal fell to the strongest, sometimes to the French, sometimes to the English, sometimes abandoned by both alike. The Chevalier de Villebon had, as we have seen, proceeded to Quebec after the loss of the vessel that had taken him to that port. Thence he proceeded to France, laid before the Minister the ease and importance of preventing the English from planting themselves in Acadia, and undertook to effect it with the Abénaquis alone, if he was authorized to put himself at their head.²

He was listened to with favor: Mr. de Pontchartrain issued to him a royal commission to command in Acadia, and ordered him to embark for Quebec in the month of June of the current year 1691, there to receive his orders from the Count de Frontenac. His majesty at the same time notified that General, that being informed of the attachment of the Abénaquis Indians to his service, their courage, and all that they had done against the English, and wishing with the help of these brave men to maintain possession of Acadia, until he should deem it expedient to carry out the resolution he had formed of restoring Port Royal, he desired that they should be furnished, in their place of abode, with all the munitions that they had solicited through the Sieur de Villebon, his intention being that they should not be put to the trouble of going to Quebec for them; that with this object he had enjoined the said Sieur de Villebon to go and put himself at their

¹ N. Y. Col. Doc., ix., p. 527, 532.

² Villebon to Pontchartrain, Oct 12, 1691. N. Y. Col. Doc., ix., p. 506.