

1689.

Count  
Frontenac  
succeeds  
him.

Count de Frontenac was at the same time declared his successor.<sup>1</sup> The king had not been able to refuse this favor to the pressing solicitations of several of the relatives and friends of that nobleman, and especially those of the Marshal de Bellefont, who guaranteed his conduct, and whose lofty virtue was a strong recommendation to Louis XIV.<sup>2</sup> Moreover, the wretched state to which New France was reduced, and the project of the conquest of New York, required him to place at the head of the colony a man of authority, firm in character, of great military experience, already acquainted with the country, and capable of managing the Indian mind. All this was found in the Count de Frontenac, and there was every reason to hope that, with the sound sense which he possessed, he would profit by his faults and the chagrin which they had drawn upon him, to moderate his passions, and take other guides for his conduct than his prejudices and antipathies. These conjectures proved quite well founded. This general, indeed, always seemed the same to those who had the best opportunity of seeing him; but he was on his guard, and profited by the advice which he received from the Marshal de Bellefont. On the other hand, he had the finest opportunity in the world to develop his great qualities and make a glorious use of them. He rendered most important services to the state, especially during the early years of his new administration, to induce the Court to close its eyes as to several faults which escaped him, and oblige those who soon perceived that he had not changed his sentiments in their regard, to suffer in patience, and dissemble wisely.

His instructions as to Hudson's Bay.

In the instructions given him, which were signed on the 7th of June, the king informed him that on the reports received in France and England, as to the reciprocal invasions of the posts established in Hudson's Bay by the English and French, conferences had been held at London

<sup>1</sup> Commission in Arrêts et Ordonnances, iii., p. 52. done much to obtain his appointment.

<sup>2</sup> His wife is represented as having