

French and Indians down the river, in order to obtain early intelligence of the landing of the enemy which he could not prevent. The English perceiving this detachment, and supposing it much greater than it really was, feared to be compelled to engage in a doubtful contest, and retired.¹

1692.

He fails.

This failure greatly chagrined Sir (William) Phibs, but he soon had his consolation. The English had recently returned to Pemkuit, and restored their fort, from which they greatly annoyed the Indians of that district. The Chevalier de Villebon had represented to the Count de Frontenac the necessity of expelling them forever from a post which exposed us to the danger of losing our best allies, and which at least thwarted all their enterprises against New England. The General felt the importance of this project; and thought that he had found a favorable opportunity to effect it.²

D'Iberville had also left France with the design and express orders from court to go and attack Port Nelson. He had embarked on the *Envieux*, a royal vessel commanded by de Bonaventure; and he was to meet, at Quebec, with the *Poli*,³ another royal vessel, on which he was to embark. The Northern Company agreed to furnish two other vessels. It was his Majesty's intention that d'Iberville should, after capturing Port Nelson, remain there to guard it, and send back the *Poli* to France, in charge of his lieutenant.

Enterprise
against
Pemkuit.

But the *Envieux* sailed from la Rochelle so late, and met such contrary winds, that it anchored off Quebec only on the 18th of October. This was much too late for any

¹ Church, in August, pushed on to the Penobscot, and may have led his party to the St. Johns. Church's Indian Wars, ii., pp. 84-5. Mather's Magnalia, B'k. VII., p. 81; Hutchinson's Massachusetts, ii., p. 69; as I find no other expedition of the kind.

² York was destroyed Feb. 5, 1692, O.S. by French and Indians. Mather's Magnalia, ii., p. 530-1, and Wells

attacked June 10, O. S. *Ib.*, 532-6. Williamson's Maine, 628-34. Fort William Henry, at Pemaquid was rebuilt in Aug., 1692. *Ib.*, p. 635.

³ "A great Dutch square sterned ship" of 500 tons, 38 guns; and a frigate of 34, the flagship. Nelson to Gen. Court of Massachusetts, Aug. 26, 1692. Hutchinson, Mass., *Hist.* i., p. 338.