

look after their interests, seeing that this trade could not bring them in the great profit held out to them, notified the settlers at Mont Louis that they must expect no further aid from them. They went further; for they stripped the settlement of everything they could turn to use, under the pretext that they had advanced the cost of all these things, and thus they ruined all Sieur Riverin's hopes.¹

1700.

Acadia, although the English since the promulgation of peace no longer disputed our possession of it, was not in much better state than Mont Louis. The fishery there was constantly abandoned to the New Englanders, who carried on a great trade, and the Chevalier de Villebon lay quiet in his fort at Naxoat, no means being furnished him to do more.² This fort even was quite useless as a defence to the few French settlements along the St. John's River, and those in Acadia could receive no assistance from it, yet we had more than once learned by experience, that treaties of peace did not always shield our colonies from attacks from our neighbors.

Condition of Acadia.

At last on the representations made to the King's Council on the necessity of fortifying ourselves in that province, his Majesty sent over Mr. de Fontenu,³ who, after making an exact reconnoissance of the country, advised the abandonment of Naxoat. His reasons were, the frequent inundations of St. John's River preventing permanent settlements; the great difficulty of entering its mouth on account of the variety of winds and the violence of the currents, and the small size of its harbor, which would not allow three ships to anchor there without inconvenience. It was accordingly resolved to transfer this establishment

The establishment at Naxoat transferred to Port Royal.

¹ Mémoire sur l'établissement de Mont Louis, Canada Doc., III, i., p. 344. Dièreville, Relation du Voyage, p. 148, 152. Canada Doc., III, ii., p. 418.

² Chevalier Villebon died at his fort Naxoat on the St. John's in July of this year 1700. Extract of an account in Travels of Learned Missionaries, London 1714, p. 300;

³ He came over apparently in the Avenant, 44, Chevalier de Chavagnac, captain, and sailed back Oct. 6, 1700. Dièreville, Relation, p. 210, 208.