

commanded there in the absence of de la Motte Cadillac, shocked at this bravado, sent the *Sieur de Vincennes* with twenty soldiers of the garrison, with orders to attack them; which he did, and although *Detroit Ottawas* to the number of thirty came up to sustain their tribesmen, *Vincennes* attacked them so gallantly that he compelled them to take flight and abandon their prisoners, who were restored to the *Senecas*.¹

1704.

This vigorous action, and the apparent resolution of the Governor-General to treat as an enemy whoever undertook to disturb the public peace, disconcerted all the English intrigues, and retained in their duty such of the Indians as were not well disposed. What happened at the same time in Newfoundland and Acadia, showed all these nations that the French had not exaggerated in declaring that they were in a position to push the war against the English successfully.

A partisan officer named *la Grange*, a man of ability and resolution, an able navigator, who had learned to fight at *Hudson's Bay*, under *d'Iberville*, equipped two barks at *Quebec*, with a hundred Canadians. He knew that ships of war had arrived at *Bonavista*, in Newfoundland, and he went there in hopes of surprising one. On arriving within twelve leagues of that port, he left his barks to escape observation, and kept on in two gigs,² entered the port by night, boarded a 24 gun frigate loaded with codfish, captured it, burned two storeships of two to three hundred tons each, sank another small frigate and sailed off with his prize and a great number of prisoners.³

Exploit of a
French
partisan.

There were six hundred English in *Fort Bonavista*, who appeared under arms next morning, but it was too late, our gallant fellows were already under sail, and in no fear of pursuit. *La Grange* returned to *Quebec*, sold the cargo of his frigate, and freighted it for France; but off the

¹ Canada Doc., II. x., p. 410, &c. N. Y. Col. Doc., ix., p. 761.

² Charois.

³ Penhallow says he took, Aug. 18, O. S., the *Pembroke Galley* and

burned the *Society of Pool* and a lesser vessel with 30 tons of oil; but says that *Capt. Gill* in his 14 gun ship was not sunk, but beat the French off. *Indian Wars*, p. 36.