

England that she wished to have Acadia before the end of the war, and that if he could not draw from his colony sufficient forces for this conquest, she would send him aid; that the Governor and the leading members in Parliament had assured her of the success of the expedition, and that as far back as August last, they had received the thanks of her Britannic Majesty. He added that the Bostoners had exhausted themselves in this last expedition; that nevertheless a greater effort would certainly be made in the spring, and that it was the Queen's intention never to restore Acadia if she once got possession.¹

1707.

France was far from being as attentive to the preservation of this province as England was in taking steps to reduce it. The King's vessels which reached Port Royal soon after the siege was raised, brought no goods either for the settlers or the Indians, to the great perplexity of the Governor, who had retained the former in duty and induced the latter to give aid, only by promises which he saw himself unable to fulfill.

Acadia
moer
neglected
than ever.

He even declares in his letter to the minister that he had been reduced to give his very shirts, the sheets off his bed, in a word, everything that he could absolutely dispense with, in order to relieve the misery of the poorest; he adds too, in the same letter, that there was not a moment to lose, if they wished to make a solid establishment in Acadia; that this colony might in a short time become the source of the greatest trade of the kingdom; that that very year a fleet of sixty ships had sailed from New England to Spain and the Mediterranean, loaded with codfish; that a still more numerous one was soon to start for the West Indies, and that all this fish was taken on the shores of Acadia, that is to say, that the English, at the very time that they could not succeed in conquering that province, found means to enrich themselves by it, while we ourselves derived no advantage from it.²

¹ Gazette, p. 3. On the 10th the frigate Annibal, with provisions and 240 men, and two brigantines entered the harbor to reinforce the be-

seigers, but at Isle aux Chevres received such a volley that they retired.

² Compare letters of Sieur de Bonaventure, July 5, 1707; de Goutin,