

1710. easy for them to keep their word if the English of New York made any new attempt against the colony. However, he received the deputies well, and dismissed them quite satisfied.¹

Unsuccessful
expedition
to Hudson's
Bay.

The joy felt in Canada over the defeat of Vesche's great projects was somewhat damped by news of the failure of an attack by Sieur de Mantet on Fort Saint Anne in Hudson's Bay, in which that officer lost his life, and this too was a blow to the colony. The Governor-General seems to have met with some reproaches on this occasion, for in a letter addressed to de Pontchartrain the next year, he uses this language:²

"In regard to the result of the party sent to Hudson's Bay, if that expedition had not all the success I had reason to anticipate, they are strokes of fortune for which I cannot answer. My orders were very well considered. Fort Quititchouen, (Saint Anne), is not impregnable; the Sieur de Mantet had good men, provisions still for four months; he pushed up to the palisade undiscovered, and failed where a thousand others would have succeeded. It was not lack of courage or experience; but from counting too much on the bravery of those around him, and an insufficient reconnoissance of the place before attacking it. Many of those who went there have proposed to me to return, even with a smaller force, and without any expense to his Majesty."³

Early in the following year it was known at Quebec that Acadia was again menaced, and it was soon after ascertained from English prisoners, that six men-of-war had arrived at Boston with a bomb galliot and troops for landing, in order to besiege Port Royal.⁴ Some of these pris-

¹ By Ordinance, (April 13, 1709.) the slavery of negroes and Pawnees was recognized in Canada. Montreal, Hist. Soc. Memoires, p. 4.

² Jérémie, Relation de la Baye de Hudson, (Voyages au Nord, iii., p. 335.) describes the river, but omits all notices of those events as he was not then at the Bay.

³ Vaudreuil to Pontchartrain, Oct. 25, 1710. Canada Doc., III. v., p. 138. Raudot to same. Ib. 135-7.

⁴ Vaudreuil, Oct. 31, 1710, announces hearing, Sept. 6, that 3 men-of-war, a bomb-ketch and transports with 1,000 men were at Boston, where they were to take in 1,500 more to attack Port Royal. N. Y.