

oners added that it was the design of the Queen of Great Britain that after capturing that place, the squadron which took it should winter there, to come the next spring to besiege Quebec, after being reinforced by another squadron which was to sail from the ports of England with this view, before the close of the winter.

This information, which proved but too well founded, alarmed de Vaudreuil, accustomed to similar rumors every year, less than some recent outrages of our allies on the Iroquois, who nevertheless contented themselves with asking redress from him, although the Governor of New York used every exertion to induce them to take up arms. De Vaudreuil promised them the satisfaction they desired, and they positively refused to declare against us.

Dudley fared no better with the Abénaquis, whom he merely asked to remain neutral; they would never listen to any terms with him, and during this whole campaign New England beheld everywhere parties of these Indians and Frenchmen, who desolated a very extensive tract of country. On his side, de Subercase did not slumber. He had attracted to Acadia several West India buccaneers, whom he employed advantageously to make dashes on the English, whose commerce was thus greatly damaged.

He derived also another advantage, the captures made by these privateers keeping the colony in plenty, and enabling him to make rich presents to the Indians. This success inspired him with the design of forming a large settlement at Port de la Héve, but he had neither leisure nor means to carry it out. The buccaneers deserted him, when he needed them most; the minister of the navy, from whom he had solicited one or two frigates to cruise off the Acadian coast, could not send any, and soon after he had to prepare to sustain a new siege in Port Royal.<sup>1</sup>

1710.

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Col. Doc., ix., p. 849. Col. Nicholson makes the Dragon and Falmouth arrive at Boston July 1st, 1710, in B. M. ship Dragon, with the Falmouth and a bomb-ship, several transports, a regiment of marines, provisions and stores. Penhallow, p. 58. Lediard, Naval History, p. 848, makes the Dragon and Falmouth arrive July 15th from Spithead; the Leostaff and Feversham from New York.

<sup>1</sup> See letters of Subercase, Dec. 26, 1708, Jan'y 3, 1710. Canada Doc., III. v., pp. 824, 843.