

1711. but himself, the ruin of his fleet. He had on board a French prisoner named Paradis,¹ an old navigator, perfectly familiar with the St. Lawrence. This man warned him when they were off the Seven Isles, not to run too close to the shore; and, as the wind was not favorable, and they could only tack about, he tacked frequently. The admiral at last getting tired of this manœuvring, and perhaps suspecting the pilot of doing it only to tire out his crew, refused to come to stays, and ran so close to a little island called Isle aux Œufs, that, being surprised by a sudden wind from the southeast, he was wrecked there with seven others of his largest ships, from which he saved very few souls.²

What caused the loss of the fleet.

God's providence over Canada.

To deliver New France from all disquiet, there was needed only positive information as to the real disposition of the Iroquois, more to be dreaded alone, in spite of their petty numbers, than the English without them. The French had already learned that they had joined Nicholson, to the number of more than six hundred; but it was also known that they had all left him, even before he could have been informed of the wreck of part of the English fleet. The same thing occurred, as we have already seen, on almost every occasion that the two nations united against us, and independent of the reasons of policy referred to by us, it is certain that they are not constituted to act long in concert together; that haughty pride on one side, and ferocious pride on the other, will always render them incompatible, and that their mutual antipathy has hitherto been the greatest resource of New

¹ Paradis was an old navigator, taken on the Neptune from Rochelle, by the Chester, Capt. Matthews, July 25, O. S., near the mouth of the St. Lawrence. Juchereau, *Hist. de l'Hotel Dieu*, p. 481. Walker's Journal, p. 110. For his statement to Walker, see Journal, p. 119.

² As to the loss of the fleet see Sir Hovenden Walker's Journal, pp. 124-8; Penhallow's Wars of New

England, p. 65; Letter of Sampson Sheaf, Annapolis, Oct. 6, 1711, in Hutchinson, *Hist. Mass.*, ii., p. 180; Letter of Gen. J. Hill, Aug. 25, 1711, to Governor Hunter. N. Y. Col. Doc., iv., p. 277; the Feversham and three transports, the Joseph, Mary, and Neptune, were lost on Cape Breton, Oct. 7. N. Y. Col. Doc., v., p. 284. Walker's Journal, p. 25.