

1696. be robbed, that the commandant and all his men should be sent to Boston and exchanged for the French and Indians detained there, and that they should be protected against the fury of the Indians. All this was granted. Chubd and his garrison marched out of the fort that same evening, and Mr. de Villieu entered with sixty Frenchmen. The prisoners were then placed on an island under the guns of the royal ships, where there was no fear of their being annoyed by the Indians, a precaution even more necessary than at first supposed.

Villieu on entering the fort found a Canibas there in irons; and among the papers which the commandant had neglected to carry away or burn, an order recently sent from Boston, to hang this prisoner. Villieu was too prudent to communicate this order to the Indians then; but the prisoner was in the most wretched state possible, with legs stiff as a post, and seeming ready to expire. This roused his countrymen to a pitch of fury, which the French had great difficulty in controlling.¹ Fort Pemkuit was not as good a fort as it appeared; yet it is certain, that had it been defended by brave men, the result of the siege might have been doubtful, or its capture would at all events have cost many lives. Nothing required for a long defence was wanting; the powder magazine was proof to all but bombs, and even to them except in a small spot, because a rock against which it rested formed part of its vault and walls. Moreover there were in the fort fifteen pieces of artillery mounted, and nothing could be better devised or more convenient than the quarters for the officers and men.²

The 17th and 18th were spent in destroying it. D'Iberville then sent part of the garrison to the commandant of New England, notifying him that if he wished to obtain the rest and the crew of the Newport, he must at once de-

Part of the
prisoners
sent to
Boston.

¹ Baudouin, Journal, Canada Doc., III. viii., p. 38. He was apparently an Indian taken when Edzerimet was killed. N. Y. Col. Doc., ix., p. 658. Canada Doc., III i., p. 308-9.

² Baudouin, Journal, &c., p. 38; Hutchinson's History of Massachusetts, ii., p. 90. The fort contained 92 men, some women and children. N. Y. Col. Doc., ix., p. 658, iv., p. 199.