

him; as for himself, he had his land where God had placed him, and as long as a child of his nation survived, he would fight to maintain it. The English governor did not insist, and dismissed the Indians after feasting them.<sup>1</sup> 1713-22.

Reassured by this course, they no longer thought of disturbing the English who were in the neighborhood of the Kennebec: they even gradually got in the way of trading with them; but one day, having entered an English place to the number of twenty, they suddenly beheld themselves invested by two hundred armed men. "We are dead men," at once cried one of them, "but let us sell our lives dearly." They prepared, in fact, to rush on this troop, when the English, aware what these Indians are capable of when driven to bay, declared that they had no designs against them; that they merely came to invite them to send some of their chiefs to Boston to confer with the Governor-General on the means of confirming the peace and good understanding between the two nations.<sup>2</sup>

They are betrayed by the English

<sup>1</sup> Rale's Letter to his nephew, Oct. 15, 1722. *Lettres Edifiantes*. (Kip, p. 9.) The French did not admit that the Abnaki territory was comprised in Acadia, but restricted that title to the peninsula now called Nova Scotia. See *Memoirs in N. Y. Col. Doc.*, ix., pp. 878-881; Aubery's *Memoir*, 1720, *Ib.* pp. 894-5; Bobé's *Memoir*, *Ib.* pp. 913-7; *Ib.* 932-3; Answer to *Memoir of his Britannic Majesty*, *Ib.* pp. 981-2. Still the French government, as if conscious that it could not be long held, proposed to remove the Abénaqui Indians to Cape Breton, *Ib.* p. 879. Father de la Chasse urged his government to settle the boundary with England, as had been done at the treaty of Ryswick, but they would not act on his wise counsel. *Ib.*

<sup>2</sup> Rale to his nephew, Oct. 15, 1722. Vaudreuil and Begon to Louis XIV., Oct. 8, 1721, citing Rale, and

Vaudreuil to Rale, June 15. (*Hutchinson*, ii., p. 237,) mentions a division in the village in regard to any further opposition to the English and the giving of hostages, but not the treacherous action here mentioned. On the 2d Nov., 1720, at the General Court, the House ordered 150 men to march to Norridgewock to compel payment of trespasses; Rale to be apprehended by John Leighton, High Sheriff of York, but the Council refused to concur. *Hutchinson*, ii., p. 219. He remarks: "The charge of carrying on the war, it was said, would be no burden to the province; the French now durst not join the Indians, and this would be the most favorable opportunity which could be expected to subdue or utterly extirpate them." The General Court passed such a resolution in 1731, renewed in 1722, and an expedition sent. *Hutchinson*, ii., pp. 243, 245, 276.