

as the two hundred pounds of beaver were paid. 2d, 1713-22. That they were not less surprised to see them disposing of their country and settling it without their consent. 3d, That all the English must withdraw as soon as possible, and the prisoners retained contrary to the law of nations, must be given up. 4th, That if in two months there was no answer to this letter, or it did not produce the effect anticipated, the nation would do itself justice.<sup>1</sup>

This letter was taken to Boston in July, 1721,<sup>2</sup> by some Englishmen who had come to represent the Governor-General at the conference just mentioned. As the two months elapsed without hearing anything of it, the Abénaquis prepared to carry out their threats and make reprisals. None could have been more just; however, the Marquis de Vaudreuil thought it his duty to oppose acts of violence and it required all his influence to prevent them; but this did not last long. The English exhausted the patience of the Abénaquis by two acts that admit of no excuse.

The first was the kidnapping of the Baron de St. Castin. This gentlemen's father, as already stated, had married an Abénaqui woman, so that on his mother's side the young Baron belonged to that nation. He had always resided with his maternal relatives, the only ones he knew;

The English carry off the Baron de St. Castin.

<sup>1</sup> See letter, July 28, 1721, signed by Abnakis of Narantsak, Pentugset, Narakamig8, Anmisskanti, Muanbissek, Peg8akki, Medokteck, K8apahag, Pesmokanti, Arsikanteg8, San8inak, and their allies; the Iroquois of the Sault and the Mountain, Algonquins, Hurons, Mikemaks, Northshore Montagnez, Papi-nachois and other neighboring nations, each signing their own totem, Mass. Hist. Coll. II. viii., p. 259. See Treaty of Utrecht, art. 15, for English obligations.

<sup>2</sup> Vaudreuil and Begon to Louis XIV., Oct. 8, 1721. N. Y. Col. Doc., x., p. 903-4. Rale in Kip, p. 13. Penhallow, p. 86, says new troops were sent, and "some gentlemen of

the Council were appointed to inquire into the ground of these tumults, and if possible, to renew the pacification, who accordingly went, but the Indians slighted the message with derision."—During this threatening time, Rale rebuilt his church at Norridgewock, by means of French workmen, according to his letter, though Hutchinson, ii., p. 239, incidentally alludes to Boston mechanics "engaging on building a church and other work at Norridgewock." Arrowsick, the place of this conference, is in Sagadahoc Bay, about a league below the junction of the Androscoggin and the Kennebec.