

Mr. de Villebon had already put his fort in quite a good condition; he spent all the rest of the day in throwing up new intrenchments, in which he was supported heartily by his brother, by de Gannes, one of his officers, by the Sieur de la Côte, King's Scrivener, and by the Sieur Tibiergé, Agent of the Acadia Company. On the evening of the 17th, he drew up his garrison under arms at beat of drum, made them a very inspiring military address, exhorted them to despise an enemy who, with all his advantage of numbers, could not usually cope with the French, and he concluded by promising on his honor, that, if any one had the misfortune to be crippled fighting for his king and country, his Majesty would provide for his maintenance the rest of his days.

1696.

De Villebon
prepares for
defence.

This speech was answered by loud cries of "Vive le Roy," and at the same time there arrived at the fort the Sieurs de Clignancourt,¹ and Baptiste, with ten Frenchmen who resided below Naxoat. Mr. de Villebon ordered them to put themselves at the head of the Indians, to prevent the English from landing, and to send him every day some one to receive his orders. All being thus disposed, each man took his post, resolved not to leave it except with his life, and as the barking of the dogs showed that the enemy were approaching, all passed the night under arms.

Courage
of the
garrison.

On the 18th, between eight and nine o'clock in the morning, while the commandant was hearing mass, he was notified that a boat full of armed men was in sight. He at once fired the alarm gun, and every man instantly resumed his post. Two other boats, armed like the first, followed close upon it; he allowed them to approach till within half cannon range and then he fired, compelling them to seek shelter behind a point, where they landed, the French being unable to prevent them, although they were not more than musket shot distant, because the river was between them. The English were at once heard crying:

Attack on
the Fort.

¹ Clignancourt was a son of Louis besides the name d'Amours, those d'Amours, a Parisian gentleman of of Freneuse, de Plaine, and Clignancourt. His sons bore court.