

1696. "Long livethe King," and the garrison did the same on its side.

A moment after the enemy were seen advancing in good order till opposite the fort, where the river is as wide as a good pistol shot. Here they encamped and at once began to throw up a breastwork to protect them from the fire of the fort. They then put in position a battery of two field pieces, which in three hours were ready to fire. They next hoisted the royal flag of England, and in the evening planted a third and larger cannon nearer the fort, but as it was unprotected it fired little.

The two first were well handled; but the cannon of the fort even better. The musket fire on both sides was quite heavy, and the Indians of each force advancing a little on the bank of the river fought like braves. Night coming on put an end to the action, and the Chevalier de Villebon perceiving the enemy prepare to light fires, the cold being extremely sharp, gave several alarms to prevent them, but as this failed to produce the expected effect, he loaded a cannon with grape, and the first volley compelled them to extinguish all their fires.

Thus they spent a very severe night, and at daybreak the musketry of the fort again opened on them. They did not reply till about eight or nine o'clock, and then only with the two pieces of their battery. La Côte, who had greatly distinguished himself the day before, by his rapid and accurate fire, soon dismounted one of these two pieces, and kept up so terrible a fire on the second that it was abandoned soon after. Towards noon the Sieur de Falaise¹ arrived from Quebec, having used the greatest dispatch, in order to take part in the defence of Naxoat, the siege of which he learned on his route. A post was immediately assigned to him, and during the rest of the day the fire of the fort was very severe.

In the evening the enemy kindled a fire covering a large space, and then there was little doubt but that they pro-

¹ Apparently de Gannes de Falaise, already named on the last page.