

1696. nons and munitions, left there. On the night of the 29th and the 30th de Muys and de Montigny were ordered with sixty Canadians to burn the houses nearest the fort, and those beyond. D'Iberville and Nescambiouit advanced with thirty picked men to support them, and the Governor of Placentia drew up all his men in line to march, if required, to their assistance. The houses were burned, and on the 30th an English soldier came out of the fort with a white flag.

The governor seeks to amuse the French in hopes of speedy relief.

On the propositions made by him, an interview outside the fort was agreed to, the governor not wishing the French to see its wretched condition. In fact all the strength of St. John was to the seaward, as the English had never dreamed of an attack from the land side. The governor came to the place of meeting with four of the chief men of the town. Mr. de Brouillan submitted his terms, and he asked till the next day to reply. He merely sought to gain time, as he had sighted two large vessels which had for two days been tacking to endeavor to run in the harbor; but his design was seen, and he was told that he must decide instantly, or an assault would be ordered.

He surrenders.

Being in no condition to withstand it, he agreed to surrender that very day, on the following conditions: 1st, That two vessels should be given him to carry him and all his people to England; 2d, That no one should be searched; 3rd, That such of the English as wished to go to Bonnavista might do so in all security. This capitulation was signed on the part of the French only by the Governor of Placentia, who did not even show d'Iberville the courtesy of presenting it to him. That officer was not insensible to this; but dissembled wisely as he had done on other and more important occasions.<sup>1</sup>

The English governor, after signing, re-entered his fort, and a moment after came forth with two hundred and fifty men, besides women and children. He had only one soldier wounded in a skirmish, when the French were recon-

<sup>1</sup> Canada Documents, II., viii., p. 53-6, De la Potherie, i., p. 31-7.