

reached safely; la Motte Egron was shipwrecked and was drowned on his way to Quebec. Fort Bourbon was no longer in a position to resist an English fleet, yet they put on at first quite a bold front. On the 5th the ketch supported by two ships kept up quite a warm fire. It continued the next day, and under cover of it the English wished to attempt a landing, but Sieur Jérémie, who served as an ensign in the fort, having formed an ambuscade with forty¹ fusiliers behind some bushes, poured such constant and well ordered volleys into the first boats that approached, as to compel them to draw off.

Then the ketch resumed shelling, and twenty-two bombs fell inside the fort. As there was only a single spot where the powder was safe, the Sieur de la Forêt, the commandant, had no alternative but to capitulate. He asked that he should be conducted with all his garrison to French soil, and that each man should carry off what belonged to him. These two articles were granted; but the English had no sooner entered the fort, than they laughed at the capitulation, pillaged the French and took them prisoners to England.

They were however released four months after their arrival, and on reaching French soil, having ascertained that a squadron was fitting out at Rochelle to recapture Fort Bourbon, most of them hastened there, and finding in reality four vessels which were to be under de Serigny's orders as far as Placentia, where he was to hand over the command to his brother d'Iberville, they embarked. We have seen recently that his squadron reached Newfoundland on the 18th of May, when d'Iberville was preparing to complete the conquest of that island.

He would have much wished his brother had arrived sooner, or that he had been informed that he would arrive so late; the former would have given him all the time required to assure the success of the enterprise he had in

1697.

They violate the capitulation.

¹ He reached Mingan with 20 men. N. Y. Col. Doc., ix., p. 668.

² Jérémie, Relation de la Baye de Hudson, p. 328-9.