

1698.

question in his correspondence with the Count de Frontenac.¹

Acadian
affairs.

He succeeded a little better at first in the direction of Acadia, where he regarded as a stroke of policy to secure the English authority, or at least set his mind at rest in regard to the Indians, who during the war had spread such terror through all New England. The Chevalier de Villebon, in a letter, which he wrote to Mr. de Pontchartrain on the 3rd of October in this year, informed that minister that the English were thinking of restoring Fort Pemkuit and settling on both banks of the Kinibequi (Kennebec), neither of which projects he considered ought to be permitted; but that as he had not force enough to oppose it openly, he could readily find means to thwart them by letting the Indians act their pleasure.²

He added that the English continued to fish on our shores; that the inhabitants of Port Royal had written to the Governor-General of New England to ask his protection, and that one Le Borgne, son or relative of the man who had formerly succeeded to all the rights of the Sieur d'Aunai de Charnisé over that part of America, setting himself up as lord of all the country from the Mines to Isle Verte, exacted from the English fifty crowns for each vessel that came to traffic within the extent of his pretended domain.³

Regulation
of the
limits for
the south-
ern coast
of New
France.

It was expected at the court and in Canada that in settling the limits, a matter then in hand, these various pretensions would be disposed of; but the peace proved too short to conclude the affair. Moreover they did not sufficiently consider in France the great advantage of one in possession over his competitor. In fact although the limits of New France on this southern shore had been

¹ Dellius and Schuyler, in their Journal, say nothing of any rights from the Dutch, but testimony was at once taken to show Dutch intercourse and alliance with the Iroquois from 1639. N. Y. Col. Doc., ix., p. 352.

² Villebon to Gov. Stoughton, Sept. 5, 1698, claims the Kennebec as the boundary, with free navigation. Jefferys, *Conduite des Français*, p. 172.

³ Canada Documents, II., v., p. 25