

in that province, which was under the control of the Capuchins after 1725. (See our vol. lxvi., *note* 9; vol. lxvii., *notes* 41, 49; and vol. lxx., *note* 45.) This explains Meurin's dilemma when appointed vicar-general for the bishop of Quebec. To escape persecution by the Capuchins, he left St. Louis and went to Kaskaskia, which after the conquest was, of course, under English rule.

Jean Olivier Briand, seventh bishop of Quebec, was born Jan. 23, 1715, and ordained to the priesthood March 16, 1739. Two years later, he came to Canada as secretary of Bishop Pontbriand (vol. lxx., *note* 6), until whose death (1760) Briand acted as canon of the Quebec cathedral. The see remained vacant during the six years following the conquest; but in 1766 Briand was appointed to the bishopric, which he held until 1784—resigning then his post on account of his age and infirmities. He remained at Quebec until his death (June 25, 1794), still laboring for the church as long as his strength permitted. As the head of the diocese, he was energetic and able; he secured the rebuilding of the cathedral and the episcopal palace destroyed in the siege of Quebec, and was untiring in his efforts to provide and train priests for the vacant parishes. According to Têtu, Briand was "the second founder of the Bishopric and Seminary of Quebec;" and "at the time of the American invasion of 1775, it was he who, by his loyalty and his authority, kept this colony for England" (*Mandements des Évêques*, vol. ii., pp. 5, 187).

4 (p. 37).—Amherst was succeeded in 1763 by General Thomas Gage as commander-in-chief of the British troops in North America. This position Gage held until 1774, when he was appointed governor of Massachusetts; but in the following year, proving unequal to the task of quelling the revolt of that colony's people, he was recalled by the home government.

5 (p. 39).—Prairie du Rocher ("Rock Prairie") was founded about 1733, by Jean St. Thérèse Langlois, a nephew of Boisbriant, on a site about five miles east of Old Fort Chartres (vol. lxx., *note* 56); it is in the present Randolph county, Illinois.—For an account of this village, which still exists, see Wallace's *Illinois and Louisiana*, pp. 276, 391; and E. G. Mason's "Old Fort Chartres," in *Fergus Hist. Series*, no. 12, pp. 31, 45.

The allusion in this sentence of the text, rendered obscure by the illegible word in the MS., is made clear by an entry in the parish register of Prairie du Rocher (cited by Mason, in *Old Fort Chartres*, p. 40). Therein is recorded the removal, from the cemetery near Fort Chartres, of "the bodies of Reverend Fathers Gagnon and Collet, priests of St. Anne of New Chartres" to the cemetery at Prairie du Rocher.