

Bk. IV. that Carolina had greatly the advantage, both on account
Ch. 2. of a more liberal tenure of land, and of the use of negro
A. D. slaves. They therefore demanded of the trustees the
 1739. liberty to import negroes, without which they predicted
Opposi- the utter desertion of the colony. The Moravians and
tion to the Scotch Highlanders, however, strongly protested
slavery. against the introduction of slavery; but all the com-
 plaints of the settlers were alike disregarded by the
 trustees.

Georgia Meanwhile, the injuries inflicted upon British com-
threat- merce by the Spaniards, and the arrogant claims they put
ened by forth respecting Georgia, involved England in a war with
the Spa- Spain, in 1739; and effectual measures were adopted to
niards. secure the new province to the English crown. Ogle-
 thorpe was made a general, and commander-in-chief of the
 united forces of South Carolina and Georgia; while a
 regiment of six hundred troops was sent to the colony,
 together with a grant of twenty thousand pounds.

Spa- The Spaniards intrigued to raise a conspiracy among
nish in- Oglethorpe's soldiers, and also to seduce the negro slaves,
trigues. who now numbered, in South Carolina, forty thousand.
 Partial success attended these efforts, and five hundred
 negro fugitives reached Florida, and were formed into a
 regiment. But Bull, the governor of South Carolina,
 vigorously attacked them, and easily dispersed a body,
 unused to fire-arms, and abandoned to intoxication.

St. Au- In the mean time, a regiment of troops was raised in
gustine Virginia, and North and South Carolina, to co-operate
invest- with Oglethorpe. It was resolved to commence offensive
ed. operations, and St. Augustine was invested with an army
 of two thousand men. The invasion was unsuccessful.
 The Spanish garrison was well defended, and, in addi-
 tion, received a powerful reinforcement; while the colo-
 nial troops, enfeebled by the climate, by fatigue, and by

CHAPTER III.

THE THIRD INTERCOLONIAL WAR.

WHILE the colonies were rapidly advancing in popula- Bk. IV.
 tion and commercial importance, a new war broke out Ch. 3.
 between England and France, and involved the colonies A. D.
 in fresh troubles. This war grew out of the question of 1744.
 the Austrian succession. On the death of the Emperor War of
 Charles VI., the male line of the house of Hapsburg be- the Aus-
 came extinct. By the Pragmatic Sanction, the empire trian
 devolved on Maria Theresa, eldest daughter of the late succes-
 emperor. The sovereigns of Spain, Saxony, and Bavaria, sion.
 disputed the rights of the Austrian empress to this great
 inheritance, and presented rival claims. France inter-
 fered in the contest, and opposed the succession of Maria
 Theresa, from jealousy of her great power. The aid of
 England was invoked by the empress, and was granted,
 not so much from a regard for her rights, as from opposi-
 tion to France. The subsidies of England to Austria
 irritated France, and provoked her to a declaration of war.
 All the powers of Europe were thus involved in the con-
 test which grew out of the troubles of Maria Theresa—a
 contest which did not terminate until more than a million
 of lives had been sacrificed, and one hundred millions of
 pounds sterling had been expended by Great Britain.

Nor was the war confined to Europe, but extended
 to all the colonies of France, Spain, and England. In
 the East, the commercial companies of France and Eng-

Bk. IV.
Ch. 3. land struggled for supremacy, which finally resulted in the entire conquest of India by the troops of the East India Company. A. D. 1744. In the West, the struggle began for the exclusive possession of North America, and finally ended in the conquest of Canada, and the ruin of French interests on the western continent. It may be here remarked, that the great war of the Austrian succession was really the effect of international jealousy. The claim of Maria Theresa to the empire of Germany was a matter of comparative indifference. It simply furnished a pretext and an occasion of war, and was not the *real cause* of hostilities. *That* is seldom presented by statesmen; indeed, it is in general studiously concealed.

Ravages of the French and Indians. But, before news was received of a declaration of war between France and England, a body of French from Cape Breton captured an English fort on the north-eastern extremity of Nova Scotia. Moreover, French privateers from Louisburg greatly annoyed the New England fishermen; while the Indians, incited by the French, renewed their ravages on the frontiers.

Proposed attack of Louisburg. In view of these things, Shirley, then governor of Massachusetts, proposed to the General Court an expedition to attack Louisburg, the strongest fortress in North America. The proposal was adopted, and an application made to all the northern colonies to join in the enterprise, which was undertaken without the aid, or even the knowledge, of Great Britain. Only the New England colonies rendered any valuable assistance, or embarked with any spirit in the scheme. Connecticut raised five hundred men, Rhode Island and New Hampshire each three hundred; while Massachusetts enlisted, in seven weeks, a force of 3250 men. The command was given to William Pepperell, a wealthy merchant of Kittery, in Maine; and Whitfield, then a preacher in New England, lent the influence of his

great name to the enterprise, and furnished a motto for the New Hampshire banners. Bk. IV.
Ch. 3.

The expedition, composed of fishermen, whose avocation was now gone, of mechanics, lumbermen, and husbandmen, embarked at Boston, April 4th, 1745, and on the 30th came in sight of the walls of Louisburg, forty feet thick at the base, and thirty feet high, surrounded by a ditch eighty feet in width, and furnished with nearly two hundred pieces of artillery. So perfect were the fortifications, that it was supposed that two hundred men could defend them against five thousand assailants. A. D. 1745.

As soon as the disembarkation was effected, the siege was commenced, and vigorous attacks were made; not, however, with much prospect of success. But the garrison, composed of six hundred troops, was discontented and mutinous, and the commander incapable and irresolute. On the first misfortune, the governor lost spirit, and offered to capitulate; and the strongest fortress on the continent fell, as if by the hand of Providence, certainly not from the effect of military skill, into the possession of a body of undisciplined fishermen and farmers, with the loss to the conquerors of only one hundred and fifty men. Siege and capture of Louisburg.

For this service Pepperell was made a baronet, and commissioned as a colonel in the English army, as well as Shirley, who had projected the enterprise. The success which had attended it cheered the drooping spirits of George II., and afforded a momentary consolation for the great reverses and misfortunes which the English suffered in other parts of the world. But the great effect was to implant confidence in the minds of the American colonists themselves, and teach them self-respect. Moral effect of the victory.

The surrender of this strong fortress revived the hope, so often disappointed, of the conquest of Canada; and a large force was projected in the colonies. Massachusetts

Bk. IV. raised 3500 men, Connecticut 1000, New Hampshire
 Ch. 3. 500, and Rhode Island 300; while New York voted 1600
 A. D. men, New Jersey 500, Maryland 300, and Virginia 100.
 1746. Great Britain agreed to send a large fleet and army to
 co-operate, to be joined at Louisburg by the New England
 troops; while those from the other colonies were to be
 assembled at Albany, under the command of Governor
 Clinton, of New York.

Force
 raised to
 invade
 Canada.

Expedi-
 tion
 aban-
 doned.

As the British fleet did not make its appearance, the
 Massachusetts troops joined Clinton at Albany. But the
 alarm of a French invasion, and the difficulties of a march
 through the wilderness, prevented the advance to Mont-
 real, and the enterprise was abandoned. Parliament,
 which had encouraged the colonies in this futile attempt,
 paid the expenses, which amounted to 235,000*l*. Soon
 after, the peace of Aix-la-Chapelle, 1748, put an end to
 the troubles. Louisburg was restored to the French, and
 Massachusetts received 183,000*l*. as indemnification for
 the money expended on the expedition.

1748.

Treaty
 of Aix-
 la-Cha-
 pelle.

The treaty of Aix-la-Chapelle stipulated the restoration
 of all conquests made on every side during the war. The
 restoration of Louisburg occasioned the most painful sur-
 prise and mortification in the colonies, which not even the
 indemnification paid to Massachusetts could prevent. No
 war was ever more disgraceful to Great Britain than that
 of the Austrian succession. It increased the national
 debt eighty millions sterling, without procuring the slight-
 est national advantage, or the redress of a single injury
 of which she had complained. Nor was any one of the
 belligerent parties a gainer by the war; and to all, except
 Great Britain, its termination was an advantage.

This treaty also left the question of boundaries unde-
 cided, and, consequently, did not remove the occasion of
 future war. The French still aimed at the entire posses-

sion of the North American continent,—to erect on these
 western shores a new and military despotism. They
 based their claim to disputed portions of the American
 continent, as did indeed the English, on the ground
 of prior discovery; and as it was difficult for the rival
 powers to prove who really did first discover those portions,
 the grand cause of contention still remained. But, then,
 this claim to prior discovery was rather a pretext for, than
 a cause of, war. Ambition and avarice were the real
 causes—sentiments which have ever peculiarly animated
 the French nation, under an absolute monarchy as well as
 under a republic.

The particular objects of dispute were the boundaries
 between Canada and New England, and the extent of
 Louisiana. It was the aim of the French to unite these
 remote territories. They claimed what now composes the
 largest portion of the United States—even the valley of
 the Mississippi, and the country around the great lakes.
 To connect these immense territories, and to control the
 Indians, they erected a chain of military posts from Canada
 to Louisiana, which will be considered in the succeeding
 chapter.

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A. D.

1748

Objects
 of dis-
 pute.