The French had an exact knowledge of the place (Boston). Meneval, when a prisoner there, lodged in the house of John Nelson, had carefully examined it; . . .

Letter from John I Nelson. (MASS. HIST. SOC. 3D SER., I.)

PARIS, January 26 1698.

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR LORDSHIPS.

Having, some time before my coming from England to this place, laid before your honours a certain memorial relating to the 8th Article in the treaty of peace concluded between his majesty and the French King, which as you did then approve of, so likewise were pleased to lay your commands for further information of anything that might happen or occur to my Knowledge by my being in France, and by my acquaintance with those here, who are more particularly interested in those countries, wherein I have not been wanting, to sound their intentions as far as opportunity has permitted, and am thereby the more confirmed

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Relation de ce qui s'est passé de plus remarquable 1690, 1691. (capture of Nelson.)

Frontenac au Ministre 15 Sept. 1692.

Champigny au Ministre 15 Oct. 1692. Champigny here speaks of Nelson as the most audacious of the English, and the most determined on the destruction of the French. N. Y. Col. Doc's. ix, 555. In the same collection is a memorial on the Northern Colonies by Nelson, a paper showing much good sense and penetration. After an imprisonment of four and a half years, he was allowed to go to England on parole; a friend in France giving security of 15,000 livres for his return, in case of his failure to procure from the King an order for the fulfilment of the terms of the capitulation of Port Royal. (Le Ministre à Bégon 13 Jan. 1694.) He did not succeed, and the King forbade him to return. It is characteristic of him that he preferred to disobey the royal order, and thus incur the high displeasure of his sovereign, rather than break his parole and involve his friend in loss. La Houtan calls him a "fort galant homme."