

trade, or at least render it less advantageous both for you and for us. The obligation which, it seems to us, you should feel to repress the insolence of these Iroquois savages—who massacre the Sokokinois and Abénaquinois, your allies—and the ease with which you could carry on the war, by our taking it up properly, are two reasons which have induced us to follow up this matter with you in your Court of Commissioners. We have requested our governor to write to you efficaciously. This is to join our exertions to his, and to assure you of the disposition of our hearts, and of those of all in New France, for this trade with New England, and for the designs of this war against the Iroquois, who should be our common foe. Besides the Sieur de Dreuillettes, who already this winter began to negotiate this matter, we have been pleased that Sieur Godefroy, councillor of our body, be associated. The merit of these two deputies leads us to hope a happy result for the design. They are invested with necessary powers to that end,—that is to say, both to establish firmly trade between you and us, and to relieve you of the expense necessary to be incurred in the war in question against the Iroquois. We beg you to give them a hearing, and to act with them as you would do with us, with the frankness natural to Englishmen as much as to us Frenchmen. We cannot doubt but that God will bless your arms and ours, when they are employed in the defence of Christian Indians, both your allies and ours, against heathen savages, who have neither faith, nor God, nor any justice in their course, as you may learn more at length from the said Sieurs our deputies, who will assure you of the sincere desire we entertain that Heaven may ever continue to bless your provinces, and load you, gentlemen, with its favors.

“Done in the chambers of our Council, established by the king, at Quebec, in New France, this 20th of June, 1651.”

The second concerns the nomination of Sieur Godefroy to treat conjointly with Father Dreuillettes, and is en-

1648.

Letter to
Commiss-
ioners of
New Eng-
land, 1651.