

1682-3. example of Mr. de Courcelles, he had always treated the Indians. He publicly declared that he took the Ottawas and all his old allies under his protection, and permitted the Kiskacons to build new forts for their defence in case they were attacked.

He did more ; some Iroquois, gained by Father John de Lamberville, their missionary, having yielded so far as to consent to treat at Catarocouy, he replied that he would go no further than Montreal, and that if the Iroquois wished to speak to him he would await them there till the month of June ; but that period ended, he would return to Quebec.<sup>1</sup> This reply irritated the Iroquois, and they declared, on their side, that they would not treat with the governor-general except at Oswego. On this Mr. du Chesneau wrote in July to Mr. de Frontenac, who was still at Montreal, that in his opinion and that of several persons of experience, he should concede to the Iroquois what they required, the more especially as, according to information received from France, no reinforcement could be expected from that quarter.<sup>2</sup>

Expedient suggested by the intendant. Refused, and why.

He added that there was a means of taking this step without derogating from his dignity and without exposing his person ; namely, to proceed in a bark, to be followed by a brigantine, and when he was in sight of Oswego to invite the Iroquois deputies on board.<sup>3</sup> The reply of the general was, that he did not disapprove this expedient, but that he could not bring himself to adopt it ; that after the insolent manner in which the Indians had treated the last proposition which he had made them, it would be flattering their pride too much to go and meet them in their own territory ; that he was always disposed to listen to them, when he had seen the Kiskacons, provided they conformed to their duty ; but that it was well to make the necessary preparatives for maintaining the war, and that

<sup>1</sup> N. Y. Colonial Documents, ix., p. 191.

<sup>2</sup> N. Y. Col. Doc., ix., p. 191.

<sup>3</sup> *Ib.*, p. 174.