

1684.

after the return of the vessels which took out Messrs. Desnos and de Montortier to Canada ; the king seeing, by the information given him of the manner in which peace had been concluded with the Iroquois, that it could not be lasting, and as Mr. de la Barre's advanced age and infirmities incapacitated him from pushing on the war vigorously, his majesty felt the necessity of superseding him, and selected the Marquis de Dénonville, colonel in the dragoons, estimable alike for his valor, uprightness, and piety, resolving to make one more effort to put the governor in a position to establish tranquillity in the country.

Mr. de Dénonville, giving himself but a few days' rest to recruit after a passage which had been quite severe, ascended at once to Catarocouy.¹ The Sieur de la Forêt had been restored to it by orders from the court,² to command there in the name of Mr. de la Sale ; but having solicited permission to proceed to the Illinois country, where he expected that the Sieur de la Sale would soon arrive, if he was not already there, Mr. d'Orvilliers had been again appointed to command the post.³ During the governor-general's visit, learning that the Iroquois had conceived a great distrust of the French, he left nothing undone to reassure them. He saw, nevertheless, that this nation was exalted to a tone of insolence which must of necessity be brought down, and he informed the minister that the hostilities which the Iroquois continued against the Illinois was a sufficient ground for making war upon them ; but that it was necessary to be perfectly ready before declaring war, because the Indians always are.

He considers war with the Iroquois necessary.

There is every presumption that the injunctions so often made to his predecessors in regard to *Frenchifying* the tribes of this continent, as it was then expressed, were re-

The condition of the colony.

48 ; instructions, N. Y. Col. Doc., ix., p. 271. The commission was registered at Quebec August 3, 1685.

¹ N. Y. Col. Doc., ix., p. 273.

² *Ib.*, ix., pp. 233, 264. See la

Salle's remonstrance against de la Barre's seizure of the fort, *ib.*, p. 213 ; his new commission, *ib.*, p. 225

³ N. Y. Col. Doc., ix., pp. 273,

284.