

by eight hundred Iroquois.¹ Two hundred of these Indians, after pouring in a volley, were detached to take our army in the rear, while the rest continued to charge the van.² The army was within gunshot of the first Seneca village,³ from which it was feared other Indian forces would issue; and this fear, with being surprised on a disadvantageous ground, at first caused some disorder. Many of the Indians, better trained to bush-fighting than the French, held firm, and gave the army time to collect itself. Then the enemy was repulsed on all sides, and, seeing the odds too great, they disbanded in order to facilitate their flight.⁴

1687.

¹ The place of the action, as located by O. H. Marshall, Esq., on Indian authority, is a spot near Boughton's Hill, in the town of Victor, Ontario County, still called by the Senecas Dyagodiya (i. e., Place of a Battle): N. Y. Hist. Col., II, ii., p. 158. His map and result are corroborated by St. Valier, *Etat Présent*, p. 95, and by Belmont, *Histoire du Canada*, pp. 22-3, who says that the road to the Seneca town led over three small hills. A river at its foot ran through three larger hills, and formed a marsh. St. Valier adds that a quarter of a league further it emptied into a larger stream.

² The Senecas posted five hundred at the foot of the hill before the town, Belmont (six hundred St. Valier), and three hundred in the marsh, to attack the French rear after it had passed. This party attacked the rear of the van, thinking it the whole army.

³ This village, called Gaensera by Belmont, Gazeroaré by St. Valier, Gannagaro by Dénonville (Minute of taking possession, N. Y. Col. Doc., ix., p. 334), apparently the Canagorah of Greenhalgh (N. Y. Col. Doc., iii., p. 251), Mr. Marshall, from authentic

Indian account and actual examination, identifies with Gaosahgasah (Bass wood used to be there), a Seneca town on Boughton's Hill, in the town of Victor: N. Y. Hist. Col., II, ii., p. 159; *Historical Sketches of the Niagara Frontier*, p. 10. Bishop St. Valier calls it a famous Babylon, where so many crimes were committed, so much blood shed, so many men burned.

⁴ Dénonville passes lightly over the confusion in his letter and his *Memoir*: N. Y. Col. Doc., ix., pp. 338, 365. The error of the swamp party (n. 2) attacking the rear of the French van (p. 286, n.), saved Dénonville's army. At the first attack the Ottawas and other Western Indians fled: Belmont, p. 23; N. Y. Col. Doc., ix., 365 (*Contra*, Tonty, *Memoire*, p. 26), though the domiciliated Indians held firm (*Ib.*, St. Valier, p. 94). Dénonville then came up with the main body, and endeavored to push on to the stockade fort or village on the hill, but a panic prevailed (Belmont, p. 23; *la Hontan*, i., p. 79). The Berthier battalion gave way, but was rallied by Dugué, commanding the Montreal company. Belmont says de Valrenne alone dis-