

1687.

To return to our army: the ten days spent in the enemy's country were employed in ravaging it, and especially in destroying 400,000 bushels of corn.¹ An immense number of hogs were also killed, which caused much sickness.² This, with the fatigue of two days' march over terrible roads and the general's fear of being abandoned by his Indians, who threatened it constantly, forced him to limit his exploits to this. Accordingly, after taking possession anew of the country just conquered,³ he advanced towards the Niagara River.⁴

It is certain that Mr. de Dénonville did all that was possible, under the circumstances in which he was placed, to put this nation, once for all, out of the power of giving any further annoyance, that he spared himself in nothing, that he labored like a common soldier, evinced great intrepidity in the action just described, that the Senecas were really humbled, and all the Iroquois undeceived in the opinion they entertained that with the protection of the English they had nothing to fear from the French arms, that they understood that if the blows struck at them did not totally humble them, and even did them very little injury, they were indebted to it for accidents that could not have been foreseen, and that they should not expose themselves lightly to the same risks which they had just encountered; but, after all, the colony derived no benefit from it.

Fort built at
Niagara,
and soon
after
abandoned.

The governor-general had constantly his heart set on building a fort at Niagara, and the opportunity for carrying out this design was too fair a one to be neglected. The fort was erected, and the Chevalier de Troye, with one hundred men, left there to guard it.⁵ Our allies tes-

25; Tonty, *Memoire in Margry*, p. 26.

¹ Dénonville's *Memoir*, N. Y. Col. Doc., ix., p. 338. St. Valier, *Etat Présent*, p. 98, says 600,000 bushels new, and 30,000 old.

² Belmont, *Histoire du Canada*, p. 26.

³ Minute of taking possession, N. Y. Col. Doc., ix., p. 334.

⁴ Taking possession of Niagara, N. Y. Col. Doc., ix., p. 335.

⁵ Dénonville's *Memoir*, N. Y. Col. Doc., ix., p. 339; Belmont, *Histoire du Canada*, p. 26. La Hontan, i., p.