

1687.

posed, from their being constantly harassed and in some sort blockaded by the enemy, so that they had not liberty to obtain the least refreshment by means of hunting and fishing, but from the fact that most of the provisions left there proved to be spoiled and caused scurvy, and from the fact that no attention was paid to sending remedies there, faults that would not have been committed, or at least not have gone unpunished, under a firmer rule.

It has been stated that Mr. de Dénonville had so great an aversion to the Indians, that he could scarcely bear the sight of them without being, in a manner, beside himself; but nothing is more unjust than the reproach made him on this score, for, were it a fact, this purely natural defect would redound only to his glory, as it never prevented his treating with those Indians, either in public or private, when there was need. This he could not have done without incalculable struggles with himself, which constitute real courage.

Various
hostilities of
the
Iroquois.

To return to the Iroquois: while men were reposing a little too much on the fear in which the Iroquois seemed to be of a new irruption into their country, and perhaps also on new orders just received by Colonel Dongan, to labor for a peace between the other cantons and ourselves, with very formal directions against his furnishing them arms or munitions of any kind, on the 3d of November¹ Fort Chambly was suddenly besieged by a large number of Mohawks and Mohegans; and it was afterwards ascertained that this enterprise was the work of the governor of New York.²

¹ N. Y. Col. Doc., ix., p. 390, but no date given. Belmont, *Histoire du Canada*, p. 27, says October 4. Du Plessis commanded the fort. The assailants were one hundred and fifty Mohawks. They took a soldier and his wife and child.

² See Dongan's address to the Five Nations at Albany, August 5 (of):

Colden, *Five Nations* (1727), p. 103; Smith's *History of New York*, 1757, p. 53. He advised them to take French prisoners (Colden, p. 106; Smith, p. 53); to look out sharp, especially at Cadarackui, Oniagara, Trois Rivieres, Montreal, and Chambly (Colden, p. 109; Smith, p. 56), planning the subsequent campaigns