

1687.

to induce them not to harm their prisoners, and the other to exhort them not to take up the quarrel of the Senecas, who had unseasonably drawn on themselves the indignation of their Father. They received the belts, and the parties separated. The prisoners were taken to Onondaga, where they were treated very leniently, but the belts were sent to the governor of New York.¹

Colonel Dongan's propositions to Mr. de Dénonville.

If the Iroquois seized at Catarocouy were still at Quebec when Father de Lamberville so positively asserted it,² it is certain that they were not when the governor-general learned what had taken place. About a month afterwards an envoy of Colonel Dongan³ arrived at the capital with a letter from that governor, who demanded an explanation of the two belts presented by the missionary to the Onondagas; and the general, not yet informed of the fact, replied verbally that he would send his reply when he was informed of the matter in question.⁴

Father Vaillant sent to him.

In fact, he soon after dispatched to Manhattan Father Vaillant de Gueslis, whom he advised, on his return, to visit the Mohawks, by whom that missionary was much esteemed, to make no proposition to Colonel Dongan, and merely to ascertain whether that governor had any proposition to submit to him. Father Vaillant set out on the last day of the year 1687, and in the first interview which he had with the English governor he could elicit nothing from him except that he had sent an express to the Marquis de Dénonville, simply to have an explanation of the two belts which Father de Lamberville had presented to the Onondagas.

¹ N. Y. Col. Doc., ix., p. 389.

² To all appearance, the Iroquois were already on board and had sailed for France, although they continued to keep Father de Lamberville in the dark. Some *Memoirs* say that the vessels were still at anchor. *Charlevoix*.

³ This was Colonel Patrick Magre-

gorie (N. Y. Col. Doc., ix., p. 389; Belmont, *Histoire du Canada*, p. 27), the leader of the party sent by Dongan to Michillimakinac, and seized by la Durantaye in 1686.

⁴ The correspondence, N. Y. Col. Doc., iii., p. 256, etc., does not allude to the belts.