

mies, and attacked them without hesitation. This they did with such impetuosity, that several Iroquois were killed on the spot, and the rest put to flight. Even the French barely escaped the disorder. Not one of them, however, was wounded. There was every reason to fear that this misadventure would have still more fatal consequences; but Garakonthié prevented them, and made the Onondagas listen to reason.¹

1664.

Unfortunate
misadventure.
Garakon-
thié's
conduct.

At the end of some months, the French were agreeably surprised to see arriving at Quebec the Cayuga chief, mentioned several times already, who, without alluding to the affair with the Algonquins, presented to Mr. de Mésy belts from all the cantons except the Oneida, and protested their sincere disposition to live in peace with him.² The general gave him a cordial welcome, and he deserved it: but Mr. de Mésy told him that his predecessors had been so often deceived by similar propositions, it would be an imprudence on his part to put any trust in the nation; and he let him see that a design was adopted to rid themselves once for all of an enemy so often reconciled in appearance and so irreconcilable in fact.³

New propo-
sitions of
peace.
Reply of
Mr. de
Mésy.

Mr. de Mésy thought he might assume this tone, because he felt his strength, and was sure of receiving speedily a powerful re-enforcement: but, this very year, a change took place in the neighborhood of the Iroquois, changing entirely the position in which that nation stood, and to which must be ascribed a good part of all that we have since then had to suffer from the insolence of the Iroquois. To understand this clearly we must resume matters, and explain somewhat at length matters only alluded to incidentally.

The English
seize New
Netherland.

Henry Hudson, as already mentioned, discovered the

¹ Relation de la Nouvelle France, 1664, p. 35. They arrived at Quebec 1664, p. 34; Lalemant, Journal, May, Sept. 18, 1664; Lalemant, Journal, 1664; M. Marie de l'Incarnation, He did not regard it as a sincere Lettre Aug. 18, 1664. peace.

² Relation de la Nouvelle France, ³ Relation de la N. F., 1664, p. 35.