

1666. at Quebec a few days after, and gave himself out also as a deputy from his canton. No doubt was now entertained but that the Mohawks were really disposed to peace; but one day, when de Tracy had invited the two pretended deputies to his table, the conversation turning on the death of Mr. de Chasy, the Mohawk chief, raising his arm, exclaimed: "This is the arm that tomahawked that young officer." The indignation of all present may be imagined. The Viceroy told the insolent savage that he would never kill another, and had him strangled on the spot by the executioner, in presence of the Flemish Bastard, whom he retained as a prisoner.¹

Courcelle's
expedition
against the
Mohawks.

On the other hand, Mr. de Courcelles, in ignorance of what was passing at the capital, had entered the Mohawk canton:² but before commencing hostilities, he deemed it advisable to have an interview with the commandant of Corlar,³ a town in New York, and he got a promise from that officer that he would give no aid to the Iroquois. He suffered greatly on this march, which he made in mid-winter, on snow-shoes, himself carrying his provisions and arms, like the humblest of the soldiers, several of whom, recently arrived from France, were crippled by frost. A little greater experience would have taught him that, while he took a useless precaution at such great cost, he missed his blow. He soon perceived it, for on entering the Mo-

¹ Charlevoix here follows Perrot, *Mœurs et Coustumes*, p. 113, and de la Potherie, *Histoire de l'Amérique Septentrionale*, ii., p. 85. The *Relation de la Nouvelle France, 1666*, Le Mercier's *Journal*, and M. Mary of the Incarnation have nothing of the kind, as to the dinner scene and hanging of Agariata. September 6, the *Journal* mentions the arrival of Cousture with two Mohawks, one of them "a Neuter, chief of the brigade that killed de Chasy." M. Marie de l'Incarnation, in her letter of Nov. 12, 1666, mentions de

Tracy's hanging one as an infractor of the peace.

² This is all misplaced. De Courcelle set out January 9, 1666, and was at Quebec again March 17, 1666 (*Le Mercier, Journal*), long before the death of de Chasy and the events to which it led.

³ Corlar is Schenectady, and was so called from Arendt Van Curler, whom the Indians regarded as the ruler of the Dutch: O'Callaghan, *New Netherland*, i., p. 322. Colden, in his *Five Nations* (1727), seems signally ignorant as to him.