

1690.

selves complete masters, was to stave in the barrels of liquor, for fear the Indians should become intoxicated. The houses were then set on fire, only the Mayor's being spared, with that of a widow, to which Montigni had been carried. There were about forty, all well built, and well furnished; and no plunder was taken, except what could be readily carried away. Life was granted to sixty, chiefly women, children, and old men, who had escaped the first fury of the assailants, as well as to thirty Iroquois, who were recognized: the object being, to show the cantons that the French struck only at the English, whose loss was estimated at 400,000 livres.¹

They were too near Albany to remain long in the ruined town. The army decamped about noon. The booty; Montigni, who had to be carried; the prisoners, to the number of forty; and, after a time, want of provisions—as they had neglected to provide sufficiently,—greatly retarded the march homeward. Several even would have starved to death, had they not had fifty horses, of which only six were alive when the victors reached Montreal on the 27th of March. This dearth of food had even compelled them to scatter. Some were attacked; three Indians and sixteen Frenchmen were killed or taken; so that want of forecast cost this party much more dearly than the attack on Schenectady, where they lost only one Frenchman and one Indian.²

¹ N. Y. Col. Doc., ix., p. 69; De la Potherie, *Histoire de l'Amérique* Sept., iii., pp. 69-70. La Hontan gives a short account of this expedition. *Voyages* i., p. 204; Le Clercq, *Etablissement de la Foi*, ii., 389-90. He says they spared ninety; the Narrative, between fifty and sixty. The "List of ye people kild and destroyed, ye 9th day of February, 1690," makes sixty killed, including a French girl, prisoner, and a Mohawk; those carried off, twenty-seven. N. Y. Doc. Hist., i., pp. 190-1.

Colden's *History of the Five Nations*, London ed., p. 115, says sixty-three killed, twenty-one carried off.

² De Monseignat, *Relation de ce qui s'est passé*; N. Y. Col. Doc., ix., p. 468; Canada Doc., II., v., p. 82. Charlevoix is careless in his figures. The narrative says thirty persons, and makes sixteen horses get through. The English sent one hundred and forty Mohawks and Mohegans, under Lawrence, in pursuit. N. Y. Documentary History, i., p. 191. Leisler, in a letter to the Bishop of