

1690. ferent route homeward from that they had come, I know not; but it was to cost them dear.

Death of
the Great
Mohawk.

On the 4th of June they found themselves, at noon, on the banks of Salmon River, which empties into Lake Champlain. As they had left their canoes at some distance from this point, they deemed it most expeditious to make new ones; and, without loss of time, set to work. In the evening, at the time when they were at prayer together, they were discovered by a party of Algonquins and Abénaquis, also out on the war-path against the English. These, taking them for enemies, attacked them in the morning before day. The Great Mohawk was killed on the spot with one of his men; six other Iroquois, two Frenchmen, and two English slaves, were wounded, and prisoners taken on both sides.¹

Frontenac's embarrassment on this affair, and how he extricated himself.

Then it was that they recognized each other. The regret on both sides was extreme; but the Iroquois, inconsolable for the death of their chief, refused to set at liberty the prisoners whom they had taken. This refusal irritated the others, a bitter feeling ensued, and every thing was to be feared from this mutual resentment. The Count de Frontenac needed all his prudence and ability to quell the rising storm; and he succeeded after much negotiation. It was, at last, arranged that the aggressors should send deputies with a belt to Sault St. Louis, to protest that the whole affair was accidental, and to ask for their brethren; that their protestation should be well received, and all the prisoners exchanged. The Abénaqui orator, who was spokesman, used the most sensible and touching terms, and concluded by showing that they

¹ Relation, &c., 1689-90; N. Y. Col. Doc., ix., p. 473; Canada Doc., I., iv., pp. 365-474; De la Potherie, Hist. de l'Amérique Sept., iii., p. 82; i., p. 347. Mather, in his Magnalia, gives the death of Hopehood in this way: Hopehood, who was an Abé-

naqui, and had been a slave in Boston (Book ii., p. 69), commanded his tribemen at Salmon Falls, and, probably, on this occasion. See Publick Occurrences, Boston, September 25, 1690, in Historical Magazine, i., p. 230.