

ambush.¹ After he had waited for them for several days, they appeared; he allowed them to advance, and as they were proceeding without distrust, they landed without taking any precautions. This moment the Rat seized to rush upon them with his troop. At first they wished to stand their ground, but the contest was too unequal. Some of them were killed, the rest taken prisoners.² 1688.

As they were not far from Catarocouy, the Rat, it is asserted, returned thither alone after his expedition; and when some one asked where he came from, he replied that he had just come from killing the peace, and added: "We shall see how Ononthio will get out of this business." His meaning was not at first understood;³ but it was soon known from one of the prisoners who had escaped from the hands of the Hurons, after having had an arm broken in the action. He was so well treated, that he was cured in a short time; he was assured that the French had no share in this treachery of the Hurons, and was so well satisfied of it, that on his return to Onondaga he convinced the whole canton.⁴

But the Rat had not begun so well, to stop here. As soon as he rejoined his party, Teganissorens, who was one of his prisoners, having asked him how he could be ignorant that he was an ambassador, sent to treat of peace with their common father, and to seek means of obtaining a perfect peace among all the nations? this dissembler pretended to be still more astonished than he; he protested that it was the French themselves who had sent him to La Famine, assuring him that he would there meet a party of Iroquois braves, which it would be very easy for him to surprise and defeat. To show that he spoke

His intrigues to involve the French with the Iroquois.

¹ Anonymous Relation of the Events of the War (N. Y. Col. Doc., ix., p. 391) says La Famine, but La Hontan (Voyages, i., p. 190) says: "Aux endroits des Cataractes, où il falloit absolument qu'ils abordas-

sent," which does not at all correspond with Hungry Bay.

² La Hontan, Voyages, i., p. 191.

³ Belmont (Histoire du Canada, p. 29) confirms this in part.

⁴ N. Y. Col. Doc., ix., p. 402.