

1690.

Some attributed his disgrace to the fact that he maintained too good an understanding with the missionaries; and it is certain that this concert, deemed by the Marquis de Dénouville so vital to the good of the service, and undoubtedly of inestimable importance to the progress of religion, was not to the taste of Mr. de Frontenac. Moreover, merit too generally applauded, and the purest virtue, give umbrage to many, and always raise up the envious, who rarely let slip an opportunity of ruining those who overshadow them, and are at no loss for an occasion, when they have to deal with superiors liable to prejudice. This Mr. de la Durantaye experienced, to his sorrow. With merit of every kind that can raise a gentleman to military honors, and after rendering essential service to New France, he never attained a higher rank than he bore when he came.<sup>1</sup> Forced, in his latter days, to leave the army, he entered the magistracy,<sup>2</sup> where he was distinguished for his integrity; but, relentlessly pursued by misfortune, he died in poverty, leaving to his children only a noble example and gentle birth, with nothing to maintain it.<sup>3</sup>

The con-  
voy attack-  
ed by the  
Iroquois

De Louvigny's convoy was escorted by one hundred and forty-three Frenchmen, many of whom eagerly embraced the opportunity to go for furs which they had in the storehouses of Michillimakinac, but had been unable to bring down, for fear of Iroquois war parties. Six Indians also embarked with them; and a detachment of thirty men, commanded by Captain d'Hosta and Lieutenant de la Gemeraye, was ordered to escort them for thirty leagues.<sup>4</sup>

<sup>1</sup> He was a captain in the Carignan Salières regiment. *Charlevoix*.

<sup>2</sup> He died a Councillor in the Superior Council of Quebec. *Ib.*

<sup>3</sup> Olivier Morel de la Durantaye, was born at Notre Dame du Gaure, Nantes. In 1670 he married Frances Duauet. His descendants, who are many, are spoken of in terms of eulogy by Ferland, *ii.*, p. 208.

<sup>4</sup> Monseigneur, Relation de ce qui s'est passé, 1689-90; N. Y. Col. Doc., ix., p. 470; De la Potherie, Histoire de l'Amérique Sept., iii., pp. 74-5. They were to escort them as far as the Calumets, on the Ottawa, sixty leagues from Montreal. (*Ib.*) Frontenac's dispatch, Nov. 20, 1690, says in all one hundred and seventy men.