

daga, intended to give that canton a mark of confidence which should have flattered it.¹ They did more: they sent him to New York,² to convince the English that they were very far from any reconciliation with the French. In fine, they carried perfidy so far as to violate the law of nations: they burned two of the Frenchmen who accompanied that officer.³ I do not know what prevented the authorities in Canada from learning this treachery at once;⁴ but they soon suspected that the cantons were bent on prosecuting the war; and the Governor-General, without delay, took precautions to prevent a surprise. He gave wise orders for the security of the districts most exposed to the ravages of these Indians; and, for this purpose, he formed two detachments of his best troops: the first, intended to watch the southern bank from Montreal to the Sorel River, was commanded by the Chevalier de Clermont, seconded captain; the second, which was to put in a safe position

1690.

¹ Ante, p. 52.

² Le Clercq, *Etablissement de la Foi*, ii., p. 409. La Hontan incorrectly says to Boston. *Voyages*, i., p. 206.

³ Champigny's dispatch, May 10, 1691; *N. Y. Col. Doc.*, ix., pp. 499, 502; and La Hontan, *Voyages*, i., p. 206, say they burned all the Chevalier's companions—that is, Colin and two others. Le Clercq, *Etablissement de la Foi*, ii., p. 401, represents them all as taken uninjured to New York. Smith, *History of New York*, p. 68, says the Chevalier and the rest of the French messengers were treated with the utmost indignity, and afterward given up to the English. Frontenac, in his dispatch to Pontchartrain, May 10, 1691 (*N. Y. Col. Doc.*, ix., p. 495), speaks of two of the French as killed. Belmont says Colin was burned and Bouviat killed (*Histoire*, p. 32). The Relation de ce qui, &c.,

1690-1 (*N. Y. Col. Doc.*, ix., p. 516), on apparently definite intelligence, says one was burned at Seneca, one at Onondaga, and that one died of sickness at Mohawk. Nevertheless, Duplanty, a soldier, was given up as one of his party. (*Ib.*, p. 582.) The Chevalier d'Aux was given up to Leisler's envoys, apparently in May. (*Leisler*, in *N. Y. Doc. Hist.*, ii., p. 138.) He was at New York in June. (*Ib.*, p. 150.) He is said to have been sent subsequently to Boston. He escaped in August, 1692, and reached Canada. (*N. Y. Col. Doc.*, ix., pp. 532-543.) His name is given as d'Eau, d'O, d'Au. Ferland, *Cours d'Histoire*, ii., p. 198, gives it, from his autograph, d'Aux. He wrote an account of his embassy and captivity.

⁴ They made efforts to capture Iroquois with this view. (*N. Y. Col. Doc.*, ix., p. 482.) They did not learn till April, 1691, by the arrival of two Mohawks. *Ib.*, p. 499.