

Chine, was informed that a flotilla of canoes had appeared on Lake St. Louis. There was scarcely a doubt but that they were Iroquois; and Mr. de Frontenac, who had been for three weeks at Montreal, was already giving orders to notify the settlers in the country parts to retire to the forts, when Tilly, Sieur de l'Isle, came in, assuring them that it was the great convoy from Michillimakinac, already mentioned.¹

1690.

The joy everywhere was intense, and proportioned to the alarm at first occasioned. The little fleet arrived at Montreal, and was welcomed with the acclamations of the whole city. On the 22d, the General gave public audience to all the chiefs; they spoke quite well, and seemed to be in the most favorable disposition in regard to the actual position of affairs.² On the following day trading began; but it was soon interrupted by La Plaque, an Iroquois of Sault St. Louis, and nephew of the great Mohawk.

He had been sent on a scout toward Albany; and, while returning to report what he had seen, he halted an eighth of a league from the spot where the Ottawas and other Indians were encamped, and carrying on their trade. He took it into his head to give several death-yells. The Indians, supposing the enemy was at hand, ran to arms; but when, after some time, they saw nothing, regained confidence, and resumed their trade.

Meanwhile, La Plaque entered the town, and told de Frontenac that he had discovered, on the banks of Lake St. Sacrement,³ a whole army, engaged in building canoes; that he had repeatedly approached them to endeavor to make some prisoners, but always in vain; and that, before

Frontenac warned of the approach of an English and Iroquois army.

Rivers (ib., 999); and was sent to Governor Burnet, of New York, to remonstrate against building a fort at Oswego. (ib., 970.) He married, in October, 1699, Mary Ann, daughter of Charles le Moine. Ferland, ii., p. 210. Charlevoix's note here says: "He died Governor of Montreal."

¹ De Monseignat, Relation, &c., 1689-90; N. Y. Col. Doc., ix., p. 478; De la Potherie, Histoire de l'Amérique Sept., iii., pp. 90-1. Frontenac left Québec, July 22, and returned the 31st. Ib.; Le Clercq, ii., p. 401.

² August 22.

³ Lake George.