

they would use it well. He did not even deem it beneath his dignity to begin to sing his war-song, tomahawk in hand: wishing, in this way, to show them that it was his intention to combat at their head. Any thing becomes a man who knows how to do every thing with dignity, and in season. The Indians were enchanted with the conduct of the Count de Frontenac, and replied only by acclamations, which assured him of their consent.<sup>1</sup>

On the 29th of August, the Chevalier de Clermont, who had received orders to ascend the Sorel River, in order to watch the enemy, arrived at Montreal, and reported that he had perceived a very large force on Lake Champlain, and that he had even been pursued to Chambly. Thereupon, the signals were given to assemble the regulars and militia.<sup>2</sup>

1690.  
Arrive  
at  
Montreal.

<sup>1</sup> De Monseignat, Relation, &c., N. Y. Col. Doc., ix., p. 478; De la Potherie, Histoire de l'Amérique Sept., iii., pp. 96-7.

<sup>2</sup> Ib. Strangely enough, the early New York historians are entirely at fault in regard to this expedition. Smith, in his History of New York, alludes to it merely in a note (p. 69), where he cites the Life of Phipps and Charlevoix, as though he knew of no New York documents. Colden, History of the Five Nations, 8°, London, p. 127, confounds it with Major Peter Schuyler's expedition, in 1691. The French accounts came, of course, from scouts and Indian statements, yet are, in the main, borne out.

The expedition was one to cooperate with Phipps' operations against Quebec, by attacking Montreal. On the 1st of May, 1690, an agreement was entered into between Leisler and the authorities of Connecticut, Boston, and Plymouth, by which New York was to furnish four hundred men; Connecticut, one hundred and thirty-five; Boston, one hundred and sixty; Plymouth, sixty;

and the Five Nations, one thousand eight hundred and twenty men. (Leisler to Shrewsbury, N. Y. Col. Doc., iii., p. 751.) Portneuf's attack on Casco compelled Massachusetts and Plymouth to retain their men at home (ib., p. 727); but the others prepared to take the field. The Western Iroquois were to meet at Fort La Motte, an abandoned French work, on Lake Champlain (N. Y. Col. Doc., iv., p. 195), and go down the Sorel. (Milet, Relation, p. 46.) The Whites, with the Mohawks, Oneidas, and Mohegans, were apparently to meet at Lake George, and march by land. (Milet.) Of the former, the French accounts say that nine hundred took the field (De la Potherie, iii., pp. 126-7; N. Y. Col. Doc., ix., pp. 513-4); and of the Mohawks, Oneidas, and Mohegans, 470. (Ib.) The small-pox broke out among the Western Indians (Publick Occurrences, Both Foreign and Domestic, Boston, Sept. 25, 1690; Hist. Mag., i., p. 229); and Viele, late in the summer, brought in word that they could not send the force. (N. Y. Col. Doc., iv., p. 195.)