

1690. Early on the morning of the 31st, the Count de Frontenac passed over to La Prairie de la Magdeleine, which he had made the general rendezvous; and the Indians, whom he had invited, came into the camp in the evening, not leaving a single man in their quarters to watch their goods.

Grand Council and its operations.

The next day he reviewed his army, which amounted to twelve hundred men; and, in the afternoon, some Indians from Sault St. Louis invited the chiefs of the other nations to meet at the tent of their Father, Ononthio, who had an important communication to make to them. They came, and when all were assembled, Louis Atherihata, one of the most influential chiefs of Sault St. Louis, delivered a very fine address in the name of all the Iroquois Christians. He began by exhorting all the Indians to open their hearts

It does not, indeed, seem that any Indians assembled at Fort La Motte—Schuyler not alluding to any, either going or returning from Wood Creek to La Prairie. (N. Y. Doc. Hist., ii., pp. 160-2.) The Mohawks and Albany Volunteers, under Major Peter Schuyler, seemed to have pushed on early to Wood Creek. Leisler sent up some troops from New York to Albany, complained of as boys; and Connecticut, two companies, under Fitch and Johnson. (N. Y. Col. Doc., iii., p. 752; iv., p. 193.) To maintain his men, Leisler seized a lot of poor pork, and disease broke out, the men dying "like rotten sheep." (Livingston to Governor Nicholson, *ib.*, iii., p. 727.) The small-pox, at the time, prevailed at Albany. For the command of an expedition thus wretchedly begun, the New England colonies urged the appointment of Fitz John Winthrop, already commissioned by the Governor of Connecticut, to command the troops of that colony. Leisler yielded; and, after Winthrop reached Albany, July 21, with fifty men and thirty Indians, to complete the quota

of his colony (N. Y. Col. Doc., iii., p. 752; iv., p. 193), Leisler, on the 31st, issued a commission making him Major of the forces. (Doc. Hist., ii., p. 158.) At the camp, near Albany, he found every thing in confusion, and the small-pox spreading. He evidently sided with the Anti-Leislerians; and, in his Journal, prepared in 1696, never alludes in any way to Leisler. (N. Y. Col. Doc., iv., pp. 193-6.) On the 30th of July he marched forward by way of Stillwater and Saratoga, delayed by scarcity of canoes. (Hist. Mag., i., p. 229.) On the 6th of August he encamped at the Fork of Wood Creek; and, the next day, with part of his men, went down to the Lake, where he met Schuyler, the burghers, and the Iroquois chiefs. (*ib.*) This was, doubtless, the camp seen by La Plaque and Clermont, with its small parties prowling about. Here, Winthrop called a council of war, and asked the Indian chiefs for their advice as to the best way to prosecute the war. They left it wholly to him, but finally advised that the whole army should move.