

1690.

An English
fleet pre-
pares to be-
sieve Que-
bec.

This reply almost made Frontenac repent his ill-humor, and the distrust it had inspired; he gave some marks of friendship to Oureouharé, and resolved to devote himself more than ever to secure so reasonable a man, from whom he was satisfied he could obtain important services; but he soon had other matters to attend to. On the 10th of October, as he was preparing to return to Quebec, an officer, who had left that capital the day before, handed him two letters from Mr. Provôt, Major of the fort, and Commandant in his absence, there being then no King's Lieutenant in Canada. The first, dated the 5th, stated that an Abénaqui had just brought in word that thirty vessels had sailed from Boston; and it was positively stated that their object was to lay siege to Quebec.²

This Indian, to whose zeal and diligence New France was, in part, indebted for its salvation, had come in twelve days from Pescadoué;³ he further informed Mr. Provôt that the English fleet had been six weeks at sea. The Major's second letter, dated the 7th, stated that the Sieur de Canonville had notified him that he had perceived, near

He writes "Auriouac." Colden's form is "Tawerahet—Therawaet." (Hist. of the Five Nations, London, 1747, pp. 97, 111, 121.) Another English form is "Taweerat." (N. Y. Col. Doc., iii., p. 560.) For the other French forms, see O'Callaghan's Index, N. Y. Col. Doc., *verbo* "Orehaoué."

¹ De Monseignat, Relation, &c., N. Y. Col. Doc., ix., p. 482, says the messenger left Quebec the 7th. Account sent in La Fleur de Mai. (Ib., p. 455.) Frontenac to Seignelay, Nov., 20. (Ib., 921.) In his errata, Charlevoix alters the name of the Mayor of Quebec to Provôt, and so gives it, subsequently, in the text. De la Potherie does not give his name (iii., p. 111). Monseignat says Prevost. (N. Y. Col. Doc., ix., p. 482.) Also Denonville. (Ib., pp. 307-328.) Charlevoix would not have made

the alteration, unless required. Langevin, Notes sur les Archives de Notre Dame de Beauport, Quebec, 1860, Part I., p. 39, gives his name as Francis Provost. Denonville spoke of him as the most upright man he found in Canada. His name appears as Town Major of Quebec as early as 1673 (N. Y. Col. Doc., ix., p. 97); and Le Clercq says (Etablissement, ii., p. 400) that he held the office twenty years; he lauds his wisdom and valor. In 1698 he is called King's Lieutenant.

² De Monseignat, Relation, &c., N. Y. Col. Doc., ix., p. 482; De la Potherie, Histoire de l'Amérique Sept., iii., p. 111; Frontenac to the Minister, November 12, 1690; N. Y. Col. Doc., ix., p. 459; Canada Doc., II., v., p. 127.

³ More probably "Pentagouet."