

1688. prises, but the French had certain proofs that he was the instigator of these as well as of the ravages committed in various parts of the colony by a party of three hundred Iroquois.<sup>1</sup> In a word, his whole conduct till war was declared between the two crowns, differed from that which he displayed after that declaration, only as the blackest perfidy differs from open war.<sup>2</sup>

State of  
trade in  
New  
France.

It may well be inferred, that in the actual position of Canadian affairs, trade could not be very flourishing. From the year 1669, when the king had declared it free, the colony had increased considerably, and by the census of this year, 1688, it was found to be composed of eleven thousand two hundred and forty-nine persons.<sup>3</sup> The English, indeed, as already remarked, from that time shared with the French in the fur trade; and this was the chief motive of their fomenting war between us and the Iroquois, inasmuch as they could get no good furs, which come from the northern districts, except by means of these Indians, who could scarcely effect a reconciliation with us, without precluding them from this precious mine.

Not that the Iroquois were great hunters; but, besides their often robbing our allies and voyageurs of the furs they were bearing to Montreal, they induced several tribes, and often even our bushlopers, to trade with the English of New York, and the profit which they derived from this trade, of which their country became of course the centre, retained them in the English interest. To these reasons was added the allurements of a better market, which made a great impression on all the Indians, so that the best part of the furs of Canada went to the English, without there being any possibility of bringing to reason those interested

barkalunga of 10 guns and 12 pateres, with 70 men, took a bark of Castin's, a ship at Camceaux, the fort at Chebucto, and another vessel. *Ib.*, p. 553.

<sup>1</sup> N. Y. Col. Doc., ix., p. 395.

<sup>2</sup> The revolution in England put an end to the rule of Andros, and he had of course no part in the war that followed.

<sup>3</sup> Recensements de la N. F., 1685 à 1699.