

1690.

The trumpeter asked this reply in writing, but the General refused to give it, adding: "I will answer your master by the mouth of my cannon. Let him learn that this is not the way to summon a man like me."¹ He then gave the sign to bandage the trumpeter's eyes, and that messenger was taken back to the spot where he had been received. As soon as he reached his vessel, one of the batteries of the lower town opened, to the great astonishment of the English; Phibs, especially, could not recover from his amazement to see himself obliged to besiege in form a city, where he had deluded himself that the French would have the hardihood to await him only to submit.²

Exploit of
some
Canadians.

But it was still worse, when the first cannon-ball carried away his flag and the tide sweeping it down, some Canadians swam out to get it, and in spite of the fire kept up on them, carried it off before the eyes of the whole fleet. It was at once carried to the Cathedral, where it still is.³ On the same day, the 16th, about four o'clock in

the favors lavished on him, to follow the party of a foreigner, who, pretending to have in view only to be the Deliverer of England and the Defender of the Faith, has destroyed the laws and privileges of the Kingdom and overthrown the Anglican Church? all this the Divine Justice which Phibs invokes, will one day punish severely." De Monseignat, Relation, N. Y. Col. Doc., ix., p. 486. Le Clercq, Etablissement, ii., p. 423-5.

¹ De Monseignat, Relation, &c. N. Y. Col. Doc., ix., p. 486. Account by the Fleur de Mai, pp. 456-457. Juchereau' Histoire de l'Hotel Dieu, p. 224. Le Clercq, ii., p. 428. La Hontan, Voyages, i., p. 213. Hutchinson, Hist. Mass., i. p. 355, says, "If it (the summons) was too pompous, the answer was too insolent." The insolence seems to be in the summons. As the English at Lachine began the use of Indians to ravage the settlements, they could

not reasonably object to it, and for Phibs to offer to pardon the Count de Frontenac for being loyal to his own country, was insolent enough. See Chalmers, Polit. Ann. p. 57.

² Mother Juchereau says that when the action began, he showed cannon-balls to the ladies in his hands, and asked whether that corresponded with their description of the undefended state of the city.

³ See Frontenac to the Minister, Nov. 12, 1690. Canada Doc., II, v., p. 137. Mother Juchereau, Histoire de l'Hotel. Dieu, p. 329, says Maricourt fired the gun, although she does not say that it was the first one discharged, or mention whence it was fired. The flag remained in the Cathedral till it was destroyed by fire during the siege of 1759. Ferland, Cours d'Histoire, ii., p. 224; Hawkins' Picture of Quebec, p. 139. De la Potherie, iii., p. 118, mentions the incident later in the action.