

the Canibas and other Abénaquis, who during this winter ravaged more than fifty leagues of country.

1691.

On this and other information which the same deputies gave the Count de Frontenac, that general suspected the English of complicity in a manœuvre then played by the Iroquois, to lull us into a false confidence, and a pretended reconciliation, with the view of favoring a new enterprise against the government of Montreal. It arose in this way: A party of one hundred and forty Mohawks, among whom were some Dutchmen, made an irruption at Chambly and surprised some Iroquois of Sault St. Louis. Several were killed, ten or twelve others were taken and bound.

Decentful negotiations of the Iroquois.

Sometime after, three deputies arrived at the Sault from the Mohawk, unarmed, with the prisoners just mentioned, and declared that they came to ask peace from their Father; but that they first wished to know whether they would be well received, should they propose to him to give them lands in the neighborhood of the Sault to settle near their brethren. They added that they had made all haste in order to warn the French to be on their guard; inasmuch as eight hundred Iroquois warriors were preparing to enter the colony between Montreal and Three Rivers. They were asked whether they knew what had become of the Chevalier d'Eau, and they replied that it was at the solicitation of the English that they had burnt the three Frenchmen who attended him; that he himself had been on the point of undergoing the same fate; that he was actually bound to the stake, but as English and Iroquois alike refused to begin the execution, this dispute had saved his life.<sup>1</sup>

Frontenac, in reporting to Mr. de Pontchartrain, who had just succeeded Mr. de Seignelay in the Ministry, the various accounts that he had received, and especially what

<sup>1</sup>De la Potherie, Histoire de 1690-1. N. Y. Col. Doc., ix., p. 575, l'Amérique Sept., iii., pp. 125-131. speaks of two only as burnt, and Champigny to the Minister, N. Y. one dead of disease. See Ante, p. Col. Doc., ix., p. 499. The Relation, 52.