

lier de Vaudreuil, somewhat too late, thought of setting it on fire. The enemy tried to cut their way out, axe in hand, but when the first two or three were killed, five were taken and mercilessly burnt by the settlers, who were convinced that the only means of correcting these Indians was to treat them as they treated others.¹

1691.

We shall have in the sequel more than one occasion to speak of the Marquis and Chevalier de Crisasy, and the reader will perhaps be glad to know who they were and what brought them to New France. There were two brothers of one of the most illustrious and powerful houses in Sicily. They had been amongst the first to declare for France in the revolt, which had well nigh wrested that kingdom from the king of Spain, and when the troubles were appeased, they could not obtain or durst not solicit pardon from his Catholic Majesty. The Chevalier was a professed Knight of the Order of St. John of Jerusalem, had made his caravans with all possible distinction, and, in fact, possessed all the qualities that can raise a military man to the highest honors in his profession.

Who were
the Messrs.
de Crisasy.

The Marquis was also very brave, and bore marks that would have done him great honor had he not received them fighting against his lawful prince. By the submission of Sicily he beheld himself deprived of all his property, which was considerable. Believing that the Most Christian king would interest himself in obtaining its restoration, or compensate him, he proceeded with his brother to Versailles, not doubting but that they would soon be employed in a manner suited to their birth and services.

They were disappointed in their expectations. Princes who do not scruple to use traitors, do not always feel bound to reward treason, especially when they do not derive all the advantage they anticipate from it; or rather

¹ Benac, Relation de ce qui s'est Doc., ix., p. 517-8. De la Potherie, passé. Canada Doc., II., vi., p. 74. Histoire de l'Amérique Sept., II., pp Relation, &c., 1690-1. N. Y. Col. 134-5.