

1691

Sault St. Louis who had started at the sound of the firing, to take part, but who had come up only when the affair was over, might do what his own men were no longer in a condition to attempt; but these Indians, hearing the volleys fired at the funeral of the officers killed in the first action, imagined that a new battle was going on at la Prairie de la Magdeleine; they at once hurried thither, and this error was the salvation of the English and the Mohawks. We had this day sixty men killed and as many wounded, some of whom died, among them, Messrs. le Bert and Varlet. An Englishman taken prisoner by de Valrenes, told him that after the return of this party, a second of four hundred men was to come; that at the same time five hundred Iroquois were to come by Catarocouy, and that their object was to prevent the French from gathering in their crops; but nothing appeared, and the harvest, the loss of which would have reduced the colony to the last extremity, was gathered very tranquilly and proved very abundant.<sup>2</sup>

<sup>1</sup> Relation, &c., 1691-2. N. Y. Col. Doc., ix., p. 523. Champigny to the Minister, Aug. 12, 1691, describes Valrenes' action briefly. N. Y. Col. Doc., ix., p. 504. So too La Hontan, Voyages, i., p. 229. Colden in his History of the Five Nations, pp. 127-8, confounds John and Peter Schuyler's expeditions, ascribing the

affair to Peter, but making it precede Phipps' attack on Quebec. Smith, History of New York, p. 78, though ignorant of John Schuyler's expedition, corrects Colden's error as to Peter's. Chalmers, Con. Political Annals, p. 74, is also misled. See Historical Magazine, II., iii., p. 263.