

1691. the former by the treachery of the Iroquois, the latter through the bad faith of Admiral Phibs, he might open negotiations, but without this preliminary he would listen to nothing. He then wrote to the Count de Pontchartrain to lay before him the advantages which the troubles in New York afforded for the conquest of that province; but the Minister replied that the King needed all his forces in Europe, and that his Majesty's views in regard to New France, were confined to a mere prevention of English attempts.

Frontenac's
reply.

Although they had entirely recovered at Montreal from the fear inspired by the two large parties mentioned in the preceding Book, men were not entirely tranquil. Minor hostilities continued, few weeks passed without several alarms, and but for the precaution of giving guards to the harvesters, many of the farmers would have been killed while getting in the crops. Oureouharé, who had distinguished himself on so many occasions during the two last campaigns, and quite recently in the last combat under de Valrenes, performed, towards the close of this campaign, an action which effectually determined his position as the ally on whom we could most surely rely.

Exploit of
Oureou-
hare.

He had scarcely reached Montreal after the defeat of the English and Mohawks, when an Iroquois party advanced to Des Prairies river and carried off three Frenchmen; he at once gave chase, and overtaking them at the Flat Rapid, on the route to Cataracouy, killed two men, took four prisoners, and brought back the French to Montreal. Some time after he came down to Quebec to see the Governor General, who loaded him with presents and courtesies; to these he was quite sensible, and on starting back to Montreal, said, with a modesty remarkable in an Indian, that he had not yet done enough to show his obligations to his Father, and the sincerity of his language is evinced by the fact that when several tribes offered to make him their chief, he replied that