

1693.

bec.<sup>1</sup> He had escaped from prison, after learning that he was condemned to the stake, and he reported that the English had built a fort with eight bastions, in the chief town at Onondaga; that this fort had three rows of palisades around it, and that it was the intention of the Indians, that all who were not able to bear arms in their canton, should take refuge within these palisades, under the cannon of the fort, in case the French should be tempted to repeat there, their operations in the Mohawk canton. He added that eight hundred Iroquois were on the point of taking the field to prevent our farmers from getting in their crops; that Tareha, who had already announced this, might have spoken sincerely enough on all other points; but that the Iroquois nation in general, had assuredly never been less inclined to make peace than they were at that time, although several Oneida families seemed really very weary of the war.

Eight hundred Iroquois approach Montreal.

At the very time that St. Michel was making this report, the eight hundred Iroquois were already at the Cascades, at the extremity of Lake St. Louis. The Governor-General, on the intelligence which he received on the 21st of July, dispatched the Chevalier de Vaudreuil in haste with five companies of the King's troops, and one hundred and fifty recruits who had just arrived from France. On his part, the Chevalier de Callières had assembled a force of seven or eight hundred men, and marched in person at their head as far as the Cascades, but neither he nor de Vaudreuil found the enemy any longer there; reports brought in, in quick succession, having induced them to decamp.<sup>2</sup>

The chiefs of this party were first informed of the arrival of three ships from France with troops; next they

<sup>1</sup> He was captured with Ensigns la Fresniere and Hertel, and taken to Onondaga. Ante p. 219. He was made a reduced lieutenant in 1694. Daniel, ii., p. 283.

<sup>2</sup> Among those taken at this time was Crevier, Seigneur of St. Fran-

çois, who was tortured, but saved from the stake by Schuyler. He reported the French fleet as of twelve ships, bringing 500 recruits, ammunition, cannon, and provisions. Fletcher to Phipps, 31 Aug. 1693 N. Y. Col. Doc., iv., p. 67.