

1693.

tons repent their not profiting by the favorable disposition towards them, when he arrived from France, as well as their adding insolence to perfidy.

Why he
delayed to
push the
Iroquois.

Yet Tareha understood that this threat was only conditional, nor was it so much the general's conduct to him, that induced him to think so, as some mitigated expressions which he had intermingled with his threats. Yet there was some ground for believing that these menaces would not be without result, because the Illinois and Miamis, encouraged by the Chevalier de Tonti, and the Sieur de la Foret, were then making fierce war on the Iroquois, and had already within two or three years killed more than four hundred of their men.¹

Zeal and
services of
three
Indians.

But what principally induced the Governor-General not to break off all negotiations with these Indians, is that he maintained secret correspondents among them, by whom it would be very easy to see what would be the result, before taking a final step. His faithful Oureouharé, who had recently retired among the Christian Iroquois of the Mountain, made frequent excursions to his canton, and omitted nothing, that he deemed most advisable to incline them to the French interest. Moreover, Garakonhié was still alive, and although a fervent Christian, he had remained at Onondaga, where his presence was deemed necessary to seize the opportunities which might offer of restoring a good understanding between us and his countrymen. This venerable old man, deprived of all spiritual succour amid that Babylon, never allowed his piety or zeal to relax, and by the care which he took to maintain his credit, like another Daniel, he more than once found means to thwart the intrigues of the English, who, but for this, would have frequently reduced us to mortifying extremities.

¹Relation, &c., 1692-3. N. Y. Col. Doc., iv., p. 59. Fletcher with Doc., ix., p. 572. De la Potherie, de Schuyler convened the Sachems of l'Amerique Sept., iii., p. 190-1. On the Iroquois at Albany, 2 Feb. 1694. See Propositions at length. Ib p. sels was sent to Onondaga. N. Y. 85.