

I have been unable to ascertain whether Teganissorels was then a Christian, for it is certain that he became one, and died at Sault St. Louis. At the time now spoken of, he was still at Onondaga, where he perfectly seconded the good designs of Garakonthié, and it may be affirmed, that New France was in part indebted to the services of these three Indians, for not having its fields and dwellings continually overrun by hostile parties.

1693.

With this exception, the cantons continued to follow for some years, the plan of conduct from which they had not swerved since the beginning of the war, and which consisted in negotiating from time to time, without ever coming to a conclusion, and in incessantly harassing us; but in stopping when they were in a position to do us most injury. The English, on their side, never ceased telling them that they would sooner or later destroy the French colony, and it was mainly to keep up this idea in their minds, that the English every year spread the rumor of a great expedition to besiege Quebec.¹

Conduct of
the English
and Iro-
quois tow-
ard us.

If they perceived that any of those sincerely attached to us in the cantons, were active in urging the nation to make peace, they left nothing undone to fill the rest of the canton with distrust of these chiefs, or else offered their mediation, which they knew we would not accept, and thus to induce the masses to believe that we were not acting in good faith. They then induced some chief of repute to raise a war party, which cured the most pacific of all desire of arrangement.

The reason why we would not listen to the idea of receiving them as arbiters, is that they always wished to dictate the terms, and they easily made our refusals pass for a proof that we sought only to deceive. Thus assured of the majority of the leading chiefs, they cared very little for the advances occasionally made by our most zealous partisans to the French general, and they

¹ English accounts admit that the the war. N. Y. Colonial Doc., iv., Indians wavered and were weary of p. 58.