

1694.

to excite his distrust of his allies, but he took up their defence, and protested that he would never separate his interests from theirs. Yet he listened quite calmly to some reproaches that the Hurons and Iroquois addressed each other, wishing, doubtless, to see whether he could not thus derive some light as to the conduct of the former, whom he had never trusted more than moderately; but after quite a warm altercation, from which he learned nothing but what he already knew, he imposed silence on both parties. He then told the Iroquois that he would make his preparations slowly, in order to give them time to return to their duty; but that if they continued to abuse his patience, he would make them feel that, as on the one hand he was a good father and a faithful ally, so on the other they would find him a terrible enemy, if they utterly exhausted his patience. He spoke in the same tone to the other Indians in private, and dismissed them all with presents, and full of esteem for him in person.

Return of
F. Milet
and Tareha

Towards the end of October, Father Milet¹ arrived at Montréal after five years slavery, a good part of which he had spent in constant expectation of the tortures inflicted on prisoners of war, and he informed the Governor-General that he was closely followed by Tareha with deputies from the Oneida canton. In fact they landed a few days after, but were very ill received, and almost treated as spies. Nevertheless Frontenac relaxed a little on the testimony of the missionary to whom Tareha had really rendered great services during his captivity, and although he began to credit the statement of the Abénaquis, that all these negotiations were intended only to amuse him, he reflected that they had not been useless to him, in so far as they had afforded some repose to the inhabitants of the colony.

It was, moreover, a matter of necessity either to make a show of meeting these advances or to go and attack the Iroquois with forces capable of destroying them, and he

¹ As to Milet's captivity, see Relation d'une captivité parmi les Onne- N. Y. Col. Doc., iv., p. 49, 79, 93 &c., iouets, New York, 1864. Letters in Mather's Magnalia, Book, ii., p. 61.