

was far from having enough for such an expedition. The English, as already noticed, had erected a fort at Onondaga, and that place was in very good condition. The Iroquois could at need put in the field three thousand men, and the Governor of New York would be sure not to let them perish for want of his aid.

1694.

The General's motives in treating with the Iroquois.

Frontenac could count on two thousand men at most, including regulars, militia, and domiciliated Indians; prudence not permitting him to leave ungarrisoned the more exposed posts, which were quite numerous. Thus, considering all things, he had done much by diverting the great war parties, which would at the least have ravaged the fields, a disaster that would entail a general famine. Now the cessation of hostilities on a great scale, was the result of the negotiations just mentioned, and the small parties that appeared on one side or another during that time, had only forced us to be ever on our guard.

The English of Boston were far from enjoying as great tranquillity at the hands of the Abénaqui nations. Sir (William) Phibs had based great hopes on Fort Pemkuit, situated in the midst of these Indians, and at first, by intimidation, brought some to a kind of terms. This was less surprising as these Indians often beheld themselves abandoned by the French, who counted a little too much on their attachment, and the influence of those who had gained their confidence; moreover, some of their relatives were prisoners at Boston, and there was nothing that they would stop at, to get them out of the hands of the English.¹

Some Abénaquis treat with the English.

Things had even gone so far, that two of their chiefs² had bound themselves in the month of May, to conclude a treaty of peace with the Governor of New England, and that General, after receiving hostages, had proceeded in person to Pemkuit,³ to hasten the conclusion of an affair

¹ De la Potherie, iii., p. 227.

² Edzirmet, (Egeremet of Machias) and Metawando, (Maddockowando,) *Ib.*, p. 227.

³ See in Mather's *Magnalia*, i., pp. 512-3, a treaty signed at Pemaquid, Aug. 11, O. S., by the above chiefs, and four others.