

This resolution adopted, he notified the commandant of Michillimakinac by a Frenchman, whom he sent up with the Ottawa deputies when returning home. This envoy found the Sieur de la Motte Cadillac in great difficulty. Iroquois ambassadors had been received by the Indians of his post, and had obtained from them all they desired. This came of the Baron's intrigues. Not only had they concluded a treaty with the Hurons and Ottawas, but had also induced them to join our enemies to make war on us.

In vain did la Motte Cadillac exert himself to obtain admission to their conferences; but Onaské, chief of the Kiskakon Ottawas, had informed him of all that had passed. There was nothing to do but to disconcert these intrigues, but this became still more difficult after the return of the deputies who had been at Montreal, and during whose absence all this had been plotted. On arriving, these deputies announced that all the French were dead; this is a common expression with the Indians, to mean that everything is desperate. They declared, in particular, that we durst not appear at sea, that we had neither wine nor brandy, and that they came back in the very shirts they had worn to Montreal, Ononthio not being in a position to give them others.¹

In this extremity la Motte Cadillac was not disconcerted; the Frenchman who had accompanied the deputies having handed him letters from the Governor General, informing him of the various advantages recently gained by our men over the Iroquois, he made the very most of them, especially of la Durantaye's action near Boucherville. He then declared that in spite of the scarcity of goods, caused by the delay of the vessels from France, which had been prevented by head winds, and not by any fear of the English, from arriving as early as usual, he would give all that was left in his stores, at the same prices that they had always brought, and would even allow them credit.

This offer had a very good effect; Onaské and some

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Mr. de la Motte Cadillac induces the Ottawas to make war on the Iroquois.

¹ Relation, &c., 1695-6, N. Y. Col., Doc. ix., p. 644.