

Catarocouy was situated at the head of a bay, and, occupying no passage, was of very limited utility; that supplies could be sent there only at heavy expense; that even firewood had to be sent up, as the garrison could not be sufficiently large to go and cut wood in the forest, without being exposed to Iroquois ambuscades; and that increasing the garrison would entail the stripping of the most necessary posts.<sup>1</sup> These reasons were at least specious; but Count de Frontenac was not easily persuaded when the matter proposed was not to his taste. Moreover, Fort Catarocouy was his work, and bore his name.

1689.

In truth, an advanced post on that side was a great convenience, and it displeased the Iroquois only because it hampered them; but I have already remarked that it would have been much more advantageous to place it at la Galette. It would be twenty leagues nearer to Montreal: a road could be opened to revictual it at any time; with cannon the Iroquois could be prevented from passing the river at that point. Still, Fort Catarocouy, without possessing all these advantages, had enough to outweigh the inconvenience experienced in maintaining it, nor should it have been abandoned till a more advantageous one was constructed.

Frontenac's  
reasons for  
maintain-  
ing that  
post.

On the other hand, several persons to whom the Governor General wished well were greatly interested in its preservation; it was very convenient for their trade, often conducted to the prejudice of the public good; nor had this reason been one of the least influential in inducing de Dénonville and de Champigny to let it fall; but the former, whom the king had appointed Sub-governor of the Princes of France, had resigned all authority to his successor, and in the affair in question confined himself to simple representations, which the Intendant supported as well as he could.

Count de Frontenac paid no regard to them; and as by

<sup>1</sup> N. Y. Col. Doc., ix., p. 442.