

deputies of the cantons ; but all was soon appeased by the General's prudence, and a sort of provisional treaty was signed.¹

1700.

The Chevalier de Callieres signed first, then the Intendant, next the Governor of Montreal, the Commandant of the troops and the Ecclesiastic and Regular Superiors present at the assembly. The Indians also signed, each putting the mark of his nation below the treaty. The Onondagas and Senecas traced a spider the Cayugas a Calumet, the Oneidas a forked piece of wood with a stone in the middle, the Mohawks a bear, the Hurons a beaver, the Abénaquis a deer, and the Ottawas a hare. The Mohawks and Oneidas had however no deputies, but had apparently authorized some one to sign for them. We shall soon see, however, that these marks are not always the same. This treaty bears date September 8th, 1700.

This matter thus arranged to the satisfaction of all parties, the General dispatched Mr. de Courtmanche and Father Anjelran to the western and northern nations, to induce those, whose deputies had not appeared, to consent to the treaty and bring him chiefs of all, that the meeting appointed for the month of August in the ensuing year might be general. He especially charged them to omit nothing to arrest the war, still raging furiously between our allies and the Sioux ; but this was not easy, the Sioux having in the last spring carried off a whole village of Miamis.⁴

De Callieres' efforts to confirm peace.

He then wrote to Mr. de Pontchartrain to report what he had just done, and informed him that he deemed it a duty to profit by the actual disposition of the cantons ; to settle to advantage the boundary between the English and ourselves ; that if in settling this we could not obtain the ownership of the Iroquois country, it must at least be de-

¹ Sept. 8, 1700. *Ib.* p. 720. The French now first began the system of written treaties with the Indians. To balance this the English obtained, Oct. 7, a sort of submission of the Abénaquis to the Five Nations. *Ib.*, iv., p. 758.

² N. Y. Col. Doc., ix., p. 715-721. De la Potherie, iv., p. 174.

³ Crane, Canada Doc., II. ix., p. 59.

⁴ De la Potherie, iv., p. 175. N. Y. Col. D., ix., p. 712. Ante iii., p. 288.