

1701. first notifying him, they made it a point for the first time to keep their word, and sent to complain to him of the Ottawa attack.

New
complaints
of the
Iroquois.

The delegates appointed arrived at Montreal on the 2nd of March, 1701, and there found the Chevalier de Callieres. They addressed him with great moderation, and after stating the case, in as black colors as possible, against the Ottawas, added: "This blow has undoubtedly been struck by some giddy brave; but till his nation disavows it, they are deemed to authorize it. Still, as you have ordered us to apply to you, should anything of the kind occur, we come to beg you to begin by having restored to us the chief who has been led away a prisoner to Michilimackinac."

They then endeavored to justify their hunters, and the Governor-General, who deemed it inexpedient to enter into the discussion, confined himself to replying that the Ottawas, when they had attacked their people, were as yet uninformed of the treaty concluded the previous autumn; that he would take care to make them give up their prisoner, and that they should lose nothing by confiding all their interests to him.¹ This reply, accompanied by many tokens of friendship, satisfied them; but on the 5th of May Teganissorens arrived, followed by several Iroquois chiefs, and after renewing the complaints of the cantons about the hostility committed during the winter, and on what they had heard of a projected French settlement at Detroit,² he asked him whether it was true, as they began to report, that war was on the point of being re-kindled in Europe between the French and English.

In regard to the Ottawa hostilities, de Callieres repeated his reply to the former delegates: in reference to Detroit he told him that he did not see why that establishment

¹ See belts of Tsioucioui and Tieugonentaguete, Onondaga chiefs, March 2d, and de Callieres' reply. De la Potherie, iv., pp. 177-182. They claimed the peninsula at Fort Frontenac to have been their hunt-

ing ground from the creation.

² What is called Detroit (i.e. Strait) is all the communication between Lake Erie and Lake Huron. Charlevoix. See as to Teganissorens De la Potherie, iv., pp. 183-4.