

1706. his way he had heard of the troubles at his post, and as he was then quite near the Seneca canton, he took thence an escort of a hundred and twenty men. He did more: for he notified all the other cantons, to send all their men they could to wait for him at the mouth of the Detroit, wishing them to see how he was going to treat their old enemies.¹

La Motte
Cadillac's
impru-
dence.

Before long, however, he saw the imprudence of this act, and on his arrival at Detroit, instead of marching against the Ottawas,² as he designed, he merely summoned their chiefs; the latter, on their side, alarmed at the approach of the Iroquois, replied that they would go to their father Ononchio and render an account of their conduct. La Motte Cadillac deemed it inexpedient to go further. He lay quiet at his post, and the Iroquois were dismissed.³

Ottawa
deputies at
Montreal.

As soon as winter ended, the Ottawa chiefs started for Montreal, reaching it in June, 1707,⁴ and finding de Vaudreuil there. John le Blanc, the spokesman, began by giving an exact account of what had occurred at Detroit, insisting strongly on the information given them from various quarters, that as soon as they set out for the Sioux war, the Miamis would proceed to murder their old men, women and children. He then said that a few days after the fatal blow, which rendered them criminals in his eyes, he had gone alone to the Sieur de Bourgmont to make his explanation, but had been unable to obtain an audience; that the next day he returned no less than six times, each time with an Indian of another nation, and with belts and beaver skins, but always in vain. He showed the imprudence of that officer, who, by firing on the Ottawas, had

1707.

¹ La Motte Cadillac omits all allusion to this in his letter to Vaudreuil. Sheldon, p. 224.

² La Motte Cadillac to Vaudreuil, Aug. 27, 1706, admits that he promised the Hurons, Miamis, Weas, Shawnees and Iroquois "not to leave a single Ottawa on the earth." Sheldon's Michigan, p. 228-9.

³ Letter of Vaudreuil and Raudot, Nov. 14, 1708. Canada Doc.,

II., xi., pp. 23-79.

⁴ This year (1707) Mary Victor, Count d'Estrées, Maréchal de Cœuvres and Vice Admiral of France, succeeded as Viceroy of America to his father, John Count d'Estrées and de Tourpes, Marshal and Vice Admiral, who had been Viceroy from 1662. Count Mary Victor, the last of the Viceroys, died in 1737.