

1696. disapproved his course, murmur. He set out on the 9th, and proceeded to encamp two leagues from his fort. He reached it on the 10th, and razed it. The next day he embarked, and reached Montreal on the 20th, having lost only six men in his campaign, two Indians, who, becoming intoxicated with brandy, were massacred by the Iroquois, one Frenchman whose canoe was attacked on the retreat, and three others drowned in the rapids, by not following the route assigned to them.¹

Return of
the army to
Montreal.

Why our
allies did
not join
this expedi-
tion.

Frontenac found at Montreal the Sieur d'Argenteuil who had come down from Michillimakinac with fifty Frenchmen to accompany him to Onondaga, but arrived too late. By this officer he learned the real reason that prevented our allies from joining him according to promise. This was simply ill will on their part, colored by pretexts as hollow, the most specious being their conviction that this expedition, like so many projects in previous years, would never be carried out.²

Frontenac
wishes to
force the
Iroquois to
ask peace.

Meanwhile the Governor General not only believed that he had effected much by humbling the Iroquois, but as he was informed that want of food was no less severe in the cantons to which he had not reached, than in those he had ravaged, and that New York was by no means in a position to furnish any, he flattered himself that the Iroquois, to avoid total ruin, would accept peace on such terms as he should be pleased to impose. To finish this compulsion he resolved to continue the war, and after giving his regulars and the militia time to recover from their hardships, he formed several detachments which harassed the enemy till the end of autumn.

Prepara-
tions to
attack Fort
Pemkuit.

He himself descended to Quebec, as soon as he had given his orders, and on the 25th of August, the *Wasp*, a royal ship, arrived with express orders from the king to put aboard regulars and Canadians under the command of Captain de Muys, an officer of merit, and one of the ablest

¹ English accounts would make his loss larger, Colden, p. 192. N. Y. Col. Doc., iv., p. 242.

² N. Y. Col. Doc., ix., pp. 656, 648. De la Potherie, *Histoire de l'Amérique Sept.*, iii., p. 267.