

with all the forces of the French colony, and, in fact, when news reached Corlar, (Schenectady,) that the Governor-General was at Chambly with a large force, the panic was so great that all the country-people were summoned into the fort; but this panic was in part caused by the total ruin of the English army, as to which nothing definite was known till Father de Mareuil's return.

1710.

This missionary having been exchanged for a nephew of the Governor of Albany,<sup>1</sup> made known all the circumstances, as well as to what New France was indebted for its escape from the great peril it had been exposed to on that side. Four Iroquois cantons, as already noticed, had declared in favor of the English; but these Indians were far from intending to help their allies to expel the French from Canada. The Mohawks had explained to an Abénaqui, the necessity they were under of taking part in a war, of which they had resolved to remain peaceful spectators, and in the great council held at Onondaga, while Father de Mareuil was still there, that religious understood, from the report of some of his emissaries, that the English would derive no great benefit from their alliance with the Iroquois.

What  
defeated  
the English  
expedition.

He was told that the Onondaga orator, or some of the sachems of that canton, had asked whether they no longer remembered that their nation, lying between two powerful nations, each able to exterminate them, and both interested in doing so, when they no longer needed their help, their whole attention should be devoted to keeping both always in the necessity of conciliating them, and consequently preventing either from prevailing over the other. That his speech made an impression on the council, and a resolution was adopted to act in the present circumstances according to the rule of policy hitherto observed.

Iroquois  
policy.

In fact, the Iroquois had no sooner joined the English army, than, believing it strong enough to take Montreal

<sup>1</sup> Lieut. Barent Staats, of the N. Y. militia, whose aunt Peter Schuyler married.