

Black Kettle, the Onondaga chief, already frequently mentioned, and the most renowned Iroquois captain at the time in his nation, approached that fort with about forty warriors, under pretence of hunting, and the better to mask his design, sent to inform Mr. de la Gemeraye, the commandant of the fort, that the sachems of the four upper cantons were about to start forthwith for Quebec to conclude peace. He spoke truly, the deputies being those recently mentioned.

1697.

But as he was known to be a personal enemy of the French, and moreover as his envoys, either of their own head or by his orders, had the imprudence to add, that during this negotiation the young Iroquois braves were going to attack the Ottawas, to avenge the great losses inflicted on the Iroquois within the last year, no doubt was entertained but that he had some hostile design. De la Gemeraye would not, however, take it upon himself to attack him, at a time when he knew that his general was really negotiating with the cantons; he merely held himself on his guard and informed the Count de Frontenac of what had occurred.

Exploit of
thirty
young
Algonquins

He received a reply not to undertake anything against the Iroquois; but to endeavor quietly to seize some of the leading men of Black Kettle's party and send them to him. His letter came too late. While the Iroquois were hunting with great confidence back of Catarocouy, thirty-four Algonquins, the oldest, we are assured, not twenty years of age, surprised them near a place called Quinté, killed half of them, including their chief himself; took his wife and some others prisoners, and this brilliant victory cost them only six of their men.

Oureouharé arrived at Quebec nearly at the same time as this intelligence: he assured Frontenac that his canton, Cayuga, was sincerely disposed to peace; he was believed, for all were convinced that he would not have said so, had it not been the case. A few days after, he was taken down with a pleurisy, which carried him off quite suddenly. He died as a sincere Christian, and was buried with the same honor usually shown to captains in the army.

Death of
Oure-
ouharé.