

"The King having done me the honor to appoint me Governor of several of his Provinces in America, and among others of that of New York, I have considered it right, while tendering you my respects, to inform you of the peace, which has been concluded by the King and the Confederates with the most Christian King, the articles whereof I enclose. The peace was proclaimed at London in the month of October last, shortly before my departure from England, but as my voyage was long, . . . I could not arrive before the 2nd instant.

"I transmit this letter by Colonel Schuiller, member of the King's Council in this province, accompanied by Mr. Dellius, both gentlemen of position and worth, to show you my esteem for a person of your rank. These gentlemen will take you all the French prisoners found in the hands of the English of this province. As for those who are prisoners with our Indians, I shall send orders to have them set at liberty as soon as possible, with a good escort, if that be necessary, to conduct them in all security to Montreal. I have no doubt, sir, that you, on your side will give orders to release all the King's subjects taken prisoners among you during the war, both Christians and Indians, in order that good understanding and freetrade, which are the ordinary fruits of peace, may be renewed on both sides, conformably to the union it has caused between our royal masters."¹

1698.

Letter of the Governor General of New England to the Count de Frontenac.

¹ N. Y. Col. Doc., ix., p. 690. Richard Coote, 1st Earl of Bellomont and 2nd Baron of Coloony, the County of Sligo, born in 1656, was grandson of Sir Charle Coote, a ferocious soldier of fortune in Ireland. Richard succeeded his father as Baron 16th July, 1683. He went to the continent to espouse the interests of William, who after the revolution made him Treasurer and Receiver General to Queen Mary, and Earl of Bellomont. He was made Governor of New York 1697, was blown off to Barbadoes, N. Y. Col.

Doc., iv., 296, and did not reach New York till April 2nd, 1698. *Ib.* p. 302, Smith's New York, 90. He was intensely bigoted, and by a strange abuse of power passed a sanguinary penal law against the Catholic missionaries among the Indians. He died at New York, March 5th, 1701, and was buried in the chapel in the fort, but now lies in St. Paul's churchyard. O' Callaghan, in the N. Y. Col. Doc., iv., p. 851-256 &c. Smith's New York p. 90 &c. The letter here given is not extant in English; it is mentioned vol. iv., p. 305.