

CHAPTER III.

OF THE WAR AND THE TREATIES OF PEACE BETWEEN
THE FRENCH AND THE IROQUOIS.

THE great variety of Nations in these countries, the fickle and perfidious disposition of the Iroquois, and the barbarism of all these tribes making it impossible for us to hope for any lasting peace with them, except so far as [23] it shall be maintained by the fear of the King's arms, we must not wonder that peace gives place so easily to war, and war is so soon terminated by peace.

Within one year there have been seen at Quebec the Ambassadors of five different Nations, who came to ask for peace, but whose coming did not prevent the chastisement, by a vigorous war, of those who in their actions failed to fulfill the promises of their deputies.

The first of these Embassies, from the upper Iroquois, was presented to Monsieur de Tracy in the month of December of the year 1665, the most important man in it being a famous Captain called [24] Garacontié, who has ever signalized his zeal for the French, and used the influence he enjoys among all these Nations to rescue our prisoners from their custody. For example, it was only recently that he set at liberty sieur le Moine, a settler of Montreal, who had been captured three months previously by those Barbarians.

Monsieur de Tracy having testified to him by the usual presents that he would give him a favorable