

women and children), who lived on the north shore of Lake Ontario, among whom a mission was maintained by priests from Montreal. Many of the women and children died from grief or disease; some of the men were surrendered to their converted relatives in the Canadian mission colonies, and the rest were sent to France, to serve with convicts on the royal galleys. Exasperated at this atrocious act, the Iroquois began to harass the French settlements in Canada—terrorizing the entire colony, paralyzing agriculture, and cutting off the fur trade, the two occupations which alone gave it life. The climax of this misery was reached in the terrible massacre at Lachine (August 4-5, 1689), when that settlement was destroyed by an Iroquois army, who butchered or tortured to death some 320 French inhabitants—men, women, and children. Then they ravaged Montreal Island, plundering, killing, and burning all in their way.

Under both La Barre and Denonville, the tribes of the Northwest were in constant danger from the frequent hostilities with the Iroquois; and the impoverished and feeble condition of Canada prevented the French from doing much to aid their Indian allies—who had, nevertheless, sent their warriors to take part in both the French expeditions against the Iroquois. In consequence of this neglect, the Hurons, Ottawas, and other tribes about the lakes, were ready to make peace on their own account, with that dreaded foe, regardless of the French interests. It was all that Perrot, La Durantaye, and other French commandants could do to hold their wavering allegiance. Parkman, in his *Frontenac*, gives a full account (with numerous citations of authorities) of this period; of the commercial, political, and religious influences at work in the development of the Canadian colony; and of the various intrigues carried on by the French, English, and Dutch traders, and the Indian chiefs who were the leading politicians in their respective tribes.

It soon became evident to the French government that Canadian affairs required a more capable and experienced head; and in 1689 Denonville was superseded by Count de Frontenac, the only man who seemed available for that post at this critical juncture.—Ed.]