

winter, and de Lauzon showed himself anxious to reform it on an effective plan. So, early in the summer of 1653, he caused fifty men to be enrolled for that purpose. On the 2nd July this force left Sillery under the command of Eustache Lambert to go up the river as far as Montreal if necessary in order to prevent the Iroquois from attacking the settlers and the annual trading canoes from Upper Canada.

For the period embraced in the seven subsequent years I find no trace of the "Flying Camp." It must have been neglected by Dargenson and Davaugour. In fact a body of regular troops was required to check the Iroquois and not mere militia, whose men could not attend to their farm and other business and at the same time keep beating the country nearly all the year round. Therefore, in 1660 Father Le Jeune went to Paris to obtain troops, which the colony was much in need of. In 1661 Pierre Boucher embarked for France with the same view. In 1662 Louis XIV. ordered one hundred men for Canada, and three hundred men for the next year. The first of these troops reached Quebec on the 27th October, 1662, less thirty men who had been left at Newfoundland on the way. In the following year a body of militiamen was organized at Montreal.

On the 19th June, 1665, the first four companies of Carignan arrived at Quebec; four others on the 30th, with Tracy (vice-roi), and more again at a later period. As the Carignan regiment was proceeding from Quebec towards the Richelieu or Iroquois River, in the summer of 1665, they were met at Three Rivers by a company of Canadian Volunteers under M. de Repentigny. Our historians, after mentioning this fact, remark that "this is the first appearance of the Canadian Militia on the pages of history." Not quite correct, as we now see.