

clergy and all good Catholics to give it their allegiance in spite of its occasional "anti-Christian" proceedings. This brings to mind the saying of Dumas when the noblest of the royalists retired from the Catholic party in France: "The disgraced royalists were now opposing the descendants of Ravaillac, but not their love of Henry IV."

Even this concession, however, did not accomplish its purpose, for by the betrayal of the interests of the royalists in France the Catholic party has been so much weakened that the radical extremists have been enabled to overthrow the influence of the church altogether in that country.

CHAPTER III

THE FIRST WAR OF CANADA: KING WILLIAM'S WAR

(1689-1697.)

Long before 1689, when war was waged directly between the Anglo-Americans and the Canadians, hostilities were carried on indirectly by them through their Indian allies respectively. The Hurons, Abenakis, Micmacs for the French and the Iroquois nations for the Anglo-Americans. The cruelties of these savage allies were exercised not only on each other, but more terribly on their European foes. Both French and English have been blamed for inciting these barbarians against each other, but the manner of offering rewards by the two colonial governments will show where lies the greater ignominy. The French offered a reward for the scalps of their enemies, but a greater reward for those captured and alive. The English offered a reward for scalps, but no reward for prisoners taken alive. The Iroquois Indians, the Anglo-American allies, made the first incursion into the French territory of Canada, burning the isolated hamlets and destroying the families of the peaceful and unsuspecting settlers. They had been supplied with fire-arms by the Anglo-Americans and doctored by fire-water until their ferocity became extreme. When for 300 miles along the St. Lawrence there were not 300 people, the safety of the colony was threatened by invasion of 1200 Iroquois, armed and stimulated by the Anglo-Americans.

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This danger called out the heroism of the captain of the garrison at Montreal, Capt. Dollard, Sieur des Ormeaux, determined not to wait for them in his fort where his little garrison would be unable

to protect the scattered settlements thereabout. He called for volunteers and 16 men responded. Each one made his will and prepared his soul for death, and then they started, accompanied by 40 Hurons, their allies. When they reached the site of an old redoubt near the river and directly in the path of the coming Iroquois, Captain Dollard gave each man his position, stretching them out in such a manner that they could not be turned and were capable of obstructing all passage to the foe. The first band of Iroquois numbered 300. They came on with shouts and the discharge of fire-arms, but were rolled back by the volunteers of Dollard, although they were deserted at this time by the 40 Hurons who went over to the enemy. For several days,

this difficult position, these 16 heroes back the enemy and inflicted on them a terrible loss. Despairing of driving the French, the Indians sent messengers to hurry up the second band of Iroquois, which numbered 500.

When this second band arrived, the assault was renewed, the barricade was carried, but the French charged so furiously with sword and pike that the Indians were forced back. Yet many of the defenders had fallen and Dollard and his men, who for five days and nights had been fighting continuously, and getting only snatches of slumber from the hard and frozen ground, without fire, with but little food, knew that their last hour had come. Seizing a keg of powder and putting a lighted fuse in the long-hole, Dollard hurled it so that it might fall among the warring savages, but it struck the branch of an overhanging tree and fell within his own lines, when the explosion killed some of his own party.

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Encouraged by this misfortune to the besieged, the Indians made one more as-