

## THE ROCKWOOD REVIEW.

be taken of Sieur De La Salle. Said he, in a despatch at the time: "I will also, that you leave the possession of Fort Frontenac to Sieur De La Salle, or to those people who will be there in his behalf, and that you do nothing adverse to the interests of that man whom I take under my particular protection." The King had other game in view. In the same despatch, he said: "As it tends to the good of my service to diminish, as much as possible, the number of the Iroquois, and moreover, as these savages, who are very strong and robust, will serve usefully in my galleys, I will that you do everything in your power to make a great number of them prisoners of war, and have them embarked by every opportunity that will offer, in order that they be conveyed to France." So you see, a little more than 200 years ago, a large army was assembled at Kingston, mainly for the purpose of catching Indian slaves to man French galleys! The world has surely moved since then. The Iroquois, however, were not easy to capture. You have heard of the directions given by Mrs. Glass for the cooking of a hare? "Catch your hare before you cook it." La Barre found it necessary to catch his Indians before he could convert them into galley slaves. Sickness set in, provisions became scarce, and the mercenary La Barre, who had gone up to destroy and capture, was glad to come to terms with the Iroquois, to patch up another Treaty, and to depart without a day's delay for Quebec. De La Barre, unsuccessful and disgraced, was recalled. In 1685, he was replaced by M. De Denonville, who arriving from France, departed for Fort Frontenac, after a few hours repose in Quebec, and reported upon the position of affairs. He adopted a tem-

porizing policy, although convinced that the Iroquois must be kept in check by strengthening Fort Frontenac, and by establishing another Fort at Niagara, with a garrison of 500 men. The cost of this was the difficulty, but merchants in Quebec, in the hope of securing the whole of the fur trade, more and more tapped by the English, offered to pay a yearly rent of 30,000 livres for the maintenance of Fort Niagara. The French King approved the plans. What followed makes another story, and I must claim your patience even yet a little longer, and will attempt next month to tell it to completion.

GRANDFATHER.

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