

to assure them that henceforward the Mohawks would live with them as with their brethren.'

1656.

He then turned towards the general, and spoke to him in these words: "Ononthio, lift up your arms and let your children go, whom you hold clasped to your bosom; for, should they commit any folly, it is to be feared, that while intending to chastise them, my blows may reach you. This is to open your arms." And he presented a belt. "I know," he continued, "that the Huron loves the prayer; that he acknowledges and adores the Author of all things; that in all his necessities he has recourse to Him. I wish to do the same. Consent that Ondesson (Father le Moyne)—who has left me, I know not why—return with the Huron to instruct me; and as I have not canoes enough to take so many, do me the favor to lend me yours." He supported these two requests with two other belts, and retired.'

The reader will doubtless have much difficulty in understanding what obliged Mr. de Lauson<sup>1</sup> to suffer such insolence at a time when he had no other enemy on his hands except the single canton of the Mohawks. Perhaps he wished to see, before coming to a rupture with them, in what way affairs would turn at Onondaga. But the fact is that he manifested to the Mohawks no resentment at the haughty discourse of their orator. This the Hurons marked well, and they were greatly embarrassed. Past experience and the conduct of the Iroquois made them

Embarrassment of the Hurons.

<sup>1</sup> Relation de la Nouvelle France, 1657, p. 20.

<sup>2</sup> Ib.

<sup>3</sup> The acting governor at this time was Mr. Charles de Lauson de Charney, son of the governor. He came to Canada, June 23, 1652. In August, 1652, he married Mary Louisa Giffard, who died in 1656. After his father's departure, in the summer of 1656, he administered the government till Sept. 18, 1657, when

he went to France, and having been ordained, returned in 1659 with Bishop Laval. In 1672 he returned with his daughter to France. Belmont, Histoire du Canada, p. 9; Mémoires de la Soc. Hist. de Montréal, p. 80. Juchereau (Histoire de l'Hôtel Dieu, p. 110) is misled in supposing that John de Lauson, the seneschal, was left as governor. See Fillion, Histoire de la Colonie Française, II., p. 259.