

ambassadors from all the cantons; that then the war-kettles should be overturned, the great tree of peace strengthened, the rivers cleansed, the roads made smooth so that every one could come and go in all security whither he chose. Thirdly, he consented that the missionary and two officers should go as requested with them for the prisoners; but on condition that they should also bring ambassadors invested with full power to establish a lasting peace; that on their arrival in Montreal, he would set at liberty all the Iroquois prisoners; but that he wished some one of them to remain as a hostage till the return of the three persons whom he entrusted to them. Four deputies offered to remain, and were accepted.¹ The rest of the audience passed quite tranquilly, except that some Iroquois Christians and Abénaquis, who had been invited, met the deputies of the two cantons with bitter reproaches and haughty words.²

De Callieres on dismissing the deputies declared that he would wait for the ambassadors till the month of September. The three French ambassadors set out with them, and were received at Onondaga with demonstrations of joy that they had not dared to anticipate. From Lake Gannentaha, where the Iroquois had come to meet them, they were led as it were in triumph to the great village of the canton. Teganissorens, as orator, had advanced a considerable distance to compliment them; he addressed them in the most polished terms, and as this Indian had never varied in his attitude towards the French, nor had taken any part in the perfidy or violent acts of his nation, the ambassadors felt no doubt of his sincerity; but they could draw from this no conclusion as to the others.³

They entered the town amid volleys of musketry, and were then lavishly feasted. On the 10th of August they were introduced into the Council Cabin, where they found

1700.

Reception
of the
French am-
bassadors at
Onondaga.

Father
Bruyas'
address.

¹ Conference July 18, 1700. N. Y. Col. Doc., ix., p. 708-711. De la Potherie, iv., p. 142-6.

² This was later, see De la Potherie, iv., p. 170.

³ De la Potherie, iv., p. 148. N. Y. Col. Doc., ix., p. 711. They reached Onondaga July 24, 1700.

O. S. Ib., iv., p. 639, Colden, Hist'y Five Nations, p. 200.