

or twelve days at Albany, where he would inform them of his pleasure. This imperious tone shocked the council, and nothing perhaps contributed more to incline that nation towards us, than this un-reasonable step. "I do not understand," then said Teganissorens, "what my brother means, in desiring us not to hearken to our Father's voice, and to sing the war-song at a time when everything invites us to peace."

1700.

Father Bruyas profited wonderfully by this disposition, to show the assembly that the English General treated the cantons as subjects, and all that they would have to fear from so harsh and haughty a rule, when once they were subjected to it; that this would infallibly soon happen, if they let slip the occasion now in their hands of being reconciled to their Father. Joncaire added that the English, in opposing this reconciliation, could have no other view than to let them gradually destroy themselves by war, or at least become so weak as to be no longer able to shake off a yoke whose weight they would learn perhaps too late.

That same day this officer set out for the Seneca canton, where he had his cabin, that is to say, had been adopted, as Mr. de Maricourt and all his family had been at Onondaga. He was received with distinction as ambassador, and with friendship as a child of the nation. They granted him the liberty of all the French prisoners who were in that canton; but the majority, grown accustomed to Indian life, could not bring themselves to renounce it. Several hid themselves, others openly refused to follow the Sieur de Joncaire. The allurements of a liberty unfettered by any law, and perhaps, too, some degree of libertinage, effaced in the minds of these men all the hardships of their life, and all the enjoyments their own country could proffer.

Several French prisoners refuse to return to the colony.

While Joncaire was negotiating with the Senecas, a general council of the whole Iroquois nation was held at Onondaga; the young English deputy of the Chevalier Bellomont was admitted, and Teganissorens spoke for all

Address of Teganissorens to the French ambassadors.