

1700.

The ambassadors return to Montreal.

There being nothing more to delay the ambassadors at Onondaga, they set out to return to Montreal with deputies from that canton and Cayuga. They were escorted to Gannentaha with the same honors given them on their arrival, and they halted there some time for the Oneida deputies. These did not come, however, and that canton contented itself with merely sending a belt, alleging as an excuse that the chief man of the deputation had fallen sick. It was afterwards known that this was a pretext to avoid giving up the prisoners. Joncaire soon after arrived there with six Seneca deputies and three Frenchmen whom he had delivered and induced to follow him. Only ten had been collected in all the cantons; but Teganisorens undertook to hunt up the rest and have them sent to Montreal.¹

Bellomont's renewed efforts to thwart a peace.

The ambassadors and deputies were about to embark, when a Seneca² arriving at Gannentaha from Albany, stated that the Governor of New England, incensed that the cantons should, in spite of his orders, persist in their resolution of making peace with the French, had arrested and put in irons an Oneida accused of killing an Englishman, seized all the beaver skins he could find at Albany belonging to the Iroquois, raised the red flag to intimate that he was determined to make war on them, ordered the Mohegans to begin operations, and threatened that he would come the next year in person to teach the cantons to respect his will.³

Reception of the deputies at Montreal.

The deputies heard this very calmly, and the account seemed to produce no impression beyond exciting a feeling of indignation, which they did not altogether conceal. They set out to the number of nineteen, and on arriving at Montreal, were received with a salute of *patararoes*⁴ which excited some jealousy in the hearts of our allies.

¹ De la Potherie, iv., p. 161, Col- den's Five Nations, p. 203.

² Osketaest.

³ De la Potherie, iv., p. 163, Bellomont held a conference with fifty sachems of the Five Nations at

Albany, Aug. 27, 1700. N. Y. Col Doc., iv., p. 727-746.

⁴ *Boetes de jouissance*—short cannon set up vertically and plugged so as to make a very loud report.