

Some were even heard asking whether that was the way the French received their enemies. They were allowed to speak so, without perhaps reflecting sufficiently on what it might lead to, and a day was set to hear the propositions of the Iroquois deputies. We always risk losing friends by endeavoring to regain enemies, whom such a course renders still more haughty and unmanageable.

1700.

The orator of the cantons spoke briefly and moderately. He first extolled the prompt obedience of the nation in countermanding (at the simple prohibition made by Father Bruyas and his two colleagues on behalf of their Father) two hundred of their braves just about to take the field to avenge the last hostilities of our allies. He exposed the indignation excited among the deputies by the orders and threats of the Governor-General of New England; and he added, that as their disregard of these orders and menaces might draw upon them an English war, he hoped the Iroquois would find at Catarocouy not only the goods which they could no longer obtain at Orange, (Albany,) but also the arms and ammunition they might require, so as to dispense with the English, or defend themselves in case the English attacked them.¹

Their
speeches
in the
Council.

A more numerous audience gathered on the day appointed for a reply to this speech. The Chevalier de Callieres first repeated to the deputies what he had stated to the first envoys, that he had heard with regret of the hostilities committed on both sides during the last campaign; that he was extremely concerned at the losses of the Iroquois, although they should impute them solely to themselves; and that he would in future establish such perfect order, that nothing of the kind should happen again.

Chevalier
de
Callieres'
reply.

He then told them that they had acted very wisely in recalling their warriors; that they need fear nothing more from our allies, whose head chiefs they beheld come to hear his voice; that he thanked them for bringing back a

¹ N. Y. Col. Doc., ix., p. 715; den, p. 202. History of the Five De la Potherie, iv., p. 164-6; Col. Nations.