

should disquiet the cantons, neither they nor the English having any right to gainsay it, as Detroit belonged to him; that his object in this enterprise was to maintain peace among all the nations; that he had already enjoined on the officer who was to represent him there, to settle all the difficulties that might arise among any of the allies, before they were carried to any unpleasant extremity; but above all to leave, and even secure to all, freedom in hunting.

1701.

Teganissorens had added that the English had already formed the same design of settling at Detroit, and that the cantons had opposed it; de Callieres either was aware of this, or afraid that the English might take up the idea, and this was what he wished to traverse. He told Teganissorens that he was obliged to the cantons for thinking as he said in regard to the English: that he could easily prevent their usurping a country that did not belong to them. "As for me," he continued, "I assume to be master at home; but wish to be so, only for the good of my children: it is for their sake I toil, establishing a post at Detroit; it is only ill-disposed minds that can take umbrage at this design, and I am convinced that one day you will thank me for executing it."

Teganissorens did not reply on this point; but he said, that as he had concealed nothing from his Father, he was very glad to inform him, that when he reported his answer to the sachems, the latter would not fail to make it known to the English forthwith; that he hoped, nevertheless, that if the two nations again came to variance in Europe and America, the cantons would not take part in this quarrel. "I care very little," replied de Callieres, "whether the English are informed or not of what I wish to do at Detroit; I know that they will disapprove it; that they will even make many efforts to thwart it; all I ask of you is to remain mere spectators of what may arise between them and me."¹

¹ For Teganissorens' report of his Gov. of New York, see N. Y. Col. conference, as presented to the Lieut. Doc., iv., p. 891.