

1712. with their brandy, and who were enemies of the true God.

These dialogues did not, however, please the *Sieur du Buisson*, as they checked the combat, and gave the enemy a breathing space.¹

They ask
peace.

The besieged had already profited by it to gain a house that had not been completely demolished, and which joined their fort. There they raised a redoubt from which they fired under cover of the gable. But the *Commandant* demolished it with his artillery; then the enemy raised fearful yells, and some moments after they asked permission to send deputies to *du Buisson*.² Before granting the favor, that *Commandant* wished to have the consent of the chiefs, whom he convoked in council. All agreed that they must seize the opportunity to rescue from the hands of the besieged, the three women already mentioned. They were accordingly informed that he was ready to hear them. Very early the next morning, the red blankets disappeared and gave place to a white flag. Then *Pemoussa*, the great chief of the *Foxes*, presented himself at the gates of the camp, attended by two warriors; they were admitted, the Council assembled, and as soon as they were introduced, *Pemoussa* placed before the *Commandant* two prisoners and a belt, begging him to allow him two days, that the old men might discuss the means of appeasing him and making satisfaction. Then he turned towards the Indians, presented them also two slaves and a belt, and spoke thus:

“Remember that we are your brothers, and that in shedding our blood, it is your own you shed. I beg you, therefore, to calm the mind of our Father, whom we have unfortunately angered. These two slaves are to replace a little blood that we have perhaps shed.” As the Indians did not answer, *du Buisson* spoke and informed the deputies, that he could not feel assured of the sincerity of their repentance, till they brought back *Saguima’s* wife and the two others taken with her; that

¹ *Ib.* pp. 320-3.

killed in the fort and claim to have

² This day the French had 12 killed 30.