

exchange was to be made and peace concluded. They declared that it would also give them pleasure to have Father Bruyas, one of their old missionaries, accompany them also, as well as to have Father de Lamberville recalled from France, he being better fitted than any one else, they said, to maintain a good understanding between the two nations. They finally declared that they could not put any confidence in him, so long as he kept the war kettle on the fire, and did not arrest the tomahawk of his allies.¹

1698.

The Chevalier de Callieres replied that the kettle should stay on the fire till peace was concluded: that he would treat of peace at Montreal, not at Albany: and would hearken to no proposition on their part, till they had satisfied all the conditions imposed upon them by the late Count de Frontenac; that then Mr. de Maricourt and Father Bruyas should visit them, and he would write to France to solicit Father de Lamberville's return. They seemed quite satisfied with this reply, which was nevertheless apparently unexpected, and they limited their requests to one for security to come and go freely.

The
Governor's
course.

Mr. de Callieres granted them sixty days' truce, and on their pressing to obtain four prisoners whom the Onondaga canton solicited most earnestly, he consented to exchange them for four Frenchmen. In the sequel he had abundant reason for rejoicing that he had not shown greater facility; for it was soon seen that these savages had no other object than gradually to get back all the prisoners held by us, while keeping those they had, and almost all of whom they had adopted. On setting out the deputies promised to return before the month of June; but the French placed little dependence on this promise, as they were informed that the English wished to be the arbiters of peace, and pretended that the Iroquois as their subjects were comprised in the treaty concluded at Riswick between the two crowns.²

¹ See the Explanation of the Col-lars, *Ib.*

² De la Potherie, *Hist. de l'Am. Sept.*, iv., p. 118-123.