

1699.

On what conditions the Indians are willing to treat with him.

them go on. In fact the Abénaquis having received the propositions of the English General, who even promised to meet them the next spring, they forwarded the following articles to him: 1. That he should begin by withdrawing the English forever from their country. 2. That they did not see on what ground he pretended to be their master, which neither he nor any of his predecessors had ever been; that they, of their own free will, and unconstrained, had given themselves to the King of France, and would never receive orders from any one but him and his generals. 3d. That they would never permit the English to erect habitations on their lands, and that they had granted permission to do so only to the French. 4th. That they were greatly surprised to hear that he thought of giving them any missionaries but their own; that they were glad to inform him that they did not wish to change their religion, and would never have any other but that which had been taught them, and for which they had fought and would fight to the death.<sup>1</sup>

Mr. de la Valliere and Father Bruyas sent to Boston.

At this juncture the Chevalier de Callieres received through Bellomont, a letter by which his Majesty ordered him to stop all acts of hostility between the French and English. This letter was addressed open to the English general, and the King of England had similarly addressed to the Chevalier de Callieres that written by him in conformity, to the Chevalier Bellomont. The Chevalier de Callieres thought fit to send it to Boston, by Mr. de la Valliere, Major of Montreal,<sup>2</sup> and to have that officer attended by Father Bruyas. These deputies were directed to bring back all the French prisoners in New England, and they were especially recommended to examine

<sup>1</sup> Father James Bigot mentions that they had begun to give up English prisoners. He went to Quebec to report what passed between them and the English, and starting to return fell sick, was taken back, and did not set out again till after Easter. Relation des affaires du Ca-

nada, pp. 63-73. On the 7th of Jan. 1699, a treaty was made at Mare Point with the Sagamores of Penobscot, Kennebec, Androscoggin and Saco. Williamson's Maine, i., p. 649.

<sup>2</sup> Appointed in 1698. Daniel ii., p. 296.