

knew to be a brave and capable man of ancient family. They replied that they approved this choice, and with pleasure accepted this Head Chief at his hands. He showed the warmest friendship to the great Chief, whom he styles in his letters the "Emperor of the Caoutitas,"¹ to whom he made a suitable present; it pleased him greatly, and he declared that he would be devoted to the French as long as he lived; that he saw that the advice we gave was always good; that he wished the English thought as they did, as all nations would be the happier for it.

1730.

Mr. Perrier also gave audience to the Chickasaw chief, but adopted a different tone with him. He told him, however, that he was very glad to see him; that when his nation returned to its duty, he would treat it like the rest, and that it depended on them to live calmly and happily; that he was ignorant of none of their intrigues, but that he would resume his paternal feelings for them, when they themselves acted as submissive and obedient children. This man made no reply, but a week after, he asked the Castacha chief to tell the General that they were unhappy, and really worthy of compassion; that since he had withdrawn the French who traded with them, all the northern nations made unrelenting war on them. Perrier told the one who spoke thus to assure that chief that no nation of his province should attack them, as long as they gave him no other cause of complaint, but that he did not answer for the Canada Indians, as they were thoroughly convinced that they were enemies of the French; that they must prove the contrary by unequivocal acts.

The most delicate point on which Mr. Perrier had to treat with the Choctaws, was trade. He knew that they complained loudly of the dearness of our goods, nor was he unaware that the English had promised to furnish their goods at half any price we might set on ours. On the other hand, he was well convinced that if he made the deduction they asked, they would in six months demand another. He thought, however, he might gratify

¹ Called by the Spaniards Chipacafi. Barcia, *Ensayo Cronologico*, p. 332.