

1731. offering to surrender all the negroes whom they still had in the fort. Perrier replied that he wished the negroes, but he also required that the chiefs should come to confer with him. The deputy replied that the chiefs would not come, but that if the General had anything to communicate to them, he might advance to the head of the trench, and that the Head Chief would on his side advance to the edge of his fort. Perrier told him to go at all events and get the negroes, and that on his return he would announce his intentions.

They give up all the negroes captured from the French whom they still held. He returned with this reply and in half an hour brought eighteen negroes and one negress. On restoring them to the General, he told him that the Sun would not come out, yet that he asked nothing except to make peace; but on condition that the army should at once retire; that if it adopted this course, he pledged his word that his nation would never commit any hostility against the French, and that he was even ready, if desired, to go and restore his village in its old site. The General replied that he would listen to no proposition till the chiefs came to meet him; that he assured them their lives; but that if they did not come to him that very day, there should be no quarter for any one.

They continue to parley. The envoy returned with this message, and after a time came back to say that all the warriors, with one accord, refused to let the Sun come out; that this excepted, they were disposed to do anything required. The cannon had just arrived; the General replied to this Indian that he held to his first proposition, and ordered him to notify his people that if they allowed a single cannon to be fired, he would put all to the sword, without sparing even the women and children. This man soon returned with a Natché named St. Côme, a son of the woman Chief, and who consequently would have succeeded the Sun. This Indian, who had at all times been quite familiar with the French, told Mr. Perrier in a very resolute tone, that, inasmuch as peace had been concluded, he ought to dismiss his troops; that he was very sorry for what his na-