

so that the words of Onontio, which they had received by their ears, might issue without difficulty and without roughness from their lips. This gift made, the Frenchman, who has knowledge of their language, and those Ambassadors, displayed the presents with which they were charged, and then harangued to the satisfaction of all the people. Their speeches finished, the Captains also made other presents, to be conveyed to Onontio and to his confederates.

The first served as a bath in which those Ambassadors, fatigued from the journey, might refresh themselves; or as an ointment which would cure the wounds that the stones, the briars, and the thickets, encountered in so long a journey, might [12] have caused to their feet.

The second proclaimed that their war hatchet—according to the desire of Onontio, suspended in the air without finishing its blow until the answer of the Hurons and of the Algonquins—had lost its use; and that it had been thrown so far that not a man in the world could ever find it again,—that is, that, the Hurons and the Algonquins having entered into peace, the Annierronnons had no more arms except for the chase.

The third indicated the grief which the Annieronnons received from their miserable daughter onnieoute, who despised the voice of her mother and the counsel of her father; that she was so insolent as even to have sent some of her children to Montreal, in order to surprise those who should happen to be in that country. Onnieoute is a village which, the greatest part of its men having been defeated in war by the upper Algonquins, was constrained to call the Annierronnons to repeople it; thence it comes that