

their country,—such would be the evil results of your temerity. Begone; hide these heads, take away these bonds; as we have but one heart, we desire but one tongue.”

If there is deceit in this act, it is more than very subtle; and it seems that reason invites these peoples to embrace the peace. God has given them a feeling that the demon of war, which had always favored them, was about to leave them; the resolution of some Algonquins and Hurons—who, having bravely fought toward the last, had taken some Iroquois captive—confirmed this idea. In the second place, as they are hunters, and as most of the animals are on the marches of the Algonquins, they have a great desire to shoot these at their ease and without fear. Indeed, they have not stinted themselves in this; for it is said that they have killed more than two thousand deer this winter.

Thirdly, the Annierronnon prisoner whom the Hurons had taken near Richelieu, and whom they had led away to their own country, having returned to his native land, has spoken highly of the French; he has given his countrymen to understand that if [17] Onontio lends a hand to the Hurons, the misfortune will fall on their own heads.

After all, the great God of hosts is the one and only author of this peace; I entreat him that he will be the preserver thereof. Our arguments were too limited in so great a barbarism; fury was too much kindled to be quelled or extinguished by human effort; and we candidly confess that if he who has made the peace does not preserve it, we have not enough skill to restrain the inconstancy of these Barbarians within firm bounds.