

first two discharges, we heard the scaffold fall, and some of the enemy were killed. They were so frightened that we heard them utter cries and frightful groans, and toward evening they called out to know if I would allow them to come and speak to me. I assembled immediately, the Chiefs of all the nations who were with me, to ascertain their opinion; and we agreed it was best to listen to them, in order, by some stratagem, to withdraw from them three of our women, whom they had made prisoners some days before the siege, and one of whom was the wife of the great war chief Saguina. I told them, through my interpreter, that they might come in safety, to speak to me, as I was willing they should have that satisfaction before dying.

They did not fail the next morning to make me a visit. We were very much surprised not to see the red flags in their village, but only a white flag. It was the great chief Pemoussa, who was at the head of this first embassy. He came out of his village with two other Indians, carrying a white flag in his hand. I sent my interpreter to meet him, and conduct him to me, and to protect him from the insults of some of the young warriors. He entered my fort; I placed him in the midst of the parade ground, and then I assembled all the chiefs of the nations who were with me, to hear our ambassador, who spoke in these words (Presenting a belt of wampum and two slaves):

“My father, I am dead; I see very well that the heaven is clear and beautiful for you only, and that for me, it is altogether dark. When I left my village, I hoped that you would willingly listen to me. I demand of you, my father, by this belt, which I lay at your feet, that you have pity on your children, and that you do not refuse them the two days that they ask you, in which there shall be no firing on either side, that our old men may hold a council, to find a means of turning away your wrath.

“It is to you that I now speak, you, other children, listening to the advice of our father; this belt is to pray you to recollect, that you are our kindred. If you shed our blood, recollect, that it is also your own; endeavor then to soften the heart of our father, whom we have so often offended. These two slaves are to replace, perhaps, a little blood that you may have lost. I do