

You would have felt such terrible coils, that they would have covered you so deep in the ground, that no one would any longer speak of you, so true is it that I love the flesh of the father of all the nations. With regard to the liberty you demand, I leave to my children to answer you. Therefore I shall say no more."

The head chief of the Illinois, whose name is Makouandebý, was appointed by the chiefs of the other nations to speak in these words:

"My father, we all thank you for your kindness to us; we thank you for it, and since you give us permission to speak, we shall do so."

And then, addressing the hostile chiefs, he said: "Now listen to me ye nations who have troubled all the earth. We perceive clearly by your words, that you seek only to surprise our father, and to deceive him again, in demanding that we should retire. We should no sooner do so, but you would again torment our father, and you would infallibly shed his blood. You are dogs who have always bit him. You have never been sensible of all the favors you have received from all the French. You have thought, wretches that you are, that we did not know all the speeches you have received from the English, telling you to cut the throats of our father, and of his children, and then to lead his children into this country. Go away, then. For us, we will not stir a step from you; we are determined to die with our father; we should disobey him; because we know your bad heart, and we would not leave him alone with you. We shall see from this moment, who will be master, you or us; you have now only to retire, and as soon as you shall re-enter your fort, we shall fire upon you."

I sent an escort to conduct the ambassadors to their fort, and we began to fire again as usual. We were three or four days without any intercourse, firing briskly on both sides. The enemy discharged their arrows so rapidly that more than three or four hundred were flying at the same time, and at their ends were lighted fuses: the object being to burn us, as they had threatened to do. I found myself very much embarrassed; the arrows fell upon all our quarters, which were covered with straw, so that the fire easily caught many of them, which fright-