

allow them on the island; but they reinforced the guard watching over our safety. On entering the village, a Renard was inspired with the idea of delivering a harangue, contrary to the custom of the savages who harangue only in cabins. This insolent man spoke to us as follows:

“We are unfortunate, my brothers; we have been driven from our lands by the French. The sorrow caused us by our misfortunes has brought us here to beg you to wipe away our tears. You are our relatives; refuse us not the favor we ask. You will give us as many Frenchmen as you choose; we do not demand all of them.”

They entered the cabin of our friend Chaouénon, being convinced that if they could win him over they would easily persuade the other chiefs. All being assembled, the Renards began to weep for their dead, making the air resound with their cries, and spreading out a bloody robe, a shell all reddened with blood, and a red calumet with feathers all dripping blood. Such a dreadful spectacle was calculated to produce an impression, and all this blood called most eloquently for ours. A tall young renard warrior, much painted, arose, lit his calumet and presented it to Chaouénon, to *Bœuf noir* (Black Bull) and to the young chiefs who barely deigned to touch it with the tip of their lips, and drew but a puff or two. The old chiefs smoked heartily and emptied the renard's calumet to show that their sentiments were in accord with his. The young Renard took back his calumet, and presented it once more to the young chiefs with as little success as at first. Finally after again weeping for their dead, they left their presents and were told that the answer would be given on the following day. The young Kikapous passed the whole night without sleep. The Renards roamed about unceasingly and tried to intimidate them by great threats, but all in vain.

On the following day, the savages assembled and the Kikapous replied as follows: “My brothers, you are not unaware that we had no evil design in stopping the French. We wish them to live. And what would become of us if they perished