

leagues of the village which they wished to attack. Here 1564. they held a council, and it was resolved that half the force should keep on by water, the rest by land, and that both parties should at daybreak burst into the hostile town by different points ; that all the men should be killed, but the women and children spared to enslave. All this was executed exactly, the enemy were surprised, and all able to resist cut to pieces ; only twenty-four prisoners were taken. The victors fearing to be cut off on their retreat, scarcely took time to scalp the dead, and return thanks to the sun for so signal a success. They regained their peraguas in haste, and re-embarked after dividing the captives ; as for booty, these tribes are not accustomed to load themselves with it, and there is very little to gain with people who fight naked, and always take great care to hide their provisions.¹

Saturiova, to whose share fell thirteen prisoners, reached home the day after the action, and as soon as the scalps which he brought appeared at his door, adorned according to custom with laurel, the whole town was in tears till evening. Then the scene changed, and the whole night was spent in rejoicing. The next day Laudonnier sent to congratulate the paraousti on his victory, and to beg him to give him two of his prisoners. His intention was to send them back to Timagoa, in order to gain the goodwill of that nation ; for, considering all things, he had very wisely concluded it to be for the interest of the colony to live well with all these nations, and to reconcile them with each other if possible. Happy, had he always adhered to that resolution.²

Saturiova's reply was a refusal, accompanied with some reproaches. The commandant believed that his honor did not permit him to show weakness with these Indians. He set out at once with forty men, fully armed, and repaired to the paraousti's cabin. He entered alone, after

Saturiova's victory.

What passed between him and Laudonnier as to the prisoners.

¹ Laudonnier in Basanier, p. 100. ² Ib., p. 101.