

Jogues had discharged his ministry to its full extent; but he sighed for martyrdom, and he believed that the services which he could render the captives, by consoling and exhorting them to death, was a sufficiently justifiable motive for exposing himself to it, and he would not miss the opportunity.¹

He accordingly advanced towards the Iroquois, who seemed to pay no attention to him, thinking only of embarking with their capture, and he made himself the prisoner of the first one he met, saying that he would not be separated from his beloved children, whose sad fate he but too clearly foresaw. A Frenchman, Willam Couture, with whom the holy man had come down from the Huron country, had fled among the first; but he was no sooner out of danger than he was seized with shame for having abandoned Father Jogues, and, without reflecting that he could no longer be of any service to him in the hands of the Iroquois, he used as much exertion to rush back into the danger as he had used to escape it.²

1642.

A Frenchman does the same thing.

Father Jogues was pained to see him again, and reproached him gently with his imprudence in a course that could avail no one; but the error was committed. Couture had been seized as soon as he appeared, and bound with the other captives. Moreover, some of the best Iroquois runners had started in pursuit of the fugitives, and brought in several. As they arrived, the sighs of Father Jogues redoubled; and in a letter which he wrote to his Provincial in France, soon after his arrival among the Iroquois, he declares that he felt, on this occasion, the reverse

shore, till, seeing the approach of the other band, they broke and fled: Tanner, p. 512. The Latin phrase is general, but Jogues evidently took no part in the fight.

¹ Relation de la Nouvelle France, 1647, p. 18; Letter of Aug. 5, Tanner, p. 512, and MS.

² Letter of Father Jogues: Tanner, p. 317.

p. 512. Couture was recovered some years after, and dying in 1702, aged ninety-four, left a numerous posterity in Canada. Monseigneur Turgeon, Archbishop of Quebec, and Monseigneur Bourget, Bishop of Montreal, are both descended from this companion of Father Jogues: Ferland, *Cours d'Histoire*, i., p. 317.