

drinks that filled all the land with drunkards and caused 1643.
fearful disorders.¹

A few days after, the governor-general received a letter from Father Jogues himself. It stated that the whole Iroquois nation was in arms, and seemed resolved to give the Hurons no truce till it destroyed them ; that their project was to ruin all their villages, take all the prisoners they could, so as to incorporate them in their cantons and to fill up the losses made by war ; that if the French delayed any longer to assist an allied nation, already numbering many Christians, whose trade was useful, not to say necessary, to the French colony, its loss was certain ; and then men would repent, when too late, for not having sustained it. He added that they should not be withheld by fears of what might happen to him if the efforts of the Iroquois were repulsed ; that they should be convinced, once for all, that the way to bring these savages to terms and assure the safety of his own person, was not to humor them at the expense of our allies, but to inspire them with respect for the French name ; that under any event he would be overjoyed to sacrifice his life for the cause of religion, the good of the colony, the honor of France, and the preservation of his beloved Hurons.²

The governor admired the devotedness of the missionary ; and, in his inability to give the Hurons the aid they required, deemed that nothing should be neglected, and no time lost, to save a man whose captivity had already cost so many tears. He had just learned that some Algonquins had brought into Quebec a Sokoki captive. This tribe, lying near New England, was then allied to the Iroquois. He ransomed the captive ; and though he had been very badly treated by those in whose hands he was, he was so well cared for, by the governor's orders, that he was perfectly cured. He was then loaded with

Unavailing
efforts made
to deliver
him.

¹ Relation de la Nouvelle France, Nouvelle France, 1643, p. 66 ; Perils 1643, p. 63 ; 1644, p. 71. of the Ocean and Wilderness, p.

² See the letter, Relation de la 63.