

1650. The fate of those who could not bring themselves to abandon their native land was very sad. Some threw themselves into the hands of neighboring nations, on whom they soon drew the arms of the Iroquois.¹ Others went towards the English, and settled in what is now called Pennsylvania.² A large party, drawn by the Iroquois into an ambuscade, under pretext of treating with them, detecting the perfidy of those savages, met stratagem by a stratagem, which succeeded. They surprised those who expected to take them by surprise, killed many, then went and encamped on Manitoulin Island, whence, soon after, they descended to Quebec, to join their countrymen.³

The fate of
the rest.

1650-1. Almost all the inhabitants of the two towns of St. Michael and St. John the Baptist took a very perilous course, which was, nevertheless, attended with success. They voluntarily presented themselves to the Iroquois, offered to live with them, and were well received.⁴ At last the enemy, knowing that many were wandering up and down, unable to settle anywhere, set the young men after them. Almost all were taken. No quarter was given. And to show how far the terror of the Iroquois name had seized all the nation, not only the Huron country, but also the whole course of the Ottawa River, which had been so thickly peopled a few years before, were almost entirely deserted, without its being possible to say what had become of most of the people.⁵

At least the Hurons who had taken refuge at Quebec would, it was hoped, be beyond the reach of the miseries

¹ These were the Attiwandarônk or Neuters: Creuxius, p. 589; Relation de la Nouv. France, 1651, p. 4.

² Among the Susquehannas or Andastes, later known as Conestogas: Creuxius, p. 590; Relation de la Nouvelle France, 1651, p. 4.

³ This party was led by Stephen Annaotaha: Relation de la Nouvelle

France, 1651, p. 5; Creuxius, Historia Canadensis, p. 590.

⁴ Relation, 1651, p. 4; Creuxius, Hist. Canad., p. 590. These formed the nation. Their town, in the Seneca country, was Gandougaræ.

⁵ Relation, 1651, p. 5. The Nipissings were nearly destroyed: Relation, 1650, p. 26.