

had been brought up by Father de Brebeuf in the Huron missions. This convoy started from Quebec a little before mid-August, and the next day, as it approached Three Rivers, it was warned by a canoe, dispatched by the governor of that town, that there was a party of Mohawks in the neighborhood. This party had already discerned the Ottawas, and laid an ambuscade for them; but they did not fall into it, and arrived safely at Three Rivers.¹

1656.

Mission-
aries are
given to
some of
them.

The French who accompanied them then reflected that these Indians were very ill equipped, and that they could not escape an encounter with a foe whose forces might increase at any moment. They accordingly resolved to proceed no further; and there were only three who were unwilling to abandon the Jesuits.² The Ottawas were no sooner embarked than they perceived that the Mohawks were at their heels; yet this did not induce them to use greater precaution as they advanced. They had purchased fire-arms, the use of which was new to them. They delighted to try them, and so kept the Mohawks informed of their route. Their pursuers thus had time and means to choose a suitable place to surprise them or attack them advantageously.³

Such an opportunity presented itself on the banks of the Lake of the Two Mountains, which is the discharge of the Great River into the river St. Lawrence, above the island of Montreal. Here they intrenched themselves on a little hill, which gave them a lookout for a great distance, and they posted a considerable number of men with guns in the bushes, on an advanced point close to which the Ottawas had to pass. Six canoes, containing Hurons exclusively, with Father Garreau, were at the head of this convoy, and, when they came within reach, the Mohawks poured a volley on them,⁴ killing and wounding a great

They are
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hawks.

¹ Relation de la N. F., 1656, p. 40.

² Relation de la Nouvelle France,

³ Relation de la Nouvelle France, 1656, p. 40; Creuxius, *Historia Canadensis*, p. 796.

1656, p. 40. Charlevoix does not follow the authority precisely.

⁴ Relation de la N. F., 1656, p. 41.