

replunged into all the horrors of a war where every thing was to be feared, and absolutely nothing to gain. It was at Montreal that they first began to notice a great change in the mind of the Upper Iroquois.

1657.

Onondagas had arrived in that island to receive the Hurons and take them to their canton, as agreed upon the year previous; some Frenchmen and two Jesuits were to accompany them; but they were greatly surprised when, on the day of departure, the Onondagas declared that they would take only the Hurons in their canoes. They yielded, indeed, in favor of some of the Frenchmen, but they obstinately excluded the two Jesuits, who, on their side, unwilling to abandon their neophytes, were compelled to embark in a canoe which they found on the bank, with no provisions but a little bag of flour.<sup>1</sup>

The Onondagas ill-treat the Hurons.

This conduct of the Onondagas, for which men were unprepared, seemed to augur ill for the Hurons: many beheld them depart only to deplore the sad lot which awaited them, and their presentiments were but too well founded. Those unfortunate Christians did not proceed far without discovering that they were irretrievably ruined. A young woman refusing to yield to the passion of an Iroquois chief, was tomahawked on the spot by the barbarian; and as though only this signal was awaited to throw aside the mask that covered the blackest of perfidies, a great number of the most eminent Hurons were massacred a moment after. The others were regarded only as prisoners just taken in war; and some were even burnt, although it was impossible to ascertain the reason of so unworthy a treatment.<sup>2</sup>

The French expected to be treated no better than the Hurons; and, in fact, it had been resolved to massacre them all, beginning by the two missionaries. What pre-

<sup>1</sup> Ragueneau, in *Relation de la N. F.*, 1658, p. 2. The massacre occurred August 3, 1657: *Rel.*, 1657, p. 54.

<sup>2</sup> *Ib.*, p. 55. Seven Hurons were killed, besides the girl: *Relation de la N. F.*, 1658, p. 9; *Journal of Jesuit Superior*, Oct. 6, 1657.