

1708. French, had sent similar detachments to all the towns of that district.¹

Our braves were not dismayed on learning that the enemy were so well prepared to receive them, and no longer trusting to a surprise, resolved to make it up in valor. They rested quietly all that night, and the next day, one hour after sunrise, drew up in battle array. Rouville made a short address to the French to exhort all who had any quarrels with each other to be reconciled sincerely, and embrace, as they all did. They then prayed and marched against the fort. Here they met with a vigorous resistance; but at last entered sword and axe in hand, and set it on fire.

All the houses were also well defended, and met the same fate. About a hundred of the English were killed in these attacks; many others, too slow in leaving the fort and houses, were burned in them, and the number of prisoners was large. There was no booty, as no thought was given to it till everything was consumed by the flames. Moreover the sound of drum and trumpet was heard in all the neighboring villages; and there was not a moment to be lost in securing their retreat.²

The victors
fall into an
ambuscade.

It was conducted with great order, no one having taken more provisions than were needed for the homeward march. This precaution was even more necessary than they imagined. Our men had scarcely gone half a league, when, on entering a wood, they fell into an ambuscade formed by seventy men, who, before uncovering themselves, fired every man his shot. Our braves stood this volley without flinching, and fortunately it did no great damage. Meanwhile all behind was full of horse and foot, in close pursuit, and there was no course but to trample down those who had just fired on them.

¹ Schuyler notified them of the French expedition. rimac. Rev. Mr. Rolfe, Capt. Wainwright, and thirty more, were killed.

² The French avoided or passed the guards and attacked the body of the town on the river Mer- Hutchinson, ii., p. 157-8; Penhalow's Indian Wars, (Cincinnati ed.) p. 55.