

two who escaped expected the same torture that they saw the others suffer; but they were told that they should not die,—that their foes would rest satisfied after having burned them with torches, and gashed their bodies all over.

The fury of those lions being appeased [170] with the blood of their enemies, these poor women remained with their wounds and their burns, without putting on any plaster or applying any other remedy but patience. They passed the Winter in suffering and sorrow, as wretched slaves, daily hearing the bluster of those Barbarians against the French and Algonquins, whom they wish to exterminate completely, so they say, knowing that they are supported and armed by the Dutch.

In the Spring, three hundred Hiroquois prepared for war, and these women were employed in carrying their meal or provisions. An opportunity for escaping presented itself; they at once seized it, and crept away into the deep forest, losing themselves as much as possible in the woods, the better to find their way home again. They had no food for the first ten days, after which they found some wild animals that a band of Hiroquois on their way to war, had killed and half consumed. They cut off long strips of flesh from these, which gave them much pleasure. They produced fire by means of fire-sticks made of cedar wood, which is very common among the [171] Savages.<sup>12</sup> Afterward, they caught some Beavers, and crossed great rivers, enduring sufferings and hardships sufficient to kill men. Finally, they reached the three Rivers almost naked; their poor bodies were all torn by the thorn bushes and by the fatigues of the journey, and their minds