

[68] CHAPTER VIII.

OF SOME IROQUOIS PRISONERS.

THE Relation of last year stated that the Hurons, after having taken three Iroquois prisoners, had given one to the Algonquins, and taken the two others to their own country. The Algonquins presented to Monsieur the Governor the one that had been given them. He was half dead, and half burned; but the care that they gave him restored him to health.

Last Spring, some Savages brought in two others, to whom they did no harm,—knowing well that the French do not like cruelty; this event occurred thus: Seven Algonquins went to hunt for Iroquois; they dragged their canoes on the ice as far as Richelieu, to take the river which flows from the Iroquois country, in which the ice melts sooner than in the great river. Having entered a large lake, whence this river flows, they landed on an Island [69] to seek their quarry. One of them, who was watching, heard an arquebus shot, and notified his Comrades. The leader of these hunters ordered them to take their repast. “Let us eat,” he said, “for the last time, Comrades; for, whatever happens, we must die rather than retreat.” When they had partaken of a good dinner, one, whose name was Makons, went away alone, to look for the enemy; he saw two canoes, that seemed to be coming straight toward them. “They are warriors,” he reported. “So much the