

his whole broiled body into the flames. [19] This rage surpasses the nature of men; the Demons have a large part in it.

There was, among this band of youth, a stripling aged about 15 or 16 years,—fair as the day, in the esteem of the Savages. The Hiroquois clothed him in their most beautiful robes, and adorned him to advantage, taking pleasure in seeing his gait and deportment; for, in truth, he had grace. Certain persons, won by the tenderness of his age and the beauty of his body, talked of sparing his life; but their rage against the Algonquins is too great; they stripped him like the others, and made of him their plaything in the flames. Let us return, if you please, to the place of their capture.

The defeat of these poor people occurred on the fifth of March; five persons alone escaped from the band of *Tawizkaron*. They came, one after the other, to Three Rivers, crying out that all their people were dead or captive. Two of these five had started very early in the morning, to go to the chase; returning, toward evening, they heard from afar, fierce yells and loud jeers, as of persons who rejoice in their prey, and who [20] are making their prisoners dance, according to the custom of the Savages. That astonished them; they lent ear more attentively, and recognized that those noises did not proceed from their own people; therefore, turning about, they hastened to Three Rivers to give notice of their defeat. The French were touched to the last degree: they manifested a grief as keen as if they had learned the death of their own relatives. The noble examples of virtue which some had given, and the generous disposition of most to receive Holy