

each one, and the two others into the two smallest. There were two Christians in this little number, who said their prayers, like persons who thought they were going to death. Toward midnight they enter, javelin in hand; with an admirable promptness, they transfix those poor sleeping people; but inadvertently they killed a woman of their own nation, recently captured by those Barbarians. In a word, they took away the lives of ten Hiroquois; they wounded many others, and delivered ten captive persons. The fight occurred with a strange hubbub. "Who are you?" said the Hiroquois; the others answered with javelin thrusts; the darkness rendered this confusion more horrible. A tall Hiroquois, pierced by a javelin, falling upon the one who had wounded him, broke the weapon in grappling him. The Algonquin, having released himself from his hands, pursued him with a volley of stones; the other, having caught him again, was about to destroy him, if his companion, happening thither, [49] had not given him a blow which felled him to the earth. The captive women, being set free, cried to their liberators: "Escape; there are many Hiroquois near here; if the light reveals you, you are lost." At these words, they tear off the scalps of the dead; they throw into the river great bundles of beaver skins taken from the Algonquins by those treacherous people; as they could not carry these away, they were also not willing that their enemies should use them. Finally, having embarked the persons whom they had delivered, they retired to a place of safety. It would not take a great number of such warriors to give plenty of trouble to the Hiroquois.

Those captives, seeing themselves entirely deliv-