

ered, related how they had been taken. "Many Savages of the upper countries," they said, "had come to station themselves at the Island, in order to join the Hurons who were to go down toward the French. Thirty families had the intention of settling near those who teach the way to Heaven. There was not a Savage who was not laden with peltries, in order to buy his little necessaries at the stores of the country. A Huron, taken [50] some years ago by the Hiroquois, having become Captain of these robbers, led them to the place where we were,—which he did the more easily, because he had a thorough knowledge of all those regions. Our people, who were not expecting them, were much astonished when they saw them, arms in hand; they made, at the start, some resistance, but having seen, at the outset, three of our men down, killed by arquebus shots, they took flight. Avarice prevented the Hiroquois from pursuing them, their eyes being dazzled by the great number of beavers that we had, which made them think of pillage. That saved the lives of many people; as for those of us who had children, we were soon taken. It is thus," they said, "that our misfortune came to pass."

Besides these ten persons set at liberty by those eight Algonquins, an Amazon, taken with the others, has bravely escaped from the hands of those who held her captive. For ten days, the Hiroquois had been dragging her with the other prisoners; now, though she was bound by both feet and both hands to four [51] stakes,—fastened in the earth, and arranged like a St. Andrew's cross,—she nevertheless took the resolution to escape. Noticing that the bonds on one of her arms did not press her very