

Hiroquois of the detention of the three others, so that they might not commit any foul deed against the French and their allies. When the time came to choose which of the four should be set free, each one tried to confer that honor upon his companion; each sought that favor for the others, and not one would accept it for himself; each one wished to risk his life with his comrades, whom they considered in danger among the French. Owing to the uncertainty of success in this matter, they finally condemned the youngest to enjoy that liberty. He therefore embarked with the first prisoner, to be conducted by our French to his countrymen, who received him with open arms. But when he saw his comrade return to the French, according to his plighted word, he left his people and accompanied him,—saying that he wished to share the fortune of those with whom he had just risked himself; that, moreover, those who were returning to their country had tongues, and could speak as well as he. These were [24] people skillful enough to surprise men, as well as animals; but they were caught in their own toils.

On the third of July, the Huron who had surrendered to the French with our first prisoner, as we have related above, told some of his countrymen that he was going to Montreal to get some beaver skins that he had deposited in the hands of the French. This opportunity was gladly seized for informing Monsieur de Maison-neuve of the inroads of our enemies, and of the detention of the four prisoners. But that perfidious Savage did not go far before he met another band of Hiroquois, for whom he was seeking. He gave them to understand that the four voluntary prisoners were very badly treated by the