

French, and were sure to lose their lives. After so black and treacherous a falsehood, on the following day, the fourth of the same month of July, an Algonquin discovered the tracks of the enemy; he notified Monsieur de la Poterie, who warned the inhabitants by the tocsin and by the discharge of the cannon, the usual signal for all to be on their guard. Five Hurons [25] who were nearest the spot where the enemies were already in conflict with two of our Frenchmen in charge of some cattle, ran up on hearing the voices and clamor of the combatants; they joined them and withstood the assault of more than eighty men. At the sound of the fight, two armed shallops were sent by water; but, before they could reach the scene of the combat, the Hiroquois had already killed one Frenchman and a Huron, and taken two French and two Hurons prisoners. Nevertheless, they were so terrified when they saw two of their people fall upon the spot, slain by the hand of one Frenchman, and two others wounded, that they fled, although they were at least ten to one. One of the two French prisoners was a nephew of Monsieur de la Poterie, who had wandered a little too far while hunting, and had been caught in the toils without knowing how he had got there. The Huron who was killed was a good Christian, and had been to confession on the previous Sunday, as had also the Frenchman. The two Huron captives are not baptized; as to the French who are prisoners, there is strong evidence of their having led a good life. They are, nevertheless, somewhat to blame for having exposed themselves too much, [26] knowing the enemy as they did. When our four voluntary prisoners heard of this defeat, they considered their own