

enemies lie dead on the field; eighteen or twenty prisoners are in bonds, and the young men are pursuing the fugitives." This glad news rejoiced our hearts all the more that sorrow had saddened them; all hastened to the Chapel, where the *Te Deum* was chanted; then we embraced the Father who told us how it had occurred.

The Hurons, he said, did not come down last year to the French through fear of the enemies, who on the one hand threatened the country, and on the other beset all the roads. But the necessity of obtaining hatchets and other French goods [39] compelled them to expose themselves to all those dangers. Two hundred and fifty men, led by five brave Captains, resolved to die, or to pass through in spite of all the enemy's resistance. In that band there are Christians and Catechumens to the number of over 120. Those good Neophytes have never failed to say their prayers publicly twice a day, all together, in the presence of the Pagans. The Hurons have on former occasions come down in still larger numbers, but never in so good order. After a journey of over two hundred leagues without meeting any one, when they drew near the fort of three Rivers they pushed their canoes in among the rushes, to put themselves in proper attire previous to showing themselves before the French,—that is, they painted their faces in various colors; they greased their hair; in a word they wished to appear in orderly condition. Some canoes that acted as an advance-guard pushed out toward the open water, and were observed at the same time by the French and by the enemies. The latter, who were on the other side of the river, embarked with