

following their game. Seven persons were killed on the spot; and twenty-four, both men and women, were carried off as captives. The enemy promptly retired, fearing pursuit.

The inmates of that cabin were nearly all Christians, who had encamped together the better to say their prayers, night and morning; and, in truth, they lived there in innocence, and spread everywhere a fragrant odor of Christianity. Fire has doubtless been the lot of some of them. I pray God that the others, whose lives the enemies have perhaps spared, may give them in exchange the Faith and the piety that live in their hearts.

Of those who were killed on the spot, I can truly say that one was a pearl among our Christians. He was a young man twenty-four years old, named Ignace Saonaretsi,—a pattern to all the [21] young men, and of irreproachable morals; he had an excellent mind, but his faith and piety were as steadfast as any I have seen in this country. He had been preparing himself for death for some months, saying that he thought earnestly upon that subject. For that reason, he came usually at dawn, to say his Rosary in the Church, besides being present at morning Mass, and at the evening Prayers; those that he said were unusually long. He was fortunate in the chase; when he had killed a stag, he would at once bend both knees to the ground, to thank God for it.

While fighting the enemy, he saw that the forces were unequal and that he might be taken captive; so he said to his cousin, whom he saw escaping: "My cousin, go and inform my mother that I shall be burned but tell her not to mourn for my death; then I shall have nothing in my mind but Paradise."