

compassion on thee than on myself, for after these misfortunes I fear an eternal misfortune for thee, and a fire less pitiful than those that torment us. If thou wish me to baptize thee, and if with all thy heart thou pray God to have pity on thee after thy death, he will have mercy on thee." When the enemies heard that discourse, they cut off his hand; they separated him from his companion, and redoubled his tortures; but they could not draw any other word from him except what manifested truly Christian courage: "Your torments will cease," he said, "and will end with my life; after that, I shall no longer be your captive. I adore a God who will one day restore my hand that you have cut off, and this body that is all shattered by your cruelties."

A young Christian girl, aged fourteen or fifteen years, had been taken a captive to Sonnontouan; when she reached that place, she heard them speak of putting her to death. Fear inspired her with courage, and God guided her innocence to extricate her from that peril. She found means to escape, [28] and fled into the brushwood, four or five hundred paces from the village. All the people took the field to search for her, night and day. They passed quite close to the spot where she lay hidden, and she was frequently on the point of showing herself, thinking that she was discovered, when God, whose will it was to save her, led elsewhere the steps of those who were going straight toward her, and gave her sufficient courage to remain hidden there for three whole days, without eating or drinking. On the third night, she came forth tremblingly from her refuge, and started in the direction of the Neutral Nation, without knowing exactly whither she was going. After