

rivers, having been swollen seven or eight feet by the rains, were found much harder to cross; and a storm which arose on lake Champlain caused the loss of two canoes and eight persons,—among whom we especially regretted the death of sieur du Luques, who was Lieutenant in a [46] Company, and had often signalized his valor in France as well as in Canada.

The courage of our Troops always received a wonderful spur in the labors of this enterprise, and while they were expecting danger, from the examples of Monsieur de Tracy, Monsieur de Courcelles, Monsieur de Saliere, Commander of the Regiment, and the Chevalier de Chaumont—the latter of whom always, upon approaching the villages, sought a place in the forlorn hope. Their bravery was also animated by the zeal and the sentiments of piety with which Messieurs du Bois and Cosson,<sup>11</sup> secular Priests, and Fathers Albanel and Rafeix, Jesuits, constantly strove to inspire them.

Our excellent Prelate, who had [47] ceased not to raise his hands to Heaven, and had set every one to praying, during the absence of our Troops, ordered thanksgivings to God, and the chanting of the *Te Deum*, upon their return. All the people here have conceived new hopes from the favors lavished on this country by the King, and from the attachment manifested toward it by the Company of the West Indies, to whose care it has been entrusted by his Majesty. Hence there is no doubt entertained that soon we shall see well-peopled Cities in place of these great forests, and Jesus Christ worshiped throughout all these vast domains.

END.