

would have decided the victory or the defeat of the French. Monsieur de Saintout, as a prudent man, hastily gained an island that was formed in the Lake by a steep rock. He was closely followed by the enemy; but he very soon checked their ardor by a volley that, with as much prudence as success, he ordered his men to fire at them. The enemy, disconcerted for the moment, quickly returned to the charge; but they were again so well received that they resolved to land on the beach, which was within gunshot. The combat recommenced with more obstinacy than before, but still proceeded with the same success for us. Monsieur de Saintout, perceiving that the enemy were not inclined to come to attack him in his position, and that he could not go to them without the risk of seeing his canoe sink, decided to retreat. He did so, acting as a man of good sense, just as he had defended himself as a man of courage. He embarked in sight of the English—who, not daring to pursue him, were satisfied with constantly firing at him. In this encounter we had three men wounded, but slightly; Monsieur de Saintout was of the number. Monsieur de Grosbois, a cadet of the Colonial troops, was killed on the spot. The enemy, by their own avowal, had gone out of their fort thirty-seven strong; only seventeen returned to it. Such deeds are surprising in Europe; but here the valor of the Canadians has so often multiplied them that we would not be astonished to see them repeated more than once in the course of a campaign; the continuation of this letter will give you proof of this.

After having taken leave of Monsieur de Mont-