

calm, I repaired to the quarters of the Abnakis. I sent word to the Orator to call together at once his tribesmen, and announce to them that, before going in a few days to attack the English fort, I expected from their religion that they should prepare themselves for this perilous undertaking by every step fitted to assure its success before God. I gave notice, at the same time, that my tent would be open at all times and to every one; and that I would always be ready, even at the peril of my life, to furnish them the aid that my office commands. My offers were accepted. I had the comfort of seeing some of them come as Penitents to Confession; and I prepared a few of these for the reception of the august Sacrament of our Altars. It was on the following Sunday, the twenty-fourth of July, that they enjoyed this blessing. I neglected nothing to give to this ceremony all the splendor that was in my power. I solemnly chanted the Mass, during which I gave them the first Abnakis exhortation that I had given formally. It hinged upon the obligation under which they were to do honor to their religion by their conduct in the presence of so many Idolatrous Tribes, who either were not acquainted with it or blasphemed it, and whose eyes were fixed upon them. I endeavored to present in striking colors the motives best fitted to make an impression on them; I did not neglect to recall to them the perils inseparable from war, which their courage and their valor would only serve to multiply. If the attention of the hearer and a modest deportment decided the effect of a discourse, I should have had every reason to congratulate myself on my feeble efforts. These