

interested them favorably in the cause of the wretched men. They took this cause up with an ardor which could not fail to succeed. Hardly was the barge near enough to the shore for a voice to be heard when an Outaouack began to speak fiercely, and exclaimed in a menacing tone: *These prisoners belong to me; I wish you to respect me by respecting what belongs to me; let us have no ill treatment, of which the whole odium would fall back upon my head.* A hundred French Officers might have spoken in the same tone, but their speech would have resulted only in drawing contempt upon themselves, and an increase of blows upon their captives; but a Savage fears his fellow-savage, and fears him only. Their slightest disputes lead to death; therefore they seldom engage in them. Accordingly, the wishes of the Outaouack were respected as soon as announced: the prisoners were landed without tumult and led to the fort; not the slightest shout attended them. At first they were separated; they underwent examination, in which it was unnecessary to use artifice in order to win from them the explanations that were desired. Their fright, from which they had not wholly recovered, loosened their tongues, and gave them a volubility which apparently would not have been the case otherwise. I visited one of them in a room of the Fort occupied by one of my friends. By signs I gave him the assurances best fitted to tranquilize him; I ordered for him some refreshments, which he appeared to receive with gratitude.

After having thus satisfied my compassion, as well as the needs of an unfortunate man, I went to hasten the embarking of my people; it was done forthwith. The passage was not long; two hours sufficed to