

number of English bodies stretched out on the shore, or scattered here and there in the woods. Some were cut into pieces, and nearly all were mutilated in the most frightful manner. What a terrible scourge war appeared to me! It would have been very consoling to me to procure by my efforts the honors of burial for these wretched remains of our enemies; but it was only by favor that we had landed in this bay. It was a duty and a necessity for us to resume immediately our journey according to the orders, which urged us to go on. About evening we landed at the place which had been assigned to us for a camp. It was a shore overspread with brambles and briers and was the haunt of an immense number of rattlesnakes. Our Savages, who chased them, caught several, which they brought to me.

If ever there was a venomous reptile, this is one. It has a head the smallness of which does not correspond with the size of its body; its skin is sometimes regularly spotted with deep black and pale yellow; at other times it is entirely black. It is not armed with any sting, but its teeth are extremely sharp. It has a quick and shining eye, it has under the tail several little horny pieces which it raises high and shakes violently against one another when it is irritated. The noise resulting from this has given rise to the name by which it is known. Its gall, smoke-dried, is a specific for toothache. Its flesh, also smoke-dried and reduced to powder, is considered an excellent febrifuge. Salt moistened with saliva and applied to the wound is a certain remedy for its bite, of which the venom is so active that it causes death in less than an hour.