

very soon proclaimed by the noise of a volley from the enemy's artillery. We were far from being in condition to reply immediately. Before we were able to plant a battery it was necessary to drag our guns, for a full half-league, over rocks and through the forests. Thanks to the voracity of the Savages, we could not have for this work the aid of any of our beasts of burden; being weary, as they said, of salt meat, they had not scrupled to seize these animals and feast on them, some days previously, without considering anything but their own appetite. But, instead of that aid, so many hands animated by courage and by devotion to the Sovereign lent themselves so readily to the toil that obstacles were very soon conquered and removed, and the work brought to completion. During all this commotion I was staying near the Hospital, where I hoped to be within call so that I might perform the duties of my office for the dying and for the dead. I remained there some time, without having the least tidings of my Savages. This silence disturbed me; I had a great desire to assemble them once more, that I might avail myself of the dangerous circumstances in which they were, to bring them all, if it were possible, to feelings approved by religion. Thereupon I resolved to go in search of them. The trip had its difficulties and dangers, in addition to its length; I was obliged to pass near the trenches, where a Soldier—occupied in wondering at the extraordinary effect of a cannon-ball on a tree—was very soon himself, at a few steps from me, the victim of his own indiscretion. In making my way, I admit to you that I was struck by the manner with which the French and the Canadians bore themselves