

increased my occupations there, and these were all so little satisfying to my profession, that I hastened my departure to my Mission. I had another reason to press me on; it was to fulfill the promise which I had given to Messieurs the English Officers, not to spare myself in this village in urging the Savages to make a restitution of the remaining prisoners. It was time to come to begin the work. One of our Canadians, who had escaped from the prisons of New England, was incessantly talking of the bad treatment that he had experienced there; he even reported that an Abnakis, taken in the action of Monsieur de Dieskau, had perished from hunger that winter in the prisons of Orange. If this report had been noised abroad it might have caused many innocent people to perish. I succeeded in burying it in a profound silence, which furthered the departure of all the English unjustly detained in captivity.

You have here a faithful account of all the events that have marked this campaign which has just closed; you have seen with satisfaction that French valor has been sustained with splendor, and has worked wonders. But you must also have perceived that passions, everywhere the same, produce everywhere the same ravages; and that our Savages, although Christians, are not on that account more blameless in their conduct. Their wandering and vagabond life is not one of the least causes of their misfortunes. Left as they are to themselves, and struggling with their passions without being sustained by the aid of even any outward religious performance, they escape for the greater part of the year the endeavors even of the most active zeal—which, during this long time compelled to the