

theless, their own tribe conducted them to Montreal and delivered them up to me, a circumstance which never occurred and perhaps never will again, if this Colony have not more troops than at present. It happened, at the same time, that a third murderer having got in, on the road, among the other Indians, accompanied them to the audience chamber where, being recognized, I had him removed to prison with the other two.

In other respects I have treated these penitent nations the best way I could, and declared to them that the act they had just performed effaced the recollection of their ill conduct, but that the murderers had no share in that act of oblivion; that I did not grant, but prolonged their lives to put the remainder in mind of their fault. I told them, likewise, that I did not wish to make the innocent suffer for the guilty, and ordered the hostages to be given up, at the same time directing the nation to bring me those in whose places they had stood.

Though the nations might, perhaps, have looked for more mildness on my part, and had presented some petitions to me during the first days, which I rejected, it appeared to me that they felt the necessity I was under of detaining fellows who would have taken advantage of their liberty only to proceed and embroil matters anew in their villages.

It did not prevent the chiefs, who interested themselves the most to procure their liberation, to request my permission to go to war against the English in order to revenge themselves for having been deceived; I granted it very readily, and they departed.

Those of the Detroit arrived during these transactions, and had been witnesses of what had passed respecting the murderers. A portion of their young men had gone also on the war path, and the old men belonging to Detroit and Missilimakinac returned some time after to their villages.

I was obliged, then, to leave Montreal where I had in vain been waiting for the Iroquois who had promised me to upbraid them publicly with all the invitations to assassinate the French, which those Iroquois had received from them.

As I had no doubt but the Missilimakinac Nations would,