

the other two ; for, on the very day that we reached the first village, Theodore had freed himself from his bonds ; but, as during the battle he had had his shoulder blade broken by the butt-end of a musket, he died on his way to the French.

Never till now had the Indian scaffold beheld French or other Christians captives. So that, contrary to usual custom, we were led around through all their villages to gratify the general curiosity. The third, indeed, we entered scathless, but on the scaffold a scene met my eyes more heart-rending than any torment ; it was a group of four Hurons, taken elsewhere by some other party, and dragged here to swell our wretched company. Among other cruelties every one of these had lost some fingers, and the eldest of the band his two thumbs. Joining these, I at once began to instruct them, separately, on the articles of faith ; then, on the very stage itself, I baptized two, with rain-drops gathered from the leaves of a stalk of Indian corn, given us to chew ; the other two, I christened as we were led by a stream on our way to another village. At this place, cold setting in after the rain, we suffered extremely from it, as we were entirely uncovered. Often shivering with cold on the stage, I would without orders come down and enter some hut, but I had scarcely begun to warm myself when I was commanded to return to the scaffold.

William Conture had thus far lost none of his fingers ; this, exciting the displeasure of an Indian in this village, he sawed off the fore finger of his right hand in the middle ; the pain was most excruciating as for this amputation he employed not a knife, but in its stead a kind of shell, there very abundant. As it could not cut