

French, though
of the savages,
essfully repulsed
two, and wound-
light. The war
they had been
to do wrong,
o were yet alive.
three Frenchmen
they had so lately
uplifts, René's
great jeopardy.
life, warded off

essed Virgin, one
a settlement not
e Indians, came
t our liberation.
much, promised
are a wily and
appear to refuse
something to his
would, in a few
his was, perhaps,
tter part of Sep-
e matter off till
ur fate, although

th distances elsewhere

I John Labadie. Van
ost, generously offered

provisions had been prepared and men appointed to take us back. Here the opinion of the few well inclined was rejected. Confusion carried the day, and some clamorous chiefs declared that they would never suffer a Frenchman to be taken back alive. The council broke up in alarm, and each, as if in flight, returned home, even those who came from other villages. Left thus to the cruelty of bloodthirsty men, attempts were constantly made on our lives. Some, tomahawk in hand, prowled around the cabins to find and despatch us. However, towards the close of the council, God had inspired me with some thought that induced me to draw my companions together without the village in a field belonging to the house where I was; here, ignorant of what had transpired, we lay hid as it were in safety, until the storm, beneath which we should all have fallen, had we remained in the village, was somewhat calmed.

William was, after this, taken back by his master, to his own village; René and I, perceiving that there was now no hope of our return, withdrew to a neighboring hill, which commands the village, in order to pray. Here, remote from every witness, and from all officious intrusion, we resigned ourselves entirely to God and to his holy will; on our road back to the village, we were reciting our beads, and had already completed four decades of the rosary, when we met two young men who commanded us to return to the village. "Dear brother," said I, "we know not what may be, in this period of general excitement, the design of these men. Let us commend ourselves earnestly to God, and to the most Blessed Virgin, our good Mother." We had reached the village in prayer, when, at its