

into that of the Entouhonorons. This Lake is twenty-five to thirty leagues in circumference, with many beautiful islands, and is the Iroquois fishing ground, fish being in abundance there.

"The 9th of October, our Indians going out scouting, encountered eleven savages, whom they took prisoners ; to wit, four women, three boys, one girl, and three men, who were going fishing, four leagues distant from the enemy's fort. Now it is to be noted that one of the Chiefs seeing these prisoners, cut the finger off one of those poor women, as the commencement of their usual tortures. Whereupon I interfered, and censured the Iroquois captain, representing to him that a warrior, as he called himself, was not in the habit of acting cruelly towards women, who have no defence but their tears, and who, by reason of their helplessness and feebleness, ought to be treated with humanity. That on the contrary, this act would be supposed to proceed from a vile and brutal courage, and that if he committed any more of those cruelties, he would not encourage me to assist them, nor to favor their war. Whereupon he replied that their enemies treated them in the same manner. But since such customs displeased me, he would not act so any more to women, but exclusively to men,

"Next day, at three o'clock in the afternoon, we arrived before the enemy's fort, where the savages had some skirmishes, the one against the other, though it was not our design to discover ourselves until the morrow ; but the impatience of our savages would not brook this, as well through the desire they felt to see us fire on their enemies, as to liberate some of their men who had ventured too far. Then I advanced and presented myself, but with the few men I had ; nevertheless, I showed them what they had never saw nor heard before, for as soon as they saw us, and heard the reports of the arquebuses, and the balls whistling about their ears, they retired promptly within their fort, carrying off their wounded and dead ; and we retreated in like manner to our main body, with five or six of our wounded, one of whom died.

"This being done, we retired within gun-shot, beyond the view of the enemy, contrary, however, to my advice, and to what they had promised me, which moved me to make use of and express to them pretty rude and angry words, in order to incite them to their duty foreseeing, that if everything went according to their fantasy, and counsel, nothing but misfortune would result, to their ruin and destruction. Nevertheless, I failed not to send to them and to propose means necessary to be used to overcome their