

precautions to conceal
 aware of it, and all
 made a present to our
 ourselves with them,

horrible sight, and could
 ts of the Indians as ex-
 pleasure they took in tor-
 them undergo a hun-
 them of life. I would
 er they did not perceive
 d show them what I saw
 ll who could act as inter-
 er side of the river, and
 ing my curiosity to some

main, we ascended Fox
 and has a course of thirty-
 the 24th of August, we
 e, well disposed to destroy
 e, but their flight had pre-
 could do was to burn their
 ds of Indian corn which
 ourishment.

Fox Lake, at the end of
 e next day, the feast of St.
 s, into a little river which
 on the bank of which lies
 whom we sought. Their
 less warned them of our
 ank proper to await us, and
 only some women, of whom

our Indians made slaves, and an old man whom they
 burnt at the stake, without any apparent repugnance at
 the commission of such a barbarous action.

This cruelty seemed more marked to me than that
 which they had exercised against the four Indians
 whom they had taken in the Sac town. I availed my-
 self of this occasion and circumstance to satisfy the curi-
 osity which I mentioned a moment ago.

One of our Frenchmen understood the Iroquois
 language. I begged him to tell the Indians that I
 was surprised to see them take so much pleasure in
 tormenting a wretched old man, that the right of war
 did not extend so far, and that such barbarity seemed
 to me to belie the principles which they had seemed
 to entertain for all men. An Iroquois answered,
 and, to justify his comrades, said that, when they fell
 into the hands of the Sacs and Foxes, they received
 still more cruel treatment, and that it was their cus-
 tom to treat their enemies as they themselves would
 be treated if conquered.

I would have wished to know this Indian's language
 to show him myself what was defective and blamable in
 his reasoning; but I had to content myself with repre-
 senting to him that nature, and particularly religion,
 required us to be humane to each other; that modera-
 tion should direct us in every thing; that the pardon
 and oblivion of injuries done us is a virtue whose prac-
 tice is expressly enjoined by Heaven; that I conceived
 that they ought not to spare the Sacs and Foxes, but
 that they should deprive them of life only as rebels and
 enemies of the State, and not as their private enemies;
 that their vengeance was criminal; that to descend to