

SAMUEL DE CHAMPLAIN

them if they had gone without seeing me again; and that they thought that, in that case, I should have been ill-disposed toward them. They begged me again to give them a man. I told them that if there was one among us who desired to go with them, I should be very glad of it.

After having made me understand their good-will for the last time, and I mine toward them, the case of a savage came up, who had been a prisoner of the Iroquois three times and had escaped very fortunately, and was resolved to go, with nine others, to avenge the cruelties that his enemies had made him suffer. All the captains begged me to dissuade him if I could, inasmuch as he was very brave, and they feared that if he should advance so far into the enemy with so small a force he never would return. I did so, to please them, by all the reasons that I could urge, which were of little effect upon him, as he showed me some of his fingers cut off and great cuts and burns on his body; and he said that it was impossible for him to live without killing his enemies and having his revenge; and that his heart told him that he must depart as soon as he could; which he did.

When I had finished with them I begged