

they should arrive at Montreal, being extremely fatigued from fasting and bad roads, the rear fell away from M. de Saint Hélène, who was in front with an Indian guide, and who could not find a place suitable for camping nearer than three or four leagues of the spot where he expected to halt. He was not rejoined by M. de Mantet and the others, until late in the night. Seven have not been found. Next day on parade, about ten o'clock in the forenoon, a soldier arrived who announced that they had been attacked by fourteen or fifteen Savages, and that six had been killed. The party proceeded somewhat afflicted at this accident, and arrived at Montreal at 3 o'clock in the afternoon.

Such, Madam, is the account of what passed at the taking of Corlard. The French lost but twenty-one men, namely four Indians and seventeen Frenchmen. Only one Indian and one Frenchman were killed at the capture of the town. The others were lost on the road.

The return of the Three Rivers and Quebec parties were expected with impatience, but there was no news of them for a long while after.

As soon as the river was open the Count resolved to restore four of Orehaoué's Indians who had brought the belts that Gagnioton had presented at Montreal. They took their departure and were accompanied by Chevalier d'Eau, a half-pay Captain whom the Count had selected for that negotiation.

Orehaoué gave his people eight Belts, which I shall report to you, Madam, as he himself explained them.

The first Belt is to wipe away the tears of the five cabins—these are the five Iroquois Nations—and to cleanse their throats of whatever evil might have remained of the bad things that had occurred, and also to wash away the blood with which they are covered.

The second Belt is to be divided into two:—the first half is to testify Orehaoué's joy on learning that the Outawas had promised to restore the prisoners they had, to the Senecas. The other half, to say to them he was very glad they had notified him to tell Onnontio that they had recommended their people, who had gone out to fight in the fall, to spare the lives of the French whom they may take prisoners, and that Onnontio had promised, on his part, that, should the French take any of theirs, they would act towards them in the same manner, until they should have an answer from those he sends to the Five Nations.

The 3<sup>d</sup> Belt thanks the Five Nations for having requested Onnontio to send him with his Nephews back on the Ice, and begs them to put all the French prisoners in the hands of the Onondagas, who, if affairs be arranged, may be able to restore them.

The 4<sup>th</sup> Belt is to tell them that he sees plainly he is forgotten as well as his father Onontio; inasmuch as they have not sent any Chiefs in quest of him, and to speak to their father; and that they would have afforded him pleasure had they sent him even a solitary one.

The 5<sup>th</sup> Belt is to tell all the Nations that he is desirous of seeing some Chiefs at Montreal; that he is like a drunken man who has lost his senses, seeing they send nobody for him, and he wishes those who had been in the habit of transacting business with him to come, in order that they may be aware of the good disposition Onnontio entertains towards the whole Nation, and of the good treatment he and his Nephews have received since they have been placed under his care in France.

The 6<sup>th</sup> Belt is to tie the arms of the Five Nations in order to draw them to Montreal, after which they will take him back with them.

The 7<sup>th</sup> Belt is to say, that it is at his request Onnontio has sent one of his principal officers whom they also well know to accompany his people; that this Belt is likewise to exhort them