

men and Christian Hurons, depriving them of the consolation which a priest can afford.

On the Eve of the Assumption then about 3 o'clock we reached a river which flows by their village. Both banks were filled with Iroquois and Hurons formerly captured, now coming forth to meet us, the latter to salute us by a warning that we were to be burnt alive; the former received us with clubs, fists and stones.

And as baldness or thin hair, a shaved, or lightly covered head is an object of their aversion, this tempest burst in its fury on my bare head. Two of my nails had hitherto escaped; these they tore out with their teeth, and with their keen nails stripped off the flesh beneath to the very bones. When satisfied with the cruelties and mockeries which we thus received by the river side, they led us to their village on the top of the hill.

At its entrance we met the youth of all that district awaiting us with clubs, in a line on each side of the road.

Conscious that, if we withdrew ourselves from the ranks of those chastised, we no less withdrew ourselves from that of the children, we cheerfully offered ourselves to our God, thus like a father chastising us, that in us he might be well-pleased. Our order was as follows: in the front of the line they placed a Frenchman, alas, entirely naked, not having even his drawers. René Goupil was in the centre, and I last of all closed the line, (we were more fortunate as they had left us our shirts and drawers.) The Iroquois scattered themselves through our lines between us and the Hurons, both to check our speed, and to afford more time and ease to our torturers, to strike us thus separately as we passed. Long and cruelly indeed did the "wicked work upon my