

When I had finished speaking to them on spiritual things, I set to dressing their sores ; I had only lye to cleanse them ; I then covered them with some rags which I dried, and when I had to take these off I was sure to bring away strips of flesh which, by their corruption, spread an infected air even around the cabin.

After twelve days, their legs had only the bones ; the feet were detached, and their hands entirely wasted away. I was obliged to dress them several times ; the infection arising was so great that, every now and then, I had to get a breath of fresh air so as not to be suffocated. Do not think, dear brother, that I am imposing upon you ; God is my witness, that I add nothing to the truth, and the reality is more horrible than I can depict. Words are too feeble to express a situation like mine then. How many touching things could I not tell you, if I set down the words of these poor wretched men ! I constantly endeavored to console them by the hope of an eternal reward, and I often blended my tears with those which I saw them shed.

On the first of April, the *Sieur Leger* went to the spot where the Indian canoes were, and I went to the woods about eight o'clock in the morning ; I was resting on a tree which I had cut down, when I thought I heard the report of a gun ; as we had several times heard the same noise without being able to discover whence it came, nor what it was, I paid no great attention to it. About ten o'clock, I went back to the cabin to ask Mr. Furst to come and help me bring in the wood I had cut ; I told him, as we walked along, what I thought I had heard, and at the same time kept looking out to see whether Mr. Leger was returning. We had scarcely gone two

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