

1611. the Church, which he received with lively sentiments of piety. He then begged Mr. de Biencourt, commandant at Port Royal in his father's absence, to have his body transported, as soon as he expired, to his own town, in order to be buried with his kindred.

Embarrass-
ment of the
mission-
aries as to
him.

Biencourt, who saw nothing objectionable in this, promised it ; but Father Biart, to whom the commandant spoke, strongly opposed the idea, and represented to both the scandal which such a course would give. Biencourt replied, that he had given his word, and that it did not become him to retract it ; that, after all, he had only to bless the place where the sagamo was to be buried. The missionary maintained that this could not be done, without first exhuming all the bodies of the heathen interred in the same place, which the Indians would never permit, and which was directly against the sick man's intention. He argued in vain. Mr. de Biencourt persisted ; and Mambertou, seeing himself upheld by the commandant, renewed his request, and would hear no more on the subject.

His edify-
ing death.

Father Biart then retired, and declared that neither he nor his colleague would take charge of the obsequies. Some moments after he returned, to continue to render the dying chief the care his condition required, and to endeavor to recall him from his obstinacy. God blessed his firmness ; and his charity touched Mambertou, who the next day asked him to pardon his indocility, assuring him that he would not, for all the world, be deprived of the suffrages of the Church, and told him that he left it to him to give him burial where he thought proper. He soon after expired in sentiments of faith and confidence in God, which would have done honor to an old Christian ; the obsequies paid to him were such as would have been rendered to the commandant himself, and there was no one but sincerely regretted him.¹

¹ Biard, *Relation de la Nouvelle France*, pp. 32, 33 ; Letters in *Carillon*, xii. p. 99 ; Lescarbot, *Histoire de la Nouvelle France* (1618), p. 672.