

chosen souls whom grace raises above man, to confound those whose passions lower them beneath the grade of beasts. The apostolical spirit animated many; there were three who undertook to preach the gospel to the Neuter nation,¹ where the missionaries, on account of their small number, could not make a long stay, and the Lord blessed their zeal beyond their hopes. To the lively and pathetic eloquence natural to these people, they added the force of example, always more persuasive than the most eloquent words.

1644.

Fervor and
sanctity of
the Hurons.

Among these new apostles was one, Joseph Taondechoren, who had been taken with Father Jogues, and had been indeed the first to bear to Quebec tidings of the holy missionary.² One day a number of heathens, who were in company with him, expressed great surprise at his never allowing a single word to escape him evincing the slightest resentment against the Iroquois who had treated him so cruelly. "It is," he replied, "because God diffuses over sufferings endured for his sake joys so pure and consolations so striking, that no animosity can be felt against those who have been the instruments." He then spoke so forcibly on the excellence of the Christian religion, and the miraculous manner in which it changes the heart of man, that most were moved and many convinced of the necessity of embracing it.³

The island of Montreal was gradually filling up with settlers, and the piety of these new colonists gradually prepared the Indians who had intercourse with them to submit to the yoke of the Faith. Their most frequent intercourse was with the Algonquins, living on an island formed by the Ottawa; but their chief⁴ seemed imbued

¹ Relation de la Nouvelle France, 1644, pp. 96, 97. They were Barnaby Otsinonannhont, Stephen Totiri, and his brother.

² Relation de la Nouvelle France, 1644, p. 81.

³ Relation de la Nouvelle France, 1644, p. 82.

⁴ Tesschas, called by the French le Borgne de l'Isle; Relation de la Nouvelle France, 1643, p. 54; Creuxius, *Historia Canadensis*, p. 373.