

succor and his assistance, as your Reverence can see, and was not contented with restoring us to complete health, but has so disposed this little affliction, that, in whatever manner we look at it, we cannot do otherwise than regard it as a very signal favor. It is a thing altogether desirable, (although there have already been, ere now, numberless occasions for learning to trust in God alone) to have here at one's arrival so clear and so intelligible a lesson on this beautiful virtue. We all knew, indeed, that *non in solo pane vivit homo, sed in omni verbo quod procedit de ore Dei*. But we had not yet learned by experience that, in so great [74] a deprivation of human remedies, so many persons could so easily and so gently recover their health by the favor of divine providence alone. That God might not be placed under the necessity of curing us by some sort of miracle, of the eight months during which this contagion lasted, we could not have fallen ill at a more favorable time than in the Autumn, which is the only season of game, it being quite scarce during the rest of the year. We had only François Petit-pré who could assist us in this difficulty; and God preserved him to us in good health all the time, notwithstanding the continual hardships of hunting, besides the usual night watches in the house when he was there. We would all very willingly have given our lives for the preservation of that of the Father Superior, who has so perfect a knowledge of the language; and it pleased this divine goodness to keep him always in strength sufficient to exercise his charity towards us night and day. And still more, God having resolved to derive from us some little services for the consolation and conversion of our Savages, was it not very reasonable