

## [76] CHAP. IV.

THE HELP WE HAVE GIVEN TO THE SICK OF OUR VILLAGE, AND THE PROVIDENCE OF GOD IN THE CONVERSION OF SOME AND THE ABANDONMENT OF OTHERS.

FROM about the 15th of October, when our patients were entirely out of danger, and began again to take the ordinary food of the country, our principal occupation up to the 17th of November was to assist the sick of our village. Fortunately the hunting season was not yet over, and our men had the charity to take for them part of the same trouble they had taken for us; I say for them, because we were usually satisfied during that time with the food of the country, and, if we dispense with game all the rest of the year, we deprived ourselves of it then all the more willingly since we hoped that through these little offices of charity God would do us the favor to coöperate with us in the salvation of some soul. This is the order that we maintained. [77] We visited them twice a day, morning and evening, and carried them soup and meat, according to the condition and disposition of the patients,—always taking occasion to exhort them to have recourse to God, and to gently influence them to Baptism. We ate during our own sickness a few of the raisins and prunes, and some little remedies that your Reverence had sent us,—using them only in cases of necessity, so that we still had a good part of them, which