

great danger, resigning themselves to death, and mentioning the arrangements made "in case any of them survive." Brébeuf says: "I have deemed it advisable for our Fathers and our domestics to withdraw to the houses of those whom they regard as their best friends; I have charged them to carry to the house of Pierre, our first Christian, all that belongs to the Sacristy,—above all, to be especially careful to put our Dictionary, and all that we have of the language, in a place of safety." The Fathers then begin a novena in honor of St. Joseph; and they invite the Hurons to an "Atsataion,"—that is, the farewell feast of those who are about to die. This astonishes and mollifies the savages, who for some time give them peace.

Le Mercier then recounts the baptisms for the year, which have been numerous at Ossossané, the chief mission residence. A long account is given of the conversion and Christian behavior of Joseph Chiwatenhwa, who "has nothing of the savage, except his birth, and who will compare favorably with the most zealous Catholic of France." This man and all his family are not only converted, but cured of the prevalent disease. Joseph then makes a great feast for his relatives and friends, at which he announces that his wife now desires baptism, which rite is administered to her in the presence of the whole assembly. After this, Joseph and his wife (now named Marie Aonnetta) are remarried according to the rites of the church; and, after receiving communion, the new converts and some of their friends are entertained by the Fathers with "a little feast of smoked fish, seasoned with eloquent discourse by the Father Superior."