

of God. All the French, including their Captain, could not save my soul; it is not in them that I believe, but in him who has made them themselves." He made this speech to us in better terms in his own language than I can report in ours.

Seeing him very thinly clad, in the piercing cold, I asked him if he had no other robe than that he wore. "Thy brother," he replied, "gave me one a long time ago; but I do not wear it, for two reasons. First, I fear that my body, if I supply it with comforts and cover it warmly, will be always urging me to procure for it the same good things; and if I cannot cover it by my own skill, it will gradually lead me to frequent your society for its own special benefit, rather than for the salvation of my soul. This has made me resolve not to make use of your presents.

"Secondly, if I show myself desirous of your gifts, I shall be continually importuned by a woman who has very little sense, who will urge me to get from you all that she will think your goodness [95] can grant me. Hence I have made a resolution to disregard my body, that I may better reflect upon the welfare of my soul.

"At first, when I went to see you Fathers at the three Rivers," he continued, "I thought to myself, 'Perhaps these people imagine that I come to see them in the hope of some temporal help; they are greatly mistaken,' said I in my heart; 'it is not my body that brings me here, but the desire of saving my soul.' I was thinking of the good things of the other life, and not of the comforts of this one that we lead here on earth." Let us speak of his Baptism.