

He had been long prepared for this through his strong desires to be made a child of God and of his Church, and through his deep regret for his offenses; he admired the effects of this Sacrament that we had explained to him, he wished to have the enjoyment of it. In fine, the appointed day drawing near, he fasted on the evening before; we took him down to Kebec, that he might there receive this Sacrament in the presence of our French people. He was then named Ignace by Monsieur Gand, his Godfather. His modesty, accompanied by a holy freedom, made him answer gracefully and frankly [96] all the questions that were put to him. He was baptized on Sunday, the last day of October; and the next day, a day consecrated in honor of all the saints, he took communion publicly in the Chapel of Kebec. On account of the occupations that we had at that time, I could not immediately question him upon the sentiments that God had imparted to him in the reception of these two great Sacraments. I did so two days afterwards, in a sort of talk I had with him, asking him if his heart had not experienced joy in his Baptism. His face brightened at this question; and his soul, tasting once more the delights it had experienced in these sacred mysteries, caused his lips to utter these words: "While at the door of the Church, where they have the Catechumens remain before their Baptism, I could see that they were keeping me there in order to learn my final wishes, and to know whether I believed, and whether I really wished to be a Christian. My heart felt a strong impulse to enter quickly into the house of God, as if some one forcibly incited me to do a thing to which all my inclinations prompted me.