

tion. I invoked him, nevertheless, offering him this prayer: 'Thou who hast made the birds, I have need of them; thou canst give me some if thou wilt; if thou wilt not, it does not matter; I shall not cease to believe in thee.' Having said this, I made the sign of the Cross and hastened to an Island, to do some hunting; I had not gone far when I encountered a wild cow, which I drove into the water, where we killed it. When I saw that it was dead, I thanked him who had given it to us, and my people were obliged to confess that this present came from his goodness.

"After we were somewhat refreshed, we continued on our way. Arrived at the great river, we went down to the Islands of the Lake, where we found some Savages suffering from hunger; our people told them that, when I had offered a prayer to God, he had given us something to eat. They strongly urged me to pray to him for them; seeing their need and ours, for we had already consumed what remained of the flesh of the wild cow, I said these words to him: 'These people belong to thee, for thou hast made all men; they are hungry, [120] and so are we; give us something to eat, if thou wilt; thou canst do all. If thou hast kind thoughts toward us, we shall find something; if not, we shall find nothing. But it matters not,—if thou shouldst not give me anything, I would not abandon my belief in thee.' My prayer finished, I went hunting, and found nothing; I thought to myself, 'He does not wish to give me anything,—but it does not matter; it is he who is the Master.' As I was reëntering my canoe, I saw something, I knew not what, floating upon the river; I thought at first it was a piece of wood, but seeing