

Baptism for the vigil of Easter, he desired to fast during the entire Holy week. I could hardly satisfy him, so great was his desire that I should converse with him of what concerned his salvation. He was finally made a Christian, and named Pierre Ateiachias; and, the day after his baptism, he took communion with a deep appreciation [136] of these august mysteries. As I had spoken to him of works of mercy, he set about practicing them,—going so far as to give to some poor people the very fish that was intended for our Seminarists' dinner; and, when we reproved him for it, 'Have you not told me,' said he, 'that it is a good deed to be charitable? Have I not seen you yourselves giving similar alms? Why, then, shall I not do as I am taught?' He sometimes took a hatchet and went to cut firewood for some needy persons; he helped all whom he could, and with such demonstrations of affection that every one loved him.

"After his baptism, he daily attended holy Mass, said his beads twice a day, often visited the Blessed Sacrament of the Altar; in short, he was living in a firm determination to be forever faithful to our Lord, when he was snatched from us—by a wretched accident, according to men; and perhaps by a stroke of great love and of a gentle providence, according to God. When he was preparing to go back to his own country and to choose those whom he should judge fit to bring to the Seminary, a gust of wind [137] overturned his canoe, containing himself and a young Algonquin. The latter saved himself by swimming, readily throwing off his robe, which he wore loosely, in the manner of the Savages; but our poor Neophyte, being clothed in the French way, could not withstand