

ertheless, after they departed thence, their souls were assailed by scruples; so, that evening they asked the Father who had charge of the Montagnais and Algonquin Seminary if they had not offended God in having eaten this soup. "As for me," said one, "I did not eat any meat;" the other said he had swallowed a little piece unwittingly. In short, they showed that their hearts were not satisfied with this action, and they determined no more to associate with those who could do them harm.

In regard to what I said about the excellence of their minds, I get proof of it from the questions they asked their master; here are some that he has communicated to me in a letter. I confess that these children are wide-awake, and that they evince a great deal of intelligence, but I would not have believed that they could reason so well, especially in the matter of our belief. Let us hear their questions. "You tell us that baptism is absolutely necessary to go to Heaven; if there were a man so good that he had never offended God, and if he died without Baptism, would he go to Hell, never having given any offense to God? If he goes to Hell, [141] God does not love all good people, since he throws that one into the fire.

"You teach us that God existed before the creation of heaven and earth; if he did, where did he live, since there was neither heaven nor earth? You say also that the Angels were created in the beginning of the world, and that those who disobeyed were cast into Hell; elsewhere, you put Hell in the depths of the earth; these statements cannot agree very well, for, if the Angels sinned before the creation of the earth, they could not be thrown into Hell, or Hell is not where you place it.