

from, she returned cautiously, trying to discover by stealth [164] whether the enemy were visible. She was greatly astonished, when, upon approaching our dwelling, she saw her people encamped in safety. She accosted them, and related her misfortune; and they explained to her how the cries she had heard were those of the people of her own Nation, and not of the Hiroquois; and that the cannon she had heard was discharged in honor of the coming of Monsieur our Governor to the three Rivers. This wandering would have been enough to kill a strong and healthy man; and this woman experienced no other harm from it than what she endured in her gloomy solitude. I must here note, in passing, a trait of simplicity in certain Savages. As they were being shown in the Chapel a picture where Our Lord is represented in the midst of the Doctors of the Law, they noticed his youth, and the old age of the Doctors; and—as they were depicted each with a book in his hand, and our Lord also—they observed that the Doctors were all looking into their books, and were holding them open, and that Our Lord did not look into his; this caused them to utter these comments: “The Father is right in saying that this young lad knows everything. Look,” said they, “observe that he does not cast [165] his eyes upon his book, and those old men look at theirs very attentively.” The innocence of these simple people is sometimes amusing. It is time to end. The fleet leaves us in sadness, and in joy. The Hospital is burdened with so many sick people, that they are obliged to lodge some of them outside in bark cabins. The Savages are sorely afflicted; it is said that they are dying in such numbers, in the countries farther