

are two kinds of Barbarians in this third of the new world comprised under the name of New France,—namely, the Wandering and the Sedentary,—and as our Society has undertaken the conversion of both, there are two principal missions,—one for the Wandering and nomadic Barbarians, whom we are trying at the same time to [9] communalize and to make Christians; the other for the more Sedentary tribes. The first comprehends all the country from the opening of the saint Lawrence river into the Ocean Sea, up to us, which is a space of more than three or four hundred leagues from East to West, without speaking of its breadth, especially on the North. And the second, which bears the name of “Mission to the Hurons,” consequently includes all the other peoples who dwell, especially towards the West and South, as far as the land may extend,—and beyond, if Islands are discovered there, inhabited by creatures redeemed by the Blood of Jesus Christ, and qualified for Paradise.

That being presupposed, I leave you to judge whether we have reason to raise our eyes and hands to Heaven, to entreat the Master of the harvest to send Laborers to his field; and if we have not therefore cause to cry out to those to whom it pertains on earth, *mensis quidem multa, operarii autem pauci.*

But if some one asks when we shall execute this great plan,—seeing that hardly have we yet made a beginning, or advanced one step in these countries since we have been here,—[10] my answer to this question is, first, that even if this is not to be accomplished until shortly before the end of the world, yet it is always necessary to begin before ending. In the second place, I say that if it please God to give as