

women, and children, with but one and the same hearth and the same table,—nevertheless, we have never heard a single dispute among them. The profound peace that dwells in their midst is, to our minds, a sure indication that God is not far away. *Factus est in pace locus ejus.* They say their prayers [65] in private, evening and morning, on their knees, and do not fail to attend public prayers. As a rule, they hear holy Mass every day, and some as early as four o'clock in the morning. They receive the Sacraments with affection and respect; and some have so tender a conscience that, as soon as they think they have committed some sin, they come at once to confess it, with incomparable frankness, to the Father who has charge of them.

One of us heard one day, unseen, the Heads of these two Families encouraging one another to observe the Christian Law. "Let us not be disheartened," said they, "we shall not be alone; the leading men among us wish to believe and to dwell near us; let us abandon our old ways to adopt those which are taught us, and which are better than ours."

They were in great anxiety whether they could observe abstinence from meat on Fridays and Saturdays. "For," said one, "when we shall be in the woods, making our provision of Elk, we shall have nothing but meat to eat, and what shall we do?" The other replied: "What [66] trouble we are giving ourselves! Since there are only two days in each week, we will pass them without eating anything, and thus observe our abstinence from flesh." This advice was considered good, but not by the Father in charge of them, who taught them what was to be done in such circumstances. Let us enter into further details.