

actions and deeds of certain persons, the opposite of what we were teaching. But God, in bringing affairs to the condition in which we see them, seems to have inspired the Gentlemen of the Company of New France with so good ideas and resolutions thereupon, and Monsieur the Chevalier de Montmagny, our Governor, has brought about so good order, that we hope this stumbling-block will no longer be found in our way. And, in fact, those who are here at present not only lead irreproachable lives, but besides live and behave in such a way that we have every reason to believe that God upon their account [54] has given a special blessing to this work, in which they strive, according to their power and skill, to take a worthy part.

I place among the causes for the advancement of this same work the speeches and behavior of Joseph Chihwatenhwa, the good Neophyte of whom we have already spoken several times, who seems to have been the leaven of the Gospel that has made the whole lump of this new Church of the Hurons rise,—not only in this village, but also everywhere else where we have striven to make Christians, either in the town of Teanaustayé where we have a Residence, or in the Missions,—he having been everywhere present on the most suitable occasions, to make a public profession and to render an account of his faith and his conversion. In this he conducted himself everywhere to the full and entire satisfaction of his compatriots, who were never tired of hearing him. “You are disheartened, my Brothers” (he sometimes said to them), “because the matters of your salvation that the French propose to you are new things, and customs of their own which overthrow ours. You tell