

less merited the thanks of the Savages of America than those of the most civilized peoples of Europe.

[55] Since that time we have seen him grow perceptibly in that truly Christian spirit which was found in the primitive Church.

On one of his eight days of retreat, while he was warming himself, a band of ten or twelve Savages, of the eldest in the country, entered our cabin; these barbarians at once began their usual conversation,—that we were the ruin of their country. This worthy Christian, after having made a public and honorable profession of what he was, began to speak to them so appropriately, and with so much gentleness and effectiveness, that whereas they had come in as wolves, they returned thence as lambs; and one of them—who had no voice in those former sentiments, but had long been meditating and ruminating upon the discourses that we went about everywhere delivering on the subject of our mysteries—so relished his words and his intelligence that he desired to converse with him in private. In such talk he spent, on three several days when he came back to see him, three and four hours each day, without noticing how the time was passing; so much did the sayings of this good Christian,—or rather the holy Ghost, who spoke [56] by his lips,—give him satisfaction.

In sooth, he was not willing to make a longer story; he asked baptism, and gave such satisfaction that we did not judge it proper to put him off longer. The day was chosen on the octave of Epiphany, which was the day after the end of our Christian's exercises, and the day of his departure from us,—which appeared to us as an offering of this gentile race