

“ All our sick are very careful to pray to God. They urge us often to pray for them. It is a great consolation to us to see them attentive to prayers evening and morning. They waken one another as soon as the time for prayers draws near. There are some who remain alone a long time in the chapel, before the Blessed Sacrament. The two blind women have become very devout since their baptism. Heleine seemed to me very stupid before she became a Christian; I would never have expected to see her so zealous as she is. She spends a great deal of time praying to God; she maintains a strict silence before Mass, on the day when she [152] wishes to receive communion. I have often asked them, when I saw them very intent and meditative, of what they were thinking. ‘ We are thinking of God,’ they would say, ‘ and of what the Father has taught us.’

“ Pierre Trigatin continues in the devotions of which I have already written you, passing much time in prayer in our chapel.

“ The patience of our sick astonishes me. I have seen many whose bodies were entirely covered with smallpox, and in a burning fever, complaining no more than if they were not sick, strictly obeying the physician, and showing gratitude for the slightest service that was rendered them.

“ Among others, Lazare Petikouchkaouat has left us one of the rarest examples of patience that it is possible to see. You have often seen him in his infirmity. He was seven whole months in our hospital, afflicted with very painful sores in several parts of his body, with a fever that continually preyed upon him and so parched him that he could not quench his thirst. He was seized by a ravenous hunger,