

see what they had to [66] do; that the loss would fall upon them if they neglected God's visitation.

The next day, he went into some other cabins, where having found a concourse of several elders, he spoke to them with a superiority that the spirit of God gave him. All admired his eloquence (for he spoke whole hours with an air which they had never seen). "Truth and reason," he told them, "are found only in the faith; I am but a child, and should be an arrogant fellow if I undertook by myself to convince you: it is not by myself that I speak; the master whom I serve gives me thoughts, and renders me eloquent in maintaining his cause." Those old men put many questions to him; he satisfied all their doubts. Finally, one of the company raising his voice a little higher, said to him: "It is true that what the French have taught thee is reasonable,—I would be quite in favor of our all becoming Christians like thee; but it is for our Captain to speak in that matter, he is the one who manages our affairs." "Truly," he replied, "you have less understanding than children; if your [67] Captains are damned, do you wish to be damned with them? A child would flee, who would see all the Captains burn in the midst of the flames. Which of your Captains has ever taught you to live well? who of them has forbidden theft or adultery? Far from it; they are more thievish and indecent than the others." He confounded them therein, and constrained them to avow that they were without sense. After all, Father le Mercier—whom after his return I directed to write all this, inasmuch as he had been present—assured me that the words which issued all on fire from the lips of this Christian were received in hearts