

denly died by the way. It all lasted not an hour. This happened on the 21st of March, day of St. Benoist. Could one hit upon a more suitable name to give him at his Baptism, since the blessing of heaven fell so timely upon him?

Those are victories gained over the demons: but not without stout fighting; it is often necessary to sustain attacks and withstand blasphemies against the Faith of Jesus Christ, and against us who preach the same.

A certain Oscouenrout, of the principal captains of the nation of the bear,—having met Father le Mercier in one of the cabins of the village of saint Louys, where the Father was making his visits,—had no sooner perceived him than he fell into a frenzy which rendered him more like one possessed than a man in [75] anger. This wretch has one of the sharpest tongues in the country: but, if ever he were eloquent, he showed it in the speech that he then made—reproaching us for all their miseries, in a tone and with an accent full of fury. After all, he takes a glowing firebrand, and approaching the Father, says to him: “Resolve not to leave the place; to-day thou wilt be burned.” The Father, who had his tongue at command, and better courage than this wretch, raises his voice higher than he. “That,” he said, “is not what I fear; my life does not depend on thee, but on the God whom the believers adore, who is the master of thy life as much as of mine. If he allow the demons of hell to use thy hand to deal this blow, for my part I cannot find a happier encounter; but as for thee, thou wilt forever bear,—thou and all thy posterity,—shame and confusion on your faces.” At the same time, God gave the Fa-