

for the guilty. In a word, we may say that the Faith is now in disgrace not only in this village, but also in all the neighboring hamlets,—which, seeing themselves less attacked with the trouble, rejoice to have continued obstinate in infidelity, and harden themselves more than ever in the resolve not only to refuse the Faith, but even not to listen to those who go to announce it to them. In fact, on the round that we have just made, we have found almost everywhere the cabins closed, and several, who saw themselves surprised before they had contrived to anticipate our arrival, forthwith drove us out; others said that they were deaf, and even maliciously stopped their ears, for fear of hearing us; some acted as madmen and lunatics, [103] and exclaimed that they could not bear the sight of us: some fled and left the cabin almost empty for us; in a word, they will not hear what they are not persuaded to do. We have nevertheless, in almost every village, gained some souls for God,—save in that of sainte Terese, where we had a worse reception. We had no sooner arrived than a well-built young man begs us to instruct him; he listens gladly, and, to see him, one would have supposed that he relished the words of God. After a long time, here comes another Savage, much deformed, who presents himself with his face quite inflamed, and commands us to leave. I rise; this young man whom we had instructed forcibly seizes the Crucifix which I wore about my neck, takes a hatchet in his hand, and says that positively I should die. ‘I do not fear death,’ I say to him; ‘thou shouldst thank me because we come to teach thee: if thou wish to kill me, I will not flee, for death will place me in Heaven.’ He lifts the hatchet directly