

maliciously pretends to be deaf, and will not answer a word. I do my utmost, but if Our Lord do not himself speak to the heart, what do we but make a little noise? I leave this unhappy one, and pass on with no other purpose except to leave through the other door of the cabin; but God was guiding me; I find on my way two other women who are in extremity; [109] I instruct them one after the other, and prepare them for dying happily. How adorable are the favors of the good Jesus, and how powerful they are when he enlightens a soul! These good women satisfy me and receive baptism; and then night warns me to withdraw as soon as possible. I was not long without hearing of the death of these four patients. Are not these adorable judgments of God? That woman alone, who led me thither, is in the number of the reprobates; and we have reason to believe that the three others are in heaven. The first one had had a little child in heaven for a month past, which perhaps attracted its mother to that place; the two latter ones were soon followed, each by a child which they had left in the cradle; and both children were fortunately baptized a little before their death.

“ We cannot have admittance to a certain cabin, which is filled only with sick people; when we are in the street, a child of about four years, full of health, runs up to us and pleases us uncommonly. We [110] ask him his house, he points it out to us; we, suspecting that at his age, in the midst of so many sick people, death might easily seize him before we could, in case of extreme necessity, provide for the salvation of his soul. I feel strongly impelled not to lose the opportunity; I beg Father Chaumonot to baptize him in secret. He takes from the road a handful of