

like the little children in France—that we are delighted. They compose their faces, and regulate their actions by ours, except that in their reverences they imitate Madame de la Pelletrie. They are so afraid of not being present at this divine sacrifice, that one day, when Madame wished to take them to the settlement of St. Joseph, where their relatives are, they asked if they would not be allowed to hear Mass before departing.

“They do not fail to recite their rosary every day. If they notice some Nun going aside to say hers, they present themselves to say it with her. A Nun, having granted them this favor one day, told them that it was a suitable act of devotion [172] to offer these words after each *Ave Maria*: “*Sancte Joseph, ora pro nobis.*” They promised that they would say them, and that they would pray to this great Saint. Indeed, as soon as they left the Mass they came and rendered this good Mother an account of their little devotion. They sometimes slip into our choir, and, placing themselves on opposite sides, each holding a book in her hand, they act as we do during our service. They sing the *Ave Maris stella* and the *Gloria Patri*, making the same inclinations that they see us make; and as this is the only Hymn they know by heart, they sing it twenty and thirty times without tiring of it, thinking that they are offering a prayer very acceptable to God. This innocence is enchanting.

“On Good Friday, when they saw that the Nuns took off their shoes and prostrated themselves low to adore the holy Cross, these poor children laid aside their shoes, and observed the same ceremonies which they had noticed in their Mothers.