

pox, which fastened itself indifferently upon all sorts of persons,—a goodly number of whom went out of this world with clear marks of predestination; and, among them more than three hundred and sixty children under seven years,—without counting more than a hundred other little children, who, having been baptized in the preceding years, have been harvested by this same disease, [3] and gathered by the Angels like flowers of Paradise.

And although, as regards adult persons in good health, there is very little apparent fruit—on the contrary, there have been only storms and whirlwinds in that quarter—yet we do not reckon to the account of lost pains what we have done in their behalf, having distributed our Evangelistic laborers in five missions over all the extent of the country whither we could go; since the more they have resisted the plans that we had for their salvation, and have appeared to plot our destruction, the more have they heightened the sound and the resonance of the tone of the Gospel; and will serve, at least some day, to justify the merciful providence of God with respect to them.

Such, my Reverend Father, in a few words, is the situation; and this is enough to show Your Reverence the need and the necessity that we are in, more than ever, of your charity,—and especially of your Holy Sacrifices and prayers; whereto we all heartily and affectionately commend ourselves.

Your Reverence's

Very humble and very obedient servant
in God, HIEROSME LALEMANT.

From the Hurons, this 27th of May, 1640.