

ily, without touching it; but as we had simply said to him that meat was not eaten on the days indicated upon his paper, he—taking this literally without reflecting further—ate none, but did not fail to drink the broth in which the meat had been cooked. We, having perceived this, did not wish [54] to forbid it to him, having compassion on his poverty; for very often on those days his only food was but a bit of biscuit or bread, and even that very scanty.

He had it so much in his heart to imitate our customs, that he asked if we would really receive him among us; for he would like to leave his wife, since she did not urge her baptism. “The voice that I heard,” said he, “exhorted me to imitate you. I do not care to be married; I will give my little girl to the Ursulines, and I will stay with you.” This proposal made us laugh. As he saw us sometimes withdraw apart to commune with God, he did the same,—walking alone, contrary to the custom of his nation, reciting his rosary, or revolving in his mind some point of doctrine, that he had been taught.

A Father of our Society having gone down to Tadoussac this Spring, as he withdrew every day from the cabins, in order to meditate a while, this artless man followed him without speaking, walking apart without interrupting him. [55] At length the Father, perceiving that he carried a pistol under his robe, asked for what he came, and what he intended to do with those arms: “I am come,” said he, “to say my prayers, and to watch over thee. This place to which thou retirest is dangerous,—some Etechin or other evil-minded Savage may come even here, and kill thee without our perceiving him; if that should happen thou wouldst sadden all the Sav-