

to gather him from the garden of his Church militant, in order to put him in the one triumphant. Those who may have read the preceding Relations and the ones for this year will have no difficulty in believing this; God had not begun and conducted so far forward so rare a work not to continue upon him his mercies as much and more, at the hour of death, than he had done during his life. Those who have been most closely acquainted with this good Christian, and who have themselves tested him, render me the evidence that he had an almost continual sense of the presence of God, that in everything he acted with intentions worthy of a truly Christian heart. They say that if, at times, his mind strayed in the least from the way of the Saints, he straightway recovered himself, and was confounded by his slight faults as by so many crimes that he was committing against the love of him without whom he would not have wished to breathe a moment. As for me, I can say in truth that I admired in him from day to day the powerful effects of the grace which wholly possessed [195 i.e., 197] his heart; and that I desire no other recompense after this life than the place in which I certainly believe his soul is.

It is true that we hoped much from him for the conversion of these tribes, whose Apostle he had made himself during the course of this year; but since the Saints have more power when they are in heaven than here below on earth, we are bound to believe that we have gained more than lost at his death. We shall see in due time what it will produce.

Since time presses me, and as the canoes are on the point of starting, I am constrained to stop here,