

all his descendants, *usque ad tertiam et quartam generationem, et ultra*. I can only believe that sooner or later God will pour his blessings upon the families of those who procure the extension of the family of Jesus Christ his Son.

I shall make use of repetitions, if I mention [207] the earnest prayers, devotions, fasts, and other self-denials which are made in many places in Europe, for the conversion of these peoples, and especially in the Houses of some Nuns remarkable for piety. I know a Monastery where for several years there has been, continually, day and night, some Nun before the Blessed Sacrament, soliciting this Bread of life to make itself known to the poor Savages, and enjoyed by them. There has been found, even in the country, a Curé so zealous for the salvation of the poor Savages, and Parishioners so full of kindness, that they have made three general processions, and seventy-five fasts; they have taken the discipline a hundred and twenty-four times; they have offered eighteen almsgivings, and a great many prayers,—all for the conversion of these tribes; is not that delightful? I pray the great Shepherd to have a very special care of this good Pastor, and of his flock. When I am told that the most saintly souls of France urge heaven to pour out its blessings upon these countries; when we see delicate young girls, shut up in their houses on the banks of [208] our great river, taking part in the labors of this new World with unparalleled cheerfulness; when I observe a Lady, more than a thousand leagues distant from her own country, giving her means, and her life for these Barbarians, preferring a roof of bark to a ceiling of azure, taking more pleasure in conversing with Sav-