

recently arrived from Quebeq, and sent for this purpose.

Behold us then, immediately after, distributed among seven missions, where we preached and published the Kingdom of God to sixteen or seventeen thousand Barbarians of divers tribes. There was no village or hamlet, cabin or fireside, to which we could approach, where we did not discharge our duty. And if we do not see in them so many conversions as we might desire, at least [7] we have the consolation of finding in their minds much more inclination to the Faith than in preceding years.

Notwithstanding, it is a pitiable thing to see the ideas and imaginations in which the evil spirit still keeps these poor tribes. Some of them are seized with fright as soon as they see us, and ask if the malady does not return with us; others, after having heard us, have no reply except that they have no mind. Some, before pledging themselves, ask if we will assure them that they shall grow old; others entreat that we should then undertake wholly the healing of all the sick, since we forbid the feasts and the ceremonious dances, which are the remedies of the country; others ask upon what they shall live, and how they shall spend their time, since they are forbidden to steal, and to cherish the women; others do not cease to protest that they believe, with a thousand politenesses and flatteries, which end [8] at last only in asking for something or in stealing it if they can.

There are some who listen seriously and consent willingly to everything, remaining convinced of the truth; but on being urged to come to the performance of it, and to forsake all their superstitions,—and