

defense of the Fathers. It was especially noticeable that this good woman was never impatient in bearing so many annoyances, and in continuing her attentions and good cheer to the Fathers until the day of their departure. The only regret which the Fathers experienced in separating from her, was their inability to give her then the blessing which we came to bring to the most barbarous of these regions, as her inclination to receive this was not yet sufficient. They hope that the fervent prayers of those who shall hear of this hospitality will obtain the accomplishment of that which they had begun to effect in her mind.

The greatest sorrow this woman had, was that she could not prevent the outrages which she saw these Fathers endure. A madman of her own cabin began to spit upon Father Chaumonot, to tear his cassock, to attempt burning it, and to call him very hard names; and during several nights he made so great a din that the Fathers were not able to sleep. Others came, who took away from them by force, in her presence, their most precious things; and, for all amends, spoke of nothing less than of burning them,—and perhaps they would have done so, [80] had not their good Angels interfered.

Toward the last, the father of this good hostess came unexpectedly, and approved of all that his daughter had done for the Fathers; and he expressed a very special liking for them, promising to come and see us in our own house. I pray our Lord that his steps may not be in vain.

The delay of the Fathers in this place was, doubtless, an exceptional providence of God: for, in the twenty-five days that they remained in this cabin,