

their Summer dwelling; but it is more for pleasure, and that they may have fresh food to eat, than for their support.

[88] Our Fathers at Quebec, and at the Three rivers,—who in the past have successfully labored for the improvement of all the wandering tribes which were nearest to them, and have made nearly all of them men and Christians,—cast their eyes upon this Nation, the nearest to the last one which came down in order to settle near them. But as these no longer came for Trade, on account of some opposition which others from below made against them, they did not know how to broach this matter. Last Summer, God was pleased so to order things that they themselves resolved to feel their way, and to send some canoes for the Trade with the French. They arrived safely, without any difficulty, and nothing could have happened more opportunely for that which we desired.

Consequently we spoke to them, not of abandoning their country and coming to place themselves near the other Algonquins already settled, but rather of receiving a few of our Fathers among them, that they might be instructed; they declared that this would be [89] very acceptable to them. This is why Fathers Claude Pijart, and Charles Raymbaut, setting out from below to come and help us, had directions to offer themselves, on the way, to them. But not having found them at their Summer dwelling, and having learned that they were to come and winter in our quarters, they landed here without losing hope of seeing those to whom they were specially sent.

They were not disappointed in their expectation.