

These Savages, numbering about two hundred and fifty souls, arrived shortly after, and took such a district in this country, for their winter quarters, that it seems to have been the holy Ghost, and no other, who guided them.

They chose their ground on the same side of the river, upon which we were, and at two arquebus shots from our house. It was precisely from not being inconvenienced by their nearness to us, and also from our not being very distant from them, that our Fathers were easily able, every day, [90] to go and instruct them; which they did not fail to do.

We must admit that Tribes like these have an indescribably greater aptitude of heart for the seed of Faith than have our Hurons. The Fathers had not talked with them for a fortnight, before they took the utmost delight in listening to them; and they had no greater satisfaction than when they were taught to chant the greatness of God, the articles of belief, and the Commandments. In a word, nothing more pleasing can be found, than the way and manner in which, from the first, they bore themselves toward the Fathers.

In the beginning the chief Captain of this Tribe, named Wikasoumir, made a public announcement that every one should pray to God and honor him, in the way taught by the French.

After that, the little children began to learn the first principles of the Faith, and applied themselves so, that in a short time they were found remarkably advanced therein.

They make no difficulty about permitting their sick to be instructed and baptized; [91] some of them even contribute willingly to their own instruction.