

menced, that would be a benefit to all their crews, and to the poor Savages; for some Fathers of our Society could withdraw there [193] in the Spring and remain until the departure of the vessels, so that they might aid the Frenchmen and the Savages in their spiritual needs. To dwell there during the winter is a thing I should never advise any Frenchman to do; for the Savages go away at that time, abandoning their rocks to the cold and the snow and the ice, of which some remains are still seen this year very late in the month of June. Moreover, I do not doubt in the least that, if the fury of the Hi-roquois can be checked, all the Savages of Tadous-sac, and of the Sagné, and of many other small Tribes, will go farther up the river, if we continue to aid them. But let us hear all the observations of the Father.

“During the stay I made there, these good people,” said he, “invited me ordinarily to their councils; they imparted to me their little affairs; they asked me to their feasts, treating me as their father. They made a feast over the graves of their dead, immediately after my arrival, at which they served eight moose and ten beavers; the Captain, haranguing, said that the souls of the deceased [194] took great pleasure in the odor of these good viands. I wished to speak, in order to refute this error, but they said to me: ‘Do not be troubled; this will not hinder our believing, and we are going soon to throw aside all of our old customs.’

“See how I employed my time among them. At daybreak, which was about three or four o’clock in the morning, I went and offered up prayers to God in their cabins; then I said holy Mass, at which all