

the Christians who had come down to Tadoussac, in order to trade, were present every day,—not unfrequently making confession and receiving communion. Mass having been said, I withdrew apart, beyond the noise of the cabins, in order to have a little time for myself; afterward I visited the sick, then I brought the children together, to teach them the Catechism. The Sun did not regulate my rising up, or my lying down, or the hour of my repasts, but convenience alone, which was hardly advantageous or favorable to my body.

“ I gave some time after dinner,—now to the men, and then to the women, [195] who assembled that they might be instructed; and toward evening, after having retired by myself for some time, I had prayers offered, with a public instruction, when the children gave an account before their fathers and mothers of what they had learned in the Catechism; this encouraged them, and infinitely gratified their parents.

“ I have seen some of them so eager to be instructed that they have spent whole nights with our Christians waiting to be told and retold a single thing, that it might be fixed in their memories. I questioned publicly the most aged, as I did the children, and all gave me an account of what I had taught them. In a word, if this Mission is arduous, it is enriched with much consolation.

“ On a certain day, I told them that some Frenchmen had said to me, on my leaving Kebec, that I could do with them anything I would, before the arrival of the Vessels; but that on the landing of the Ships they could no longer be restrained,—that they would be intoxicated from morning until night. One of them, beginning to speak, said to me good-