

pass several days there in admirable peace and good-fellowship. Their beds are soon made, for we have only sufficient for a limited number of the sick. They throw a few pieces of skin upon the floor, and, when they have said their prayers, they sleep as well on them as on feathers or down. If the good God would send us some mattresses and some blankets, he would relieve us from the distress [104] that we feel when we see them sleeping on harder beds in our house than they have in their own cabins.

“Our pleasure is to succor them. This year we dispensed over four hundred and fifty medicines. Our supply of drugs is exhausted; but our hearts are still quite whole, so that we can rejoice at the Baptism of these good souls. A score of them were made Christians this year, in our Hospital and in our Chapel. Is not this enough to make us chant the *Te Deum laudamus* with all our hearts? Twelve of the leading families among the Savages have come to dwell in four houses that have been built quite close to ours; this is enough to make us love the residence of St. Joseph. Our little Church serves as their Parish Church and Oratory. They quite frequently fill it, as well as the sick Ward; and they fill our hearts with a very sweet and most tender devotion.

“The Savages, who did not know what it was to visit the sick, are learning the practice of charity. We find some good women, who are excellent Hospital Sisters. They carry the sick, assist and relieve them, and prepare [105] their sagamite, or food, in their own fashion better than we ourselves. One of our keenest regrets is to see the poverty of the country.