

reason, from being present at the divine Sacrifice, he made up for the omission as soon as he was free to do so, by a prayer said [138] in this little Church, where he recited the Rosary on his knees before going out.

When the Father told them that, in truth, it was very pleasing to God to hear holy Mass every day, but that, nevertheless, he was not angry when any one absented himself from it on working days, one of them addressed him and said: "My Father, do not tell us that God is not angry if we are not present at holy Mass; tell us only that he is pleased when we are there. That is enough to make us come. The sluggards may take advantage of the half of thy discourse."

Prayers are said night and morning in the cabins, with such consolation to these good people that when some Savages of the Saguene were about to embark to return to their own country, they came to find the Father at break of day, to pray to God with them previous to their departure. Not long ago the Savages were still ashamed to pray to God in public; now they are not ashamed to kneel down, to clasp their hands, and to pray aloud. Not to love prayer is considered blameworthy. Such a change [139] gives great consolation to those who have seen the abhorrence that these Barbarians had for our holy Faith, and the jests that they directed at those who preach it. The Devil still causes terror to some. That evil spirit had persuaded them that Baptism was fatal to them, and that they could not forsake the customs of their Ancestors without giving up their lives. This erroneous idea still prevails in the