

there, on the bank of the river, and the waters have carried them away; and the Fathers are deprived of pleasant communications from those distinguished and virtuous persons. The highway robbers have taken this consolation away from them.

Eleven Huron canoes, loaded with men and furs, that were going down to the three rivers, stopped at about the same time at an Island fifty leagues above nostre Dame de Montreal, to hunt deer and Wild cows. They placed a portion of their men in ambush, to fall upon the animals that might rush to the river, while the greater part of the band ran yelling about the Island to frighten the game. The Hyroquois came unexpectedly, flung themselves upon the men in ambush, and carried them away in a moment. Their comrades, greatly astonished, would have pursued them; but, fearing that their foes were in great number, and were preparing for them some [175] ambush in the woods, they abandoned their companions to the mercy of the wolves, and, dividing into two parties, one returned to the Hurons, while the other came down to the three rivers to give information that the roads were beset in various places. *Penè zelavi super iniquos pacem peccatorum videns.* Never have the Algonquins or the Hurons had such recourse to God as now, and never have they been afflicted with greater misfortunes. The more we advance in the Faith, the more do we walk amid Crosses. It seems as if everything were about to perish—at the very moment, perhaps, when God intends to save everything. Through such hopelessness he leads us to hope; and his powerful hand sustains us more strongly in the midst of upheavals.

That good Joseph, so distinguished among the