

the working of the holy Ghost is probably as visible here as in any place in this New World; and that, even in persons brought up from the cradle amid examples of Virtue and Religion, one would admire the Faith, the Piety, and the courage that we witness in some of our Barbarians, who desire nothing more ardently than Heaven, ever since God took possession of their hearts. Consequently, we have never seen more clearly how to instruct them, and the Gospel has never been expounded here more peacefully, than since about eight months.

These favors come to us from Heaven, and doubtless through the merits of so many pious Souls, who are a thousand times more acceptable in the eyes of God for the Conversion of these Peoples than are we ourselves who are employed therein; and he alone, who knows the secrets of hearts, can tell the share that each one performs. But, as the least remote causes are usually [9] the best known, I am constrained to admit that We and the Guardian Angels of this Country are greatly indebted to the Piety of Monsieur the Chevalier de Montmagny, our Governor,—who, not content with effectively supporting us in the functions of our Ministry in the midst of these Infidel Peoples, also finds means, worthy of his prudence, to give authority among them to the truths of our Faith.

Our Barbarians, although they are Barbarians, have yet learned from the book of Nature, how to maintain and defend themselves against their Enemies. They have trustworthy agents in their pay among foreign Nations, who inform them of the plots that are laid against them, of the Armies that are in the field, and of the routes that they will