

compassion on them, and to strive to make them share their happiness. 'It is a matter of deep regret' (they say) 'to see our Relatives and Friends so persistent in their slavery to Satan. They laugh at us, but still we do not hate them. We abhor their methods, we detest their superstitions, without wishing any evil to their persons. They are angry because we believe in God. But in spite of all they can do, prayer is dearer to us than life. We would rather die than give it up.'"

When the Neophytes of Saint Joseph heard of the death of the Algonquins slain by the Hiroquois, they sought to console those who survived the defeat, according to their old customs, which they sanctified with truly Christian zeal. They held a great feast, to which they invited all the upper Algonquins who had come to see them. They brought them [15] three words,—that is to say, they gave them three presents. The first was given to dry the tears that they shed for the death of their people; the second, to bring back to life the nephew of one of the chief Algonquins; the third, and the finest, was given to win over to prayer those who seemed to have lent ear to it, but had not yet embraced it, and to induce them to receive the Faith of JESUS CHRIST. These proud Algonquins—whom God will compel to have recourse to him by the scourges which exterminate them—accepted the first two presents, and put the third aside in order to deliberate together whether they should accept it,—for whosoever takes a present, among the Savages, binds himself to do what the present expresses. One of the band—seeing that this present spoke of God, and called upon those to whom it was offered to pray to him—said