

so great a sin? Make me endure something [23] that will torment my body; command me to fast. Fear not,—I will obey thee; I have offended God and I wish to appease him.’” The Father replied: “I do not wish thee to fast to-day, nor to-morrow; for these are days of rejoicing. A feast will be held in your Cabins in honor of the arrival of Father le Jeune, whom God has given back to us.” “It is for that reason,” said the good man, “that I must fast, so that I may suffer more. I have offended God; I must not rejoice with the others. I will very gladly keep away from these feasts; and, if I must be present at them, I will make pretense to eat, without any one noticing it.” This good Penitent might well say: *Dolor meus in conspectu meo semper*; “My eyes, beholding my offense, see but subjects for sorrow.”

That is not all; he sought me in my room, as soon as I arrived, to inform me of his grief,—at least, I imagine that he is the same whom the Father mentioned in his account. He showed me his hands all bleeding. He had made very painful cuts in his fingers, and, when I asked him the reason of this, he said: “Ah, my Father, I am very sad; I have [24] offended God and I am the cause of others offending him. I have cut my fingers, to show them that what I did should not have been done; and to teach them that those who are baptized should not commit any bad action.”

Another paper that has been handed to me relates the following: “One of the two Captains of the residence of St. Joseph is so moved by God, and so zealous for the faith, that he feels the slightest faults committed by his people, and has no rest until he has set things right. Not long ago, he came for