

Taondechoren, "that his discourses, animated by such charity in the midst of all those sufferings, inflamed all hearts, and made them prize this blessing that they enjoyed in their captivity—that God had given them a man who was to them a father, a mother, a consoler, indeed all, in a place where all consolation failed them except what God gave them through his mouth." He frequently went to confess and instruct them; in a word, he filled the office of an Apostle, and could say with St. Paul, *Verbum Dei non est alligatum, idèd omnia sustineo propter electos*,—"The word of God is not bound, therefore I endure all things for the sake of the elect whom God has chosen, and has freed through me, in the midst of my bonds and of their chains."

We know not where all this will end, nor how long those barbarians will allow him to live; we know only that he expects death from day to day, and [22] from hour to hour; and that, while a breath of life remains, he will employ it for the advancement of the glory of God and will fulfill a more glorious Mission than ours, in the midst of our cruelest enemies, for it contains more crosses and is more beset with thorns. *Sugit mel de petra, oleumque de saxo durissimo*. The great Master whom we serve can alone extract sweetness from bitterness, and touch hearts that are harder than stone and adamant.

I omit many important things that have happened to that suffering Church in its slavery to the Iroquois. I say nothing, also, of the death of one of those two Frenchmen who were taken prisoners with the Father, who was killed at the end of the Autumn through the passion of an individual Iroquois. I fear to repeat here what may have been related of