

see what had been the result of the Faith of the Montagnais and Algonquins who had received Baptism, I was shown a house full of one-eyed, lame, crippled, and blind persons; of fleshless skeletons; and of people who all carried death on [103] their countenances. Such are the appanages of the Faith. That is the House that they esteem" (he spoke of the hospital built near Quebec for the sick); "those are the people upon whom they fawn, because to resolve to be a Christian is to resign oneself to all those miseries. Besides that, one must expect to be no longer lucky either in fishing or in hunting. Finally, my brothers," he added, "if to-day I saw the whole of your village become Christian I would be satisfied to be considered the greatest impostor in the world if one of you remained alive before the end of the third year. For my part, I foresaw those misfortunes caused by the Faith. In vain did I predict them to those who, after refusing to believe me, acknowledged but too late, after their misfortune, that they were deceived. Has any Christian escaped, as I have, from the clutches of a thousand deaths prepared for him? If their God be in reality the Almighty, why does he leave them in opprobrium, why does he not break their chains? why is he not their liberator? why does he not show in a country where he wishes to be acknowledged that it is truly good [104] to have him for one's Sovereign? But since those who refuse to worship him are happier than those who are his subjects, if you, my brothers, like me, have any feeling and love for yourselves, for your children, and for your country, choose with me to consider him rather as an enemy than as a friend."

This wretched being, ill favored by nature, was more