

to grow everywhere, as long as such pious sources are not exhausted. A well-established marriage often gives us fifteen or sixteen Christians.

But our sharpest thorn [146] is, that the enemies of these tribes have the advantage over them through the arquebuses that they obtain from certain Europeans. We are now, as it were, invested and besieged on all sides, without being able to relieve the misery of a multitude of peoples who, as yet, live in ignorance of the true God. Nor can we receive aid from France without incredible trouble. To Heaven alone do we look for the removal of these obstacles; and the prayers that will be said and the vows that will be made for us, and for so many poor Barbarians, will, no doubt, be the surest assistance that can be given us. At least, if the misfortunes of the times prevent the effects of the charity of so many saintly souls from coming to us, all the tears that they shed night and day before the sacred Altars, their sighs and groans, will, in spite of the fury of the Iroquois, reach to the highest Heavens, and cry for mercy in favor of so many Nations redeemed by the precious blood of the Son of God. We [174 i.e., 147] all send our humble salutations to your Reverence, and affectionately commend ourselves to your Holy Sacrifices and Prayers.

Your Reverence's

*From the Huron country,  
this last of March, 1644.*

Very humble and very obedient  
servant in Our Lord,

HIEROSME LALEMANT.