

with God. I confessed some Huron christians who were there, to whom we made presents and received some in return. I am about to go back there to pass the winter, and not to return, *unless I* [451] *die there*, until the month of June next year. The matter is now being discussed at 3 rivers; they think that, if I am not sent there now, I shall be, God helping, in the spring. But I see considerable preparations made for an early departure, and our Reverend Father Superior is favorably inclined to it. It is only my own cowardice and bodily weakness which form powerful obstacles to the designs God has for me and for this country. Pray him, my Reverend Father, that he will make of me what he desires, and that I may be a man after his own heart, *det mihi dominus latitudinem cordis sicut arenam quæ est in littore maris*. Would that he would somewhat enlarge my poor heart, which is so narrow; and that by the experience of the past, and by the abundance of his goodness and mercy toward me, I may learn to trust myself entirely to him, being very sure that he will not draw back and let me fall, when I shall cast myself lovingly into the arms of his divine and paternal providence. Our Lord has made us a noble gift in giving us peace; pray his divine goodness, which has given it to us, that it may continue, for it is from this goodness that we shall hope for the fulfillment of this prayer. This peace, together with the trade which the country now has, causes a notable change in its appearance, an increase in the number of inhabitants, and greater comfort in all respects. The country no longer seems as rough as before; and we know through experience that it can produce good wheat and other necessities of life,—especially this locality