

should be the one to give the impulse, and choose his own time when we were least thinking of it.

One of those Achirigouans, who had heard [107] something of our faith, came to present himself to our Fathers. "I know not who impels me," said he; "I know not who enlightens me, and who touches me at heart; but I see well that the faith is desirable. I see well that there is a God; and I feel strength enough to resolve to honor and obey him in all that you shall tell me on his part. I am yours, because I wish to be altogether his. Tell me what I have to do, and refuse to instruct me if ever I refuse to obey you."

Our Fathers, in instructing him, find a spirit wholly inclined to our mysteries, a will which resists nothing, and a courage which surmounts and which breaks, from this first moment, everything that can oppose itself to his faith; they see well that the holy Ghost is his Master more than they, and that, rendering a heart so pliable, he does not require long instruction, or the usual delays. They baptize him at the end of six weeks; although we expect, in the case of most, probations of one and two years. They give him the name of Leonard,—his Algonquin surname is Mixisoumat; and—to say of him a great deal, and nearly everything, in few words—since then we have not perceived [108] in him any shadow of fault.

The day after his Baptism, it pleased God to try him somewhat severely; an only son of his, still at the breast, fell grievously sick. All his relatives immediately think of having recourse to the devil, and to the superstitions of the country. They reproach this new Christian, that his faith is beginning very soon to draw misfortune upon his family; they tell