

fast and receive Communion in her honor, if they escape from this danger. Joseph Nepsuget thereupon resumes courage, lightens the shallop, throws some casks of provisions upon the floating pieces of ice, and, jumping upon the ice, uses the mast for a lever under the shallop; the wind increases, and so greatly crowds the cakes of ice that they seem secure enough to escape upon to the land. They trusted their lives to them, leaving all else adrift; then, by the favor of the Moon, and of their oars, which served them at times as a bridge in the gaps of the ice, they journeyed about a league, and arrived at day-break at Miskou,—there to thank God and the Blessed Virgin for the favor received, which they did wholly at leisure in our Chapel. It was here that our Neophyte, unable to contain himself, was entertaining the Father [118] with the sentiments of his heart. “It is now time,” said he, “to live like a man of worth, since I have the happiness to be of the number of those who pray. I assure thee that thou wilt see by my actions the esteem that I have for prayer.” He has kept his word even till now, and has shown himself steadfast in trying encounters; some libertines have importuned him,—their derisions, however, and their mockeries, though sharp and keenly felt, have not shaken him. Some have tried to oblige him to eat meat on days forbidden by the Church, refusing him all other nourishment; but in vain,—hunger and all importunities have served only to make manifest his constancy. He was named Pierre when the ceremonies of the Church were conferred upon him in our Chapel.

The second person baptized this year is a little girl, aged about two years; her sickness caused us