

all, and so great a respect for the superiors and the rules, that nothing else seems to me to be desirable here,—save that I, who alone am exceedingly unlike my brethren, may at last some day attempt to aspire to their virtue; for which I implore, as ardently as possible, the prayers of your paternity.

Both the example and the activity of Reverend Father Paul Ragueneau, superior of this Huron Mission, certainly contribute very greatly toward so good a status of the whole mission,—so much, that I think it could not be without serious injury to all of ours, and even to the whole Mission, that, after having completed his third year, another be substituted for him. Nay rather, it would be very greatly to our advantage that this same Reverend Father Ragueneau should exercise the charge of this mission for many years. This is also my opinion in regard to the superior of the whole Canadian mission, Father Hierosme Lallemand; that he should continue the administration of the whole mission, I also deem highly advantageous. But this is far more evident to me in the case of Reverend Father Paul Ragueneau.

As concerning outside matters,—ours diligently labor in cultivating the vineyard assigned to us by the Lord, which indeed will yield, though slowly, greater fruits from day to day. For the natural disposition of our barbarians is slow to admit the faith, and requires, during these beginnings, a continual and perpetual labor for cultivating the faith when accepted. Yet we need not be dissatisfied, since God has given us very many Christians here, in whom shine forth both faith and piety, and also examples of steadfast courage. But—what is most serious for us—we are in the utmost want of laborers.