

and live near the French. God withdraws from time to time those who are in the remote interior, which we cannot approach, in order to lead them to his knowledge through neighborhood to those who are competent to instruct them. These poor people, being afraid of meeting the Hiroquois on their return, besought Monsieur d'Aillebourts to assist them with some arms,—well resolved to fight if they found enemies; Monsieur d'Aillebourts believed that they ought not to be denied in a matter so important. Being armed, they make a journey to Three Rivers, and thence go up again to their own country, without finding any enemy. One of them, supposing that the river was quite free, embarks his wife in order to journey as far as [46] the Island, and to give warning to the Savages of that country, that their relatives had been taken and massacred toward Three Rivers; and that, in consequence, they should be on their guard. As he was, then, navigating in his little bark gondola, he perceived from a distance a canoe of Hiroquois. Turning toward his wife, who was steering the canoe, he said to her: "Wouldst thou really have the courage to aid me? I desire to go and attack that canoe." It was conducted by perhaps seven or eight men, and he was all alone; but he had resolution. His wife answered him: "I will follow thee everywhere; I wish no more of life after thy death." They ply their paddles, in order to overtake that little craft; but, before being discovered, they saw, a little beyond, four or five canoes filled with men. That stopped them;—they concluded that they ought not to cast themselves rashly into the irons of their enemies. What, then, will this poor man do? He is