

married her is not less Christian than his spouse. He sought her hand for about two years; when he saw that he was well received, he went to lodge in the cabin of his future spouse, according to the former custom of the Savages. Our Fathers told him that that was not very seemly; forthwith he withdrew, protesting that he would obey in everything. I avow to you that this obedience, contrary to the Savages' customs among young people who are mutually in love, resembles a miracle in the minds of those who know the character of these tribes.

A Father of our Society, having recently arrived at saint Joseph, went to visit a very poor patient. The latter said to him: "Thou doest me a great favor; I beg thee, come to console me often in my sickness." "Yes, but," said the Father, "I have not wherewith to relieve thee." "I ask thee nothing except that thou instruct me, and instruct my wife and children. I think no more of the earth, my heart is in Heaven." The Father was surprised, for this man was one of the worst among the Savages; therefore he said to him: "My dear friend, the [167] Demon will perhaps try to persuade thee that the Faith causes thee to die;" this is one of the temptations with which he torments the Savages. "But know that thine own excesses have reduced thy body to the state in which it is." "That is true," he answers, "but let us leave the body there, and let us think of the soul. I suffer willingly for my offenses; I hope that God will show me mercy." Certainly the spirit of God breathes where he pleases,—he has regard for neither Greeks, nor Scythians, for neither Frenchmen, nor Savages: those who are most obedient to him are his greatest friends.