

wish to converse with God longer, are permitted to do so. The women, who, as a rule, have beautiful voices, take pleasure in sanctifying them through the singing of some very devout Hymns. They assemble thus twice a day, employing two good hours, especially in the morning, in that holy exercise.

I have remarked above that a certain assembly is held between the Hurons and these nations of the North; the Attikamegues were present there, this year, to the number of more than thirty canoes. We had given them letters, to be conveyed by 50 Hurons who happened to be at that assembly, to our Fathers who are in their country; and our Fathers in those regions had also given some to their Hurons, in order to be delivered to us by the Attikamegues. These good people have been faithful; they have given our [202] letters to the Hurons, and have delivered to us those which came from our Fathers who are in that country. The Hiroquois constrained us to seek these wonderfully devious ways. But let us continue, if you please, our discourse. Our Attikamegue Christians, being present at that great assembly, would never relax aught of their devotions; they had some apprehension that they might be jeered at by the Pagans, but they surmounted this difficulty by a devotion more fervent and splendid than usual.

Sunday approaching, the Captain commands his people to make a fine and large cabin, which should be used only for prayer; the young men go after bark, and the women and the girls after branches of spruce, which are very beautiful and always green. The old men, having built the Church, order all their people to clothe themselves as richly as possible,