

The Christians, seeing their Father come, rejoiced; each one gave account of what had happened during the Winter. Those to whom Books of wood had been given,—that is to say, tokens which were to serve as topical memorandums for the Principal persons, that they might instruct the others upon certain of the more important points,—faithfully brought these forward, and, without dissimulating, told quite ingenuously what had been committed contrary to each Chapter or each part of those Books.

Others, who had their calendars for securing the observance of the Feasts and for keeping the ordinances of the Church, brought these to the Father, to see whether they had [212] made any errors. In a word, the Father was consoled on seeing the candor and innocence of his sheep. There occurred an amusing debate between those who kept these Almanacs or calendars. Having reassembled at Tadousac before the Father's coming, they compared their papers with one another; and, seeing that they did not agree,—because some were celebrating Sunday a day before the others,—they reproached one another with their errors,—each one said that he had faithfully marked all the days figured on his paper, and yet they saw a misreckoning. The case was referred to the Father, who had no sooner arrived than they asked him what day it was; those who found themselves in keeping with what he answered, amiably derided the others, as people who had gone astray. He who had regulated the Calendar maintains his cause, and shows the sequence of the days which he had marked off, without missing one; the Father, having examined it, acknowledged that both parties had counted well, but that the error proceeded