

carried off the victory. He was so good-humored that even the vanquished loved and respected him. He was adroit in turning aside evil conversations, or in kindly chiding those who swore or indulged in imprecations; and by this means he prevented a great deal of harm, and offended no one—for his innocence, with his reputation for courage, protected him. He had a most special and constant devotion for St. Joseph, which he had acquired in the house of Sainte Marie, in the Huron country, where he was brought up. As he exposed himself hourly to the dangers and alarms that the Hiroquois caused us, he said to one of our Fathers: "If I should die I desire that this timber and these other materials, which I am preparing in order to build a house, be employed in erecting a small Chapel in honor of St. Joseph." He had made a vow never to refuse anything that might be asked of him in the name of that great Saint. He dedicated to him his walks, his journeys, his battles; and, [11] when they spoke of a flying camp against the Hiroquois, he said: "If I were permitted to name that little army I would call it the army of St. Joseph." That chaste Spouse of the Virgin had obtained for that young warrior the purity of an Angel. Those who knew him most intimately assert that he had never fallen into any mortal sin, though he was exposed to a thousand dangers, and was so pressingly solicited that, like Joseph of old, he had to leave his robe or his mantle behind him. It was God's will that he should rank among the virgins. He was about to be married, when he died. His comrades were surprised at his modesty for he made love like an Angel, as it were.