

eat any, but I do not even wish [73] to look at it." Having learned that the Christians fasted on Ember-days and in Lent, he wished by all means to imitate them. He was told that he was not old enough to be obliged to do so. "If I be not obliged," he replied, "neither am I forbidden to do so." He was permitted to do what was reasonable, considering his strength and his manner of living. Having gone to bed supperless one night, he awoke with a great appetite; he told one of our Fathers of it, and was given a piece of bread. He took it but did not touch it; when he was asked the reason he said: "I have not yet heard Mass." "Yes, but it will be said very late." "Well, I shall not die on that account," he said. At night he went to see some Hurons in their cabin, and they offered him something to eat. Now as he was fasting, and as it is an insult to a Savage to refuse what he gives you, he ate, but so little that he did not exceed what is usually eaten at a collation. His hosts noticed it, and told him that a good courage should not yield so soon; and that eating was natural to and necessary for man. To [74] this he gave no answer, except that they were not to press him to eat any more.

Only one Savage dwelt this year at Montreal, and he was blind; but, to compensate, he had virtue enough for twenty-five. "Ah," he said, "how often I praise God for having deprived me of my sight! for, otherwise, I would have been all my life a proud and arrogant man; I would have despised prayer; and the Hiroquois would have eaten me."

As he had taken the resolution not to smoke on the day that he received communion,—which is a rather difficult thing for a Savage, who prefers tobacco to