

of the Hiroquois, who banish them from the neighborhood of his house—that is to say, of the Church that has been erected for them. They repeated the same prayer on the anniversaries of the birth and the death of our Savior.

[101] About that time, two Hurons and an Algonquin, who feared that they would die of hunger, left the band and proceeded toward Kebec; but all three did not arrive there safely. The Algonquin died on the road; while the two others, who reached us on the 26th of November, told us that hunger and sickness were killing those poor people. They were asked whether the Father had not written, and they replied that they had not seen him before their departure. In fact, they had taken advantage of his absence to rob him of a few prunes and raisins with which he relieved the sick.

All who come to New France are sufficiently familiar with the Mountains of *nostre-Dame*,²⁰ because, when the Pilots and Sailors reach that part of the great river which is opposite those mountains, they generally amuse themselves by baptizing the new passengers, unless, by means of a present, they turn aside the flood of that baptism, which is made to pour in abundance over their heads. It was amid those high precipices that the Father and all his band [102] marched, climbed, and rolled over, seeking in the land of death the means of sustaining their lives.

Every one was frightened; the poor Father had recourse to God; he made the Christians pray and exhorted them to confide in the goodness of him who, because he gives himself as food to his children, will not refuse them life and the preservation of their bodies. In fact, they found every day not enough