

the wind favored them to such an extent that their wishes were granted. When they arrived before Kebec the Father who had accompanied them took a Crucifix in his hand, and, lifting his voice, he made them return thanks to God, in full view of our French,—who, when they saw the poor Father with naked feet, and his body covered with a blanket in the fashion of the Savages, and heard the prayers of the good Neophytes, were so deeply moved that some of them wept freely. May God be praised forever. If there be great trouble in following these poor people, there is likewise no slight consolation. Who has ever given anything through love, without having been rewarded a hundredfold by him who does us too much honor in being pleased at our little labors?

When the good Father had rested a little, he comforted us by his discourses. “The Savages with whom I wintered,” he said, “are no longer children in the Faith. I found in them firmness and entire confidence amid dangers. They have a much greater devotion for the holy [108] Sacrifice of the Mass than in previous years; they have showed themselves much more gentle and courteous toward me than they have ever been; and it must be admitted that God has been a Father to them in a most special and loving manner.”

A Savage who suffered from an abscess, which brought him to death's door, had recourse to God by means of this prayer,—short, indeed, but most heartfelt: “Thou who hast suffered so much for us, thou canst do all. I do not tell thee to cure me. It is for thee to decide. If thou do this, I will thank thee in the communion; if thou do not, I will not cease to