

with a joyfulness in their hearts that can be felt but not expressed, and so greatly to the edification of some of our French, that they were delighted. One of our Fathers, who had never yet seen that spectacle, exclaimed: "I would never have believed in France what I see with my own eyes in Canada. Even if all the labors of our Fathers had produced but this fruit of one year, I would consider that they were rewarded a hundredfold."

A Frenchman who lodged a family of those good Savages in his house said, some time afterward, to one of our Fathers that he would not for half [119] of what he owned, have refrained from giving lodgings to those guests. "When I was told that they prayed to God night and morning, that they asked a blessing before their meals, and that they performed other devotional exercises, I listened to it all as to idle tales. But, when I had kept them in my house for some days, my eyes witnessed what my ears could not believe. I confess that I was edified, confused, and astonished. Their evening prayers occupied more than a quarter of an hour, and were said with delightful quiet and modesty. The mothers made the sign of the Cross on their little children, when they awakened them and when they put them to bed." In a word, I say with surprise that the Spirit of God instructs them in the woods beyond anything that I could have thought. But let us consider some of their actions in detail.

A Christian, thirty years of age, who had lost his wife and found himself burdened with three children, took a Christian woman as his second wife, in the woods, without notifying the elders, who were not far distant from the quarter where he was. On the