

penance. Will not God grant me the grace of seeing his house once more, and of confessing myself there?" A friend of hers told her to confess to our Lord. "I have already done so," she replied, "but I shall not be content until I leave my sins with those whom God has established in his Church, to absolve us in his name." She and her husband united their voices and their prayers to obtain that grace. Our Lord is truly all-powerful; but humility, confidence, and love can [122] do everything with his goodness. This woman was so carefully dragged along that at last she came to three Rivers; and, when she entered our chapel, you would have said that she was beginning to breathe again. "Now," she exclaimed, "I am content. O thou who art good, I thank thee for having preserved me up to this moment. I no longer ask thee for life. Let me confess myself and then let thy will be done." The Father who heard her states that he found in that soul hardly anything that needed absolution,—not that she did not understand herself, and that she did not explain herself very clearly, but on account of the innocence of her life. While speaking afterward with her in familiar conversation, when he saw her so pure and so candid, he took pleasure in putting some questions to her. "Fearest thou not death?" he said to her. "I feared it before my confession, but now I love it." "If the Hiroquois were to take thee while going back to thy own country, what wouldst thou say?" "I would speak to God amid my tortures and I would say to him: 'My sufferings will soon pass away, and my glory will be eternal; strengthen me, thou who hast made thyself my relative, and who hast [123] been pleased to die for me.'" "Art thou not sorry