

leave the master of life to do as he wills. If he cure her, we will thank him for it; if not, we shall at least have this consolation, that her soul will not have been soiled by invocations to the devil, and that she will be forever acceptable to God in Heaven." Our Lord was pleased to grant to the faith of the parents the life and health of their child. That woman does more good among these poor [125] people than ten great Doctors would.

She brought to the Father seven or eight women with their children, and presented them all for Baptism. The Father questioned them and found them well instructed; nevertheless, he granted that favor only to the children, and to three of these Catechumens whom he had instructed to a slight extent four years ago. He was greatly astonished when he heard them repeat what he had taught them, and the means that they had taken to preserve in their hearts love and desire for prayer, and affection for holy Baptism. Wishing to try the most fervent one, and her who seemed of the highest birth, he said to her that the Sacrament that she asked for was granted only to those who displayed great courage. "I am but a woman," she replied, "but if it were necessary to pass through the Hiroquois to obtain Baptism it seems to me that I would pass boldly. You see that I am going back to the woods and that perhaps I shall die this winter. Will you wait until I am dead to baptize me? What regret you would feel [126] at having refused me that Sacrament, if you were told that I had passed away from this life without having received it!"

"But again," the Father said to her, "what reward dost thou expect from us, when thou shalt be with