

Father Turgis resisted for some time, consoling his little fold, hearing some in confession, strengthening others through the Sacraments of the Eucharist and Extreme Unction, and burying those whom death was slaying. But finally toil, and the infection that he contracted beside those poor languishing people, prostrated him as well as the others: yet he must resist, even to the last sigh. He has himself borne to the sick and beside the dying; he animates, strengthens, and encourages them; and, after having buried the Captain, the Agent, and the Surgeon,—in a word, all the Officers, and 8 or 9 workmen besides,—he died there himself, leaving only one person sick unto death, whom he holily prepared for that passage before yielding up his soul.

[264] Father Jacques de la place and Father Nicolas Gondoin—sent the following year into those quarters for the purpose of establishing a mission on the Mainland, to which a part of the Savages might retire—found the French settlement quite desolated; there were left in it only nine persons out of twenty-three, and so weak, moreover, that the Fathers must remain there, in order to assist these. We have been told that some Savages, touched with compassion, took the dead bodies from their beds in order to give them burial,—the French not having the strength to do so. Others, more wicked and barbarous, seeing every one prostrated, tried to plunder the warehouse; but the energy and skill of those who had recovered from the malady—who had more countenance, as the saying is, than money to stake—prevented them from doing this. Now, whatever be the cause of these maladies, it is not long since they were banished from that island. Father Gondoin