

temporal; for although, in the past year, nothing whatever was brought to us from France, we nevertheless up to this time abound, and more than abound. Therefore, from all these things it may be inferred that our affairs proceed quite well,—which is a very great favor from God.

But on the other hand there are, altogether, many and considerable influences which not only hinder our work, but seem even to threaten the ruin of the whole mission. Some of these, indeed, are common to us with all the hurons,—especially the enemy, whom we call by the name of Iroquois; they, on one hand, close the roads and obstruct trade, and, on the other, devastate this region by frequent massacre; in short, they fill every place with fear. Other hindrances, however, are altogether peculiar to us,—notably, the hatred toward us of certain infidel hurons, which has grown to the degree that a few days ago they killed one of our domestics. They were ready to offer the same treatment to us, if opportunity had occurred. However, God has already turned these latter difficulties into good, and abundant satisfaction has been made to us by all the hurons for the homicide perpetrated. And the faith, far from receiving any detriment from this, has rather increased thereby,—so true it is that all things work together for good to those who love God. We trust that it will be the same with all remaining obstacles; for, if God be for us, who is against us?

There is certainly one thing which gives me especial anxiety; and about which alone Reverend Father Ragueneau, as I think, has desired me to write; nor, indeed, could or should he write it, through modesty. I fear, I say, lest the Bull of the Supreme Pontiff—