

piety displayed by a mother for her only child. This woman had taken refuge in that department of our settlement of Ste. Marie, that is set apart for the Christian savages. She was compelled to return to Saint Joseph at the very height of the alarm, and she took with her her son, who was only four years old. One of our Fathers asked her why she had not left that little innocent in our house, in a place [32] of safety. "Alas!" she replied, "I would rather see him killed on my breast, and die with me, than let him survive my death. My relatives, who are infidels, would soon corrupt his innocence and ruin his soul by making him lose the Faith; and I would be the mother of a damned one. I prefer the salvation of his soul to the life of his body. I pray for Heaven for both of us, and not for a long life."