

visits the Swedish settlement on the Delaware, and reproaches some of the Swedes for "thinking only of the fur trade, and not of instructing their savage allies." A vessel from New Amsterdam arrives at this settlement, and brings some letters for the Huron Fathers, and news of Jogues's death at the hands of the Mohawks.

Ragueneau now gives a brief summary of the present condition and prospects of the various missions among the Hurons; he is greatly cheered by the spiritual development and the godly lives apparent among his flock. That of La Conception (Ossosané) is the "most fruitful of all, as regards both the number of Christians, and their zeal." In the older missions, the chapels have become too small for accommodating those who desire to attend church services, and many wait outside the doors until a second mass can be said. The writer recounts the qualifications necessary in those who would labor for the conversion of the savages; and advises that many of their usages, though offensive to Europeans, must be overlooked or endured. "It is easy to call irreligion what is merely stupidity, and to take for diabolical working what is nothing more than human." He points out, with great sagacity, the better way of abolishing heathen customs—"inducing the Savages themselves gradually to find out their absurdity, to laugh at them, and to abandon them,—not through motives of conscience, as if they were crimes, but through their own judgment and knowledge, as follies." He adds: "I have no hesitation in saying that we have been too severe on this point, and that God strengthened the courage of our Christians beyond that of common virtue, when they deprived