

aid, will be the seed of a still greater conversion. But it is impossible to conceive the fatigues or the difficulty of preserving the little fruit that can be gathered there; because we are often six, seven, or eight months, and sometimes a whole year, without being able to meet these truly scattered flocks. For all these Tribes are nomads, and have no fixed residence, except at certain seasons [67] of the year, when fish are plentiful, and this compels them to remain on the spot.

Therefore, they have no other Church than the woods and forests; no other Altar than the rocks on which break the waves of this Lake. However, the Fathers who go there to instruct them never fail to find a suitable place for saying holy Mass, and for administering the Sacraments to those poor Savages, with as much sacredness as in the proudest Temple of Europe. The Sky is as good as the vaults of a Church; and not for one day only has the earth been the footstool of him who has created it.

The Nipissiriniens—who inhabit the shores of another small Lake, about eighty leagues in circumference, on the route that we follow in going down to Quebec, seventy or eighty leagues from the Huron country—have received fuller and more continuous teaching than the others. It is also among them that we began, some years ago, this Mission of the Algonquin Tribes, which we call “the Mission of the Holy Ghost.”

Last Winter, many of those [68] Algonquin Tribes came to winter here among the Hurons. Two of our Fathers, who have charge of the Missions in the Algonquin language, continued their instruction until Spring, when they dispersed. At the same