

with no defense against barbarian attacks and fires. If God in his goodness deliver me, a sinner, to their fury, gladly and willingly for his glory, and for my sheep, will I lay down my life, which I do not hold more precious than their salvation. Of quite the same disposition are all of our Fathers and brethren who live here,—nay, even the domestics. We are five in all, of the society,—three priests and two brethren; and we have six domestics, whose labor we greatly need for cultivating the earth, and for aiding the savages in the same way. I mean the neophytes, and especially the newly-sprouted plants of this year,—with whom we all are prostrate at Your Paternity's feet, expecting to receive your holy blessing.

JACQUES BUTEUX.

At Three rivers,
September 21, 1649.