

Christianity. I have very often seen this hospitality practiced among the Hurons,—as many times as we have seen nations devastated, or villages destroyed, or when some fugitive people, seven or eight hundred persons, would find, from the time of their arrival, benevolent hosts, who stretched out to them their arms, and assisted them with joy: who would even divide among them a share in lands already sown, in order that they might be able to live, although in a foreign country, as in their own.

Our Hurons promised themselves a part at least in this welcome. On their arrival at Kebec, the Hospital Nuns opened to them immediately their hearts, their hands, and the bosom of their Charity,—not only on behalf of the sick, but also for some of the indigent families, whom famine still pursued. The Ursulines likewise, together with their good foundress, Madame de la Peltrie, undertook for them, in this emergency, beyond their powers, but not in advance of the trust they reposed in God. They took immediate charge [100] of a very numerous family,—the first who, in the Huron country, had embraced the faith. They threw open their seminary to some little girls, which swelled their number, and the zeal of these good Mothers knew almost no bounds. Their classes were opened to a number of day-scholars, whom they instructed in the Catechism, and the Huron tongue, and to whom they gave food,—extending thus their Charities at the same time to both their bodies and souls. Three or four of the more prominent citizens charged themselves each with the care of a family. But after all, there remained more than two hundred of these poor Christians who were unable to find any help in the famine