

rians, and lamentations of a despairing people; but we witnessed nothing but thanksgivings and praises. These poor creatures—of a truth, laid low indeed, but filled with holy resignation to the will of God—came to throw themselves at the foot of our Altars, mothers praying for their children, wives for their husbands, and children for their fathers. All confessed and received communion, for the comfort of their souls. *Cum occideret eos, quærebant eum.* The more God afflicted them, the more they clung to him. May he be blessed forever, through time and eternity.

We could recount a multitude of holy sentiments and good actions of the children of these new Churches; but the little we have said will suffice to arouse those who shall hear the story of our affliction to assist us in Heaven and on earth. These Churches were born amid Crosses: they have begotten their children amid sufferings, persecutions, epidemics, famines, and wars; they have fed on tears [119] and anguish. They have almost no other members than widows and orphans; and, if I were to speak as a Savage, I would say that there remains naught else than phantoms, the living having gone to Heaven. I cannot, after all, despair. The primitive Church was filled with exiles, and with people reduced to slavery, or condemned to the flames, to the wheel, to the mines, to the public stables; and God has drawn from such abasement Tiaras and Miters, Scepters and Crowns, which will only find their lasting solidity in the establishment of the Kingdom of JESUS CHRIST. May God be pleased to give to Christian Princes the purpose and the zeal to establish it in this new world.