

our enemies proceed. They remained in [126] perils that they might assist those who were unable to flee. They preferred to die while instructing the Savages, rather than to seek shelter by abandoning them. I will do the same; I will die rather than fail my fellow-countrymen. This one desire, to aid them for the sake of their souls, and the love which I have for the Faith and for Prayer, will keep me near those who give their lives for us."

This good man loved so tenderly those who hazard their lives for our Lord, that he resolved that a little son whom God had given him should take the name of Isaac, in honor of Father Isaac Jogues, murdered in the country of the Hyroquois. This child had fallen sick soon after his Baptism; but he did not throw the blame on that Sacrament of life, as the infidels do. He took him into his arms, brought him to the Church, made on his forehead the sign of the Cross with holy water, and presented him to God with these words: "He is thine; take him, or give him back to me. Thou didst give him to me; do what thou wilt. Thou canst heal him; I believe in thee; have mercy on me." No other medicine was needed for the healing of that child: he brought him back, full of life, into his cabin. [127] His mother, being very ill, made use of the same remedy, and was quite restored.

The Father fell ill, immediately afterward. A Frenchman, who understood the language of the Savages, asked, while visiting him, what he thought of in his sickness, and whether the Demon was not trying to persuade him that this sickness proceeded from his belief. "He has not done so yet," he replied; "and, when he does, he will gain nothing.