

the atonement must be completed upon my body. The innocent has suffered; let us come to the guilty." Thereupon,—preferring to suffer in this life rather than to carry his crime into the other world,—he offered himself to those who were already quite prepared to accord him the charity he was awaiting at their hands.

One of the two Captains of this Reduction, learning that his brother was on the point of being divorced from his wife, accosted him in these words: "I do not know whether I ought to call thee my brother; if thou leave thy wife, thou leavest the Faith, and, in consequence, thou ceasest to be my relative and ally,—or, rather, thou declarest thyself my enemy. Consider what thou wilt do; if thou go forth from [147] the Church, thou must get thee out of Tadoussac, never to make thy appearance here again. Otherwise, I will cause thee to be disgraced, or abandoned on some desert Island, whence thou canst never escape." The poor man, astounded at such words, frankly confessed that his heart had consented to wickedness, and entreated the Christians to ask God to pardon his offense. He begged that he might be punished with severity, saying that this was the one mercy he hoped for at the hands of those who believed in God, among whom he dared not present himself in their holy assemblies, deeming himself most unworthy.

The Christians, with their Chiefs,—formerly so jealous of their country, and their port of Tadoussac, that they denied it intercourse with other Nations,—seeing that the Fathers could not go to them in the depths of their vast forests, invited them to come and dwell near them, that they might be taught