

the Heavenly way,—giving as a reason that, being friends in this life, they ought not to be separated in the next. The Oupapinachiwek have already received the Faith. The Oumamiwek, who inhabit lands in the neighborhood of the Island of Anticosti, have begun, this year, to appear at Tadoussac, and [148] to give ear to the doctrine of Jesus Christ. These good Captains have presented gifts to them, to attract them near to themselves, that they may give these people a desire to embrace their own belief.

This is not all. These peoples—who formerly concealed from the French the highways to the Nations to whom they went for traffic, not being willing that even we should approach them—press us, now that they are Christians, to follow them into these vast forests, in order to baptize and confess the Nations who cannot reach their country. They took Father Gabriel Druillettes into those regions by a new but most frightful road, that he might visit and comfort those who could not come to him at Tadoussac. “I saw,” the Father said, “so much pious ardor in these good Neophytes, on my first arrival, that the fatigues of a terrible journey, which frightened even the Savages, seemed to me most sweet.

“As soon as they caught sight of our Canoe, they ran to the shores of a large lake upon which we were paddling; and, having recognized me, joy spread itself over their faces. They fall upon their knees; the little [149] children surround me, and caress me on all sides; the sick exclaim that they no longer fear death, since they can now go to confession. The chiefs send some Canoes, to inform the neighboring Savages of my coming; moreover, they erect for me a small Chapel, which is quickly built.