

virtue. Hers was not a punctilious nature or one that took umbrage easily; but frank, well-rounded, upright, and so firm that I can say that, in all the communications made to me by her,—and sometimes they were of no little importance, whether in regard to the country, or for the tranquility or the advancement of their house,—I always found in her the Judgment, [183] not of a girl, but of a man of good sense.

“ Her talents and her graces gave her an ascendancy over the minds of both French and Americans, who were charmed with them. They never approached her without feeling and carrying away some spark of the fire that burned in her soul; and, after all, she was so Religious and paid such respect to her Rules, especially to the divine service, that she would cut short all else as soon as the bell called her to the Choir. On one occasion she was told that she had left too soon a person of consequence, who wished for a longer interview. ‘ God is not satisfied,’ she replied, ‘ with our words, but with our obedience; I would leave a King, in the world, to obey the King of Heaven.’ ”

No sooner had she arrived in New France than she applied herself to the study of the languages of the country, learning the Algonquin and Huron tongues with considerable facility. Those two may be said to have been to her two holy languages, two innocent languages, never having been used by her except for God.

When she had acquired these two treasures, [184] she dispensed the bread of the word of God with so much grace to those poor people, that both children and grown persons loved her as their mother. She