

I live here the most contented man in the world; and I would be very sorry to be in France. I hope that next summer we shall go to the Iroquois, if Monsieur de Tracy's expedition be successful. We shall have news in a few Days, and I will let you know by the last ships.

[Endorsed: "Letter of Father Thiery Beschefer to his family and to Father Antoine Chesne, S.J."]

[Endorsed: "ONDESONK—his savage name."]

KÉBEC, 4th of october.

I HAVE changed my language and my name, and at present I am called Ondessonk—which means "a bird of prey." Such is the name that the Hurons have given me, and which was borne by Father Isaac Jogues, who was killed by the Iroquois, after having been cruelly tortured by them. Pray God that he may make me inherit his virtues, as I have his name. My baptism took place on the feast of St. Francis Xavier, after I had myself baptized 2 savages. And as all names among the savages are drawn from the bottom of the kettle, it was necessary, before getting mine, to have a great feast—that is to give a dinner to nearly 80 persons. This dinner consists in providing a dish of excellent sagamité for all who are present. They sang, they danced; in a word, they observed all the ceremonies of the savages. From that time I studied the language of the Hurons, in order to go next year, as I hope, on a mission to the upper Iroquois, if those below, against whom we have gone to war, are defeated. Moreover, you must know that Canada is not as savage as has been imagined; and that, in the french settlements, we find almost the same