

places on the river, in order that the others might answer them and [60] know that they were not far away. They were heard, and soon afterward saw a little canoe filled with Savages coming to meet them. The salute accorded them upon their approach was a thanksgiving to God, on both sides, for guiding them so opportunely. Then they paddled vigorously toward the place of encampment, where the Father and the Frenchmen were received with unusual marks of affection.

The Father desiring to push on, in order to find a larger company on lake Saint Barnabé, the men joined him in making this journey. They set out the very next day, leaving the women and children in a place which had tolerable advantages for fishing, where they awaited the others' return.

On the 23rd of June, the day before that of Saint [61] John the Baptist, the Father and two Frenchmen who were in his canoe were wrecked, and were rescued in a wonderful manner. While crossing the river, they saw themselves being borne by the current into an abyss; and as they were thinking only how to avoid this danger, they fell into another, the canoe being turned completely over. Already the current was carrying them far away, when one of the two Frenchmen gained the overturned canoe, and the other joined him at the same time. They both climbed upon the canoe, one at each end to steady it by the counterpoise; otherwise, if one of them let go, the other would have been thrown into the water. And, as if an Angel from Heaven had guided the Father's rotations, as the stream bore him away, he also was fortunate enough to catch with one hand the thwart in the middle of the canoe, [62]