

a savage tongue—writings which, since it is God's pleasure to employ him in those Peoples' conversion, he values more highly than all the sciences in the world.

While our Frenchmen were thus contending with the floods, the Savages who had gone ahead, after waiting a long time for them without seeing them appear, feared some disaster. Retracing their course, they found the Father and his Companions drying themselves in the bright sunshine on a little Island. The Savages, learning of the Frenchmen's wreck, and seeing the spot where their canoe had capsized, assured them that their preservation was manifestly due to God's protection—canoes of Savages having very often perished there, although the natives are excellent canoemen, and swim [65] like fishes. But, beyond a doubt, God aids those who put their trust in him, and have no other wish than to please him and to promote his glory.

Continuing their journey, they arrived, after some days of weariness, at a bend in the river where God's Providence had long before prepared for them a repast of fish. The Savages spread their nets there and caught many large pike.

A few days later, they came upon a spot where a Moose had lain the night before. They encamped there, and the Savages followed its trail and killed it about half a league from that place in the woods. In such wise God cares for his servants, and is able to provide them with fish and flesh.

[66] The remaining portion of the journey was the most difficult. After pausing some time at this place, they held a council and decided that a part of the French and Savages should be left there, while