

the Father, with the remainder, went up as far as lake Saint Barnabé. He was to visit the Neophytes there, instruct them, and confer with them on the subject of passing the winter, as he intended to do, in two villages of which they had spoken to him a year before.

Accordingly, canoes were launched; and at length, after three wearisome days, the Father and his attendants arrived safely at the lake. Scarcely had they entered it when they caught sight of some canoes coming to meet them.

It proved to be a Captain living on the lake, who, upon being notified by a canoe which [67] had gone ahead, came with his entire family to receive the Father, and tell him the condition of things in general.

"Ten days ago," said he to the Father, "part of the Papinachois and all the Ouchestigouek left this lake, where thou didst Baptize them last year. They waited for thee, until those who came from the great river Saint Lawrence assured them that neither thou nor any of the French would come this year. The Oumamiois Captain, to whom the Frenchman attending thee gave presents to carry to the Savages of the North Sea, has not made his appearance here, and will not, perhaps, until Winter or next Spring. I am sorry," continued he to the Father, "that thou dost not see here all whom thou wouldst like to find, [68] so that thou mightest instruct them; and that the Frenchmen attending thee will not have all the satisfaction they hope for."

The Father, when more at leisure, questioned this Captain, asking whether they could not push on and find the Ouchestigoueks, in order to go in their