

it is [65] necessary, even before daybreak, to entreat him to grant patience for the cheerful endurance of contempt, mockery, importunity, and insolence from these Barbarians.

“ Another occupation that I have in my little Chapel is the baptism of the sick children, whom the Infidels themselves bring hither, in order to obtain from me some medicine; and as I see that God restores these little innocents to health after their baptism, I am led to hope that it is his will to make them the foundation, as it were, of his Church in these regions.

“ I have hung up in the Chapel various Pictures, as of Hell and of the universal Judgment, which furnish me themes for instruction well adapted to my Hearers; nor do I find it difficult [66] then to engage their attention, to make them chant the *Pater* and *Ave* in their own tongue, and to induce them to join in the prayers which I dictate to them after each lesson. All this attracts so many Savages that, from morning till evening, I find myself happily constrained to give them my whole attention.

“ God blesses these beginnings; for the young people's debauches are no longer so frequent; and the girls, who formerly did not blush at the most shameless acts, hold themselves in restraint, and maintain the modesty so becoming to their sex.

“ I know many who boldly meet the overtures made to them, with the reply that they have learned to pray, and that the black Gown forbids them such acts of licentiousness.

[67] “ A little girl, ten or twelve years old, coming one day to request my prayers, I said to her: ‘ My little sister, you do not deserve them; you well know