

hastily abandon their cabins, and gather in a rude fort for their defense. Ascertaining, however, that the enemy has gone in another direction, Crépieu goes to visit the Mistassinis, living near the lake of that name; with them he remains six or seven weeks, and baptizes more than a hundred persons, including two chiefs. On May 6, a part of the band embark for Quebec, to implore Frontenac's aid against the Iroquois; and Crépieu goes with them.

At the Seven Islands, far down the Labrador coast, Father Nicolas has held a sort of flying mission among the Oumamiois tribes of that region. He finds them friendly, and well disposed toward the faith; but his stay with them lasts only three days, for he and the French traders are compelled by an epidemic of scurvy to leave the islands. He promises, however, to return next year, and instruct the savages more fully.

CXXXIV. After his return to Quebec, Nicolas prepares a " memorandum for a missionary who will go to the Seven Islands." He informs his successor how many Indians he will find there, and of what tribes. He must understand the Montagnais language, in order to talk with these savages. Nicolas mentions the scanty natural products of that desolate region, and advises that the French should establish fisheries there, which would be exceedingly profitable to them, and would enable a missionary to labor with the savages during the summer. He adds a list of the Indians who had been baptized in that tribe.

CXXXV. This is a letter (dated October 24, 1674) from Dablon to the French provincial, giving a survey of the mission field at that time. Albanel, notwithstanding the obstacles that he has encountered