

Iroquois Mission of St. François Xavier, at la  
prairie de la Magdeleine, dur-  
ing the year 1675.

THE examples of virtue given to the French by this Church are so striking and so well known that it is unnecessary to speak of them, for there is no one who witnesses them who does not admire the effects of grace in the persons of these poor Savages. And, in fact, these good Christians who dwell at la prairie de la Magdeleine are in the midst of fire without being burned: I mean, that they are surrounded on all sides by the most scandalous drunkenness, to indulge in which they are earnestly solicited; but hitherto they have made themselves remarked at Montreal and everywhere else, and there is no other way of distinguishing them than by saying that they are the people who do not drink, and who pray to God aright. The virtue of these fervent neophytes may be better judged by an account of the death of a young Iroquois, who, for a few months, has slept the sleep of the just. This young man, whose name was Skandegorhaksen, was an Agnié by birth, and about twenty years old; he had a well-formed body and a very gentle nature, and seemed born solely for virtue and for sanctity.

As soon as he set foot in la prairie de la Magdeleine, he embraced all matters pertaining to the Faith and to divine worship, with such fervor that