

month, after enduring all the rain, which was unusually heavy in that quarter.

The approach of the festival of Pentecost compelled him to stop on that island for the consolation of the French, many of whom had not yet seen him. He promised our Fathers that on the following Monday, the 25th of May, he would go and visit their Mission of Saint Xavier at la prairie de la Magdeleine; and he begged them to assure the Savages of the tenderness of his affection for them. This news caused great rejoicing in the village; and, as we have always impressed upon our catechumens and neophytes the esteem due to the character and merits of so worthy a bishop, it is impossible to express either the joy caused them by the mere hope of seeing him, or the ardor that they displayed, of their own accord, in preparing everything to give him the best reception in their power. Consequently, on the very same day, they began to clean and level the approaches, the streets, and the public place in their village; and they continued this work on the following day, the eve of Pentecost. On Monday, which was the second day of the festival, after hearing holy mass, they asked Father Frémin, their principal missionary, for permission to work at the preparations that they had been unable to make any earlier. Having obtained it, they all proceeded to the woods, whence each one brought back a load of branches; and with these they made a pleasant avenue in the public place, which extends from their chapel to the river Saint Lawrence. At the end of this avenue, on the bank of the river, where Monseigneur was to land, they placed a small platform raised about two feet above the water. In the