

of la Prairie, being in low ground, is not suitable for raising Indian corn,—they were delighted beyond expression to see him arrive in the evening, in very fine weather, followed by twelve or fifteen canoes. He himself felt no less joy at seeing on the beach so great a number of Christian Savages, who had come to meet him, and whose faith and piety he knew by the reputation which they have so deservedly acquired. After saluting him according to their custom, our Fathers and they led him to the church where he said his prayers before the Blessed Sacrament. Then, to show the Savages that he had come on their account, he went to their village, which lies a short distance from the chapel; and, after passing some time in the cabins, giving a thousand proofs of his friendship and his virtue, he returned to the church. Thence all walked in procession to the bonfire prepared for the feast of Saint John, which fell on the following day.⁵²

Father Frémin marched at the head of the Savages; then came the cross-bearer, with two boys in surplices carrying candlesticks. After them walked Father Cholenec, acting as deacon to Monsieur the curé of Montreal, whom we had asked to officiate. Monsieur the intendant came next, followed by Monsieur the governor of Montreal and a large number of Frenchmen. On both sides of this long procession the youth were marshaled in two files, and under arms,—on the left the young Savages, and on the right the young French, with the son of Monsieur the intendant at their head. They fired several volleys at the moment when Monsieur the intendant began to light the bonfire, and when the officiant intoned the usual chant. This chant was continued