

country, intersected by rivers and lakes, and chose a spot for erecting our cabin. We were so harassed by the smoke that, in order to escape from it, I was very often obliged to expose myself to a cold and freezing wind. The wind blew so violently for seven or eight days that we feared it might at any moment carry away our bark cabin, or uproot trees which would have crushed us in their fall.

I was delighted to see a poor girl drag her mother over the snow for a distance of three or four long leagues, to have the consolation of being near us, and of participating in the prayers that we said and the daily instructions that we gave. I confessed and administered communion to this poor sick woman at her request. She thought she would soon die but God preserved her to exercise her patience and that of her poor daughter.

I was told, at this place, of a noble action performed by one of our Christians last summer. He had been invited to a superstitious feast, without knowing that it was so. But some good Christian women informed him of it, just as he was about to proceed thither; so he retraced his steps, and returned to his cabin. In vain was he told that there was nothing to fear, since the black Gown, who might deem it wrong, was away. "It is not he whom I fear," he said; "I dread only Him who has made all, and of whom the black Gowns are only the interpreters." His answer greatly edified some, and shamed the others, who soon repented of their weakness.

We passed the night and festival of Christmas in our wretched bark cabin; and we celebrated the feast, if not with splendor, at least with great