

who were in any danger removed, as I believe, the beginnings of the disease.

As early as the month of October the river *sainte Thérèse* was wholly frozen over, as far as three or four leagues above the Fort, where there are some islands which render the channel narrower; but we did not begin to cross it, opposite the Fort, until the 13th of November. The river *Bourbon* was not entirely frozen over until the night of January 23 and 24, 1695. After that time we crossed on the ice in going to the *Poli*, and this greatly shortened our journey. The ice in the river *sainte Thérèse* began to break up on the 30th of May, and in the river *Bourbon* only on the 11th of June. On July 30, we embarked to go with our two vessels from the roadstead to the mouth of the river *sainte Thérèse*, in order to await the English vessels which are wont to arrive there at about that time. But we waited for them in vain; not one of them appeared.

On my arrival, I had resolved to learn the language of the Savages; for that purpose I had intended to employ two of them who had lived, during the winter, in a cabin near the Fort. But my frequent trips from one river to the other had prevented my doing so; besides, the man was a slave from another Tribe, who knew only imperfectly their Tongue; the woman, who deeply hated the French, spoke to me only through caprice, and often deceived me. Nevertheless, the visits that I made had, at least, some good effect. I had gained the confidence of this poor man, and I began instructing him to the best of my ability. He fell sick; he asked me for baptism, and I had the satisfaction of administering it to him before he died. I will now mention