

All but three or four of the savages there are baptized. The extracts here given from Aubery's letter mainly describe his efforts, finally successful, to expel from his mission the intemperance which had "well-nigh ruined" it. He wins over the old men, one by one; then he calls a council, and persuades the Indians themselves to ordain banishment for "all hopeless profligates." Another obstacle against which the missionary must contend is the moral cowardice and inertia of the savages; this produces in their minds a sort of fatalism, which makes them say, when reproved for sin, that "it was not in their power to avoid it."

CLXXXVI. Germain, the Quebec superior, sends (November 5, 1711) a report of Canadian affairs for the year, apparently to the assistant for France at Rome. He begins with an apology for not writing, as requested by the father general, directly to the Pope or to the Congregation of the Propaganda. He does not know how those high dignitaries should be properly addressed, and asks that a model of such a letter be sent him, that he may follow it when writing in future years.

Germain begins his report by describing the abortive expedition of Sir Hovenden Walker against Canada, in the summer of 1711. Vaudreuil, the governor, makes every preparation to resist the enemy—especially at Quebec, which is felt on both sides to be the key to the whole country. All the French people, "convinced that it was God's cause, and that they would be fighting for God," are ready "to shed the last drop of their blood rather than yield;" and regard such a death as "a glorious martyrdom." But the English fleet is assailed by a