

The fate which befell Father Dalmas did not prevent Father Sylvie from returning some time afterward to Hudson's bay for the purpose of acting there likewise as Chaplain, and at the same time with the hope of opening a way for going to preach the Gospel to the most northern Savages, who hitherto have been without instruction. This Father was there indisposed to such a degree that he was obliged to reëmbark and return to Quebec, where he has never really recovered from the diseases which he contracted at that bay. As soon as I arrived in Canada I was assigned to the same office, and I will not conceal from you that this was contrary to my inclination. On setting out from France, my intention was to devote myself, as soon as possible, to the service of the Savages; but I saw myself somewhat diverted from that work by this voyage.

The late Monsieur d'Iberville, one of the bravest Captains whom we have had in new France, was ordered to seize some posts which the English were holding on Hudson's bay. For this purpose they had fitted out two men-of-war—the *Poli*, which he was to command; and the *Salamandre*, which was commanded by Monsieur de Serigny.¹⁹ He asked our Father Superior for a Missionary who would be able to act as Chaplain for both vessels. The Father Superior made choice of me, apparently because—having recently arrived, and not yet knowing any savage language—I was least necessary to the work in Canada.

We set sail, then, on the 10th of August, 1694, and cast anchor toward midnight near the bar of cap *Tourmente*. We doubled it on the 11th, at about seven or eight o'clock in the morning. We made