

Letter from Father Sébastien Rasles, Missionary of the Society of Jesus in new France, to Monsieur his nephew.

NANRANTSOUAK,
October 15, 1722.

MONSIEUR MY DEAR NEPHEW,
The peace of Our Lord.

During the more than thirty years that I have spent in the midst of forests with the Savages, I have been so occupied in instructing them and training them in Christian virtues that I have scarcely had leisure to write frequent letters, even to the persons who are dearest to me. Nevertheless, I cannot refuse you the little account that you ask of my occupations. I owe it in gratitude for the friendship which makes you so much interested in what concerns me.

I am in a district of this vast extent of territory which lies between Acadia and new England. Two other Missionaries are, like myself, busy among the *Abnakis* Savages; but we are far distant from one another. The *Abnakis* Savages, besides the two Villages which they have in the midst of the French Colony, have also three other important ones, each situated on the bank of a river. These three rivers empty into the sea to the South of Canada, between new England and Acadia.

The Village in which I dwell is called *Nanrantsouak*;