

illness which carries away over a score of savages, and gives the missionary little rest by day and night; for he is continually called upon to comfort the sick and bury the dead. He relates the particulars of some conversions occurring in this sad time. The various methods of sweating, the chief remedy of the savages, are carefully explained. After the epidemic is over, Laure is so prostrated by his arduous labors that his recently-acquired knowledge of the language temporarily forsakes him. The Indians accuse the French of selling them goods infected with contagion; and the missionary thinks that this charge is but too true, for the Frenchmen who open the bales are at once attacked by fever, and only those savages die who use these goods.

The Tadoussac mission, in its palmy days containing nearly 3,000 men, has been reduced by diseases to but twenty-five families. The ruins of the former Jesuit residence and church are still visible when Laure returns: he advocates the rebuilding of these edifices. He describes with much detail the appearance and habits of the seal, the manner in which it is hunted at Tadoussac, the usefulness of this animal, and the manufacture of the oil. Laure ascribes the ruin of the Tadoussac mission to the jealousy of some Frenchmen who thought that the missionary watched them too closely; they assigned the pretext that the Indians "were kept at prayers day and night, and were not allowed time to hunt." But the savages themselves say that, "as they go to confession only once a year, and no longer see a priest on the rocks, they lose heart and do not venture to go far from the shore, where alone the seals are to be