

counterpane; meanwhile the officer had scarcely breath enough left to give vent to his profanity. After the very first day's experience of the *Ste. Barbe*, one of the missionaries broke down, and Reverend father De Lauzon began to fear that if we were obliged, by the rough weather, to go ashore, the disconsolate man could never bring himself to set foot on board again. Another disagreeable feature was the company we were thrown in with, day and night.

Monseigneur our Bishop³³ reached La Rochelle, after people there had ceased to expect him, and embarked with us. He brought a dozen abbés, whom he had collected from the streets of paris, and at the doors of the Churches—people, most of whom were ignorant and uneducated, who thought that they had a right to insult every one else. They quarreled continually among themselves, and even dared to assail the ship's officers; and they would have been placed in irons, if it had not been for the respect entertained for the prelate. We shunned those people as much as possible, and banded together with three priests of St. Sulpice, men of intelligence and of rare piety. Messieurs the officers were very attentive. We were indeed bearers of many recommendations to them from Monsieur de Maurepas. They made a great difference between us and the suite of The bishop; and the prelate admitted that they had reason to do so. A third disagreeable feature was the vermin and the stench.

We had on board a hundred soldiers freshly Enrolled, each one of whom carried with him a whole Regiment of "picardie." In less than a