

Letter from Reverend Father Aulneau, missionary
of the society of jesus, written from
Canada, to reverend father Bonin,
of the same society.

MY REVEREND FATHER,

The peace of our Lord Jesus christ.

The lively interest you always took in what concerned me While I was in france encourages me to think that you will be glad to learn what my destination is, now that I am so far from you. It may be that it will make you tremble as much as I do for my salvation. If anything gives me confidence it is that I have had no hand in it myself. Reverend father de Lauzon, my superior, has singled me out for The mission, to which he sends me without consulting me, in spite of my natural repugnance. God's holy will be Praised; for he alone will now be my consolation, and whatever help I count upon will be derived from Jesus expiring on the cross. I am, then, my reverend father, about to set out on a journey of twelve hundred leagues, to go among savages who have never yet met a frenchman or a missionary. I cannot reach their country this summer; I shall be obliged to pass the coming winter nine hundred leagues from here, part of the time with the christinaux and part of the time with the wandering tribes of the assiniboels, who, in their expeditions, so they tell us, have met these savages whom I