

am to seek out. They call them in Their Language *ouant chipouanes*, which means "dwellers in holes."<sup>39</sup> Doubtless in all this traveling about I shall have to undergo many hardships; they would have been more than Welcome had it been Deemed advisable to give me as companion another Jesuit, but I am to be sent alone among these tribes, whose language as well as whose manner of living are unknown. I humbly confess, my reverend father, that it was not without a pang that I brought myself to obey. May God accept the sacrifice I make to Him of my life and of all human consolations for the expiation of my sins. My hope is that he will not abandon me, while I find in the consideration of Jesus christ crucified enough to strengthen me to bear with all the hardships, and to overcome all the difficulties which providence may have in store for me. I shall be removed several hundred leagues from any other priest, and in that lies the greatest hardship of all my mission, because I am far from flattering myself that I shall seldom Need to cleanse my soul in the blood of Jesus christ. But God seems to require of me the sacrifice of this very consolation. I can refuse Him nothing; let his holy name be forever Blessed. To reach my final destination I shall have to cross nearly the whole of north america; but my course is so ordered that, instead of passing by The Mississippi river, when I have got as far as missilimakinac, where father Saint pé<sup>40</sup> is stationed, I shall take A northwest direction, and shall traverse all the great Lakes which lie on this side and beyond the sources of the Mississippi, until I come to the Lake of the assiniboels. I shall leave that post only in The spring, to journey