

Two letters from Father Luc François Nau to
Madame Aulneau.

MADEMOISELLE, my dearest mother and sister
in Jesus Christ,

I received the long and gracious letter which you did me the honor and pleasure to write this year, and with it the box of beads and other objects of devotion which your charity prompted you to send; but they reached their destination only after I had written and despatched my letters to France. Father De la Bretonnière was the cause of this delay. He had gone down to Quebec to purchase supplies for our mission, and from among the things sent from France he picked out all that was addressed to me, himself bringing it to me, to make sure of its safe delivery; but he came back to Sault St. Louis only after the departure of the ships. He might at least have sent me my letters in advance, to give me an opportunity of answering them. His excess of precaution was no gain for me, and I bear him a little grudge, since it must have caused you some anxiety. Do not mind now, my dear mother; God in his goodness, who knows my needs, ordained that I should not be deprived of the fruit of your charity.

You desire me to make a candid statement of my wants, so as to supply them as best you can. I did not need this new proof of your kindness of heart to be assured that I have found in you an affectionate,