

Two letters to Madame Aulneau.

SAULT ST. LOUIS, October 3, 1741.

M ADEMOISELLE, My Dearest Mother and sister in Jesus Christ,

I was delighted with The Letter you did me The honor to write this year; but I was also much pained to learn that you had been suffering from so long a sickness. Our good God had until Then been sending you crosses burdensome and very difficult to carry, and although you made A Pious use of them all he did not find you sufficiently chastened or worthy of Him. He now smites you in your own person like another Job; blessed be his holy name! I am firmly convinced that The way you bore this personal affliction will have drawn down upon you new graces, increased your merits in Our Lord's sight, and greatly enriched The crown he has prepared for you in heaven. From an earthly point of view I can but grieve at the impairing of your health; but looking upon it in a supernatural light, I bless Our good God for the new trials in the midst of which he places you, and this, on account of the profit you draw from them for your perfection. My dear Mother, do not take it to heart if you have not been able to send me anything this year. What is postponed is not lost. The poor savages may be inconvenienced a little for a year, but you will still have all the merit of Your good intentions. When I ask you for charity for my Iroquois, it is always