

with the understanding that it can easily be done and without inconveniencing yourself; for if I thought that it would put you out in The least degree, I should be The first to beseech you not to send Them anything.

A dutiful son ought to keep nothing that concerns Himself from a fond mother whom he holds dear and by whom he is loved. I shall tell you therefore that as This winter has been the Longest and the most rigorous in canada in the memory of man, I have naturally been more troubled by The gout than in preceding years. I am still confined to my room,—in fact, I am not able to move a foot. Just imagine my perplexity being practically alone in The mission, for Father Delauzon is at Quebec, and The third missionary,⁵ who has been here only four days, not understanding a word of Iroquois, can do nothing for The Savages. Painful as my infirmity is, I am beginning to get used to it, but throughout The winter I have been troubled by another kind of sickness, which, although not painful, gives me greater cause for apprehension than the gout. I suffer from vertigo; it has caused me to make more than one perilous leap, and may end by my breaking my neck. They have tried many remedies on me, which have done me some good but have not effected a perfect cure. At times I am seized with a sudden uncontrollable fear, which prevents my being left alone anywhere. Pray God, My dearest mother, that he may deliver me from this evil, or at least that I become not quite useless to my savages.

The chicachias continue to burn all the french who fall into their hands. The English, who are settled among them, incite them to this barbarous practice, and often take part in tormenting The french more