

harmonious, and our wishes perfectly in accord. This understanding served no little to alleviate the hardships inseparable from a military journey. After having consulted together, we all deemed that the respect due to the sacredness of our mysteries did not permit us to celebrate, in the very center of barbarism, the sacrifice of the Lamb without spot; and the more so, as these people, devoted to the most grotesque superstitions, might take advantage of our most solemn ceremonies in order to make them the substance, or even the ornament, of their juggleries. On this ground, we abandoned that place, proscribed by so many abominations, in order to bury ourselves in the woods. I could not make this move without separating myself somewhat from my Abnakis. It seemed that I was authorized in doing so; nevertheless I almost had reason to regret my first camping-place; you may judge of it from what follows. I was no sooner settled in my new abode than I saw reviving in the hearts of my Neophytes their eagerness to come to Confession. The crowd increased so much that I had difficulty in satisfying their ardor. These occupations, joined to the other duties of my Office, filled some of my days so full that they passed by almost without my perceiving it. How happy should I have been if I could have given myself only to such worthy duties. All my blood would not have been too much to pay for such happiness; but the consolations of the Ministers of Jesus Christ are not lasting here below, because the success of the labors undertaken for the glory of their Master is not lasting. So many enemies are conspiring to thwart us that these will, in the end, enjoy the sad triumph of their success.