

house to serve as an asylum to what remained of the soldiers and of the English traders; but to save their lives, he greatly endangered his own. The savage youth, irritated at seeing half of their prey snatched away from them, tried to make amends for their loss at the expense of Father du Jaunay; and the old men of the nation had difficulty in pacifying them.⁴³ Behold to what trials the Jesuit missionaries in Canada and Louisiana were exposed; but it is these which may be counted as most precious fruits of their missions, for such trials must of necessity be expected by all those who establish themselves in the midst of barbarians, especially when they journey upon the Mississippi. Since the revolt of the Natchez in 1729, there is no longer any safety in ascending that river,—almost every year is marked by the death of some Frenchmen; and it is true that the precautions which must be taken during that voyage—which, to reach the Illinois, occupies three months—cannot be sufficiently careful to avert the danger. Now, since the melancholy period of 1729, one can count at least twenty-six or twenty-seven voyages made by the Jesuits upon the Mississippi. Moreover, the Missions of Louisiana have been joined here with those of Canada, because formerly these missions were united, and because to-day the same functions are still exercised there, and the same risks are run.

But if any one persist in asking the Jesuits of Louisiana for those results that are desired and expected from these missions, see what they are: In the three French parishes of the country of the Illinois we could count a quite large number of true Christians. It was they who resisted the evil