

spot, and seeing him no more showed signs of unspeakable regret. It was not the first time that this man had exposed himself to death for the good and safety of the savages. He had done it often and he has left us an example of the life of a married man which partakes of the apostolic life and which leaves to the most fervently religious man a desire to imitate him."

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Some days later the prisoner was ransomed by the governor of Three Rivers and once cured of the injuries that the Algonquins had inflicted upon him, he was sent back to his country under the safe conduct of two christian savages. It is quite possible that the devotion of which Nicolet had given abundant proof and which had cost him so dearly, may have contributed to his deliverance.

Thus this good man died, in the prime of life, victim of a common accident, after having escaped a thousand dangers during seventeen years of his life in the woods. One cannot help comparing this fate to that of Dumont d'Urville, perishing miserably at the gates of Paris in a railroad accident!

Two brothers of Jean Nicolet had come from Cherbourg to join him in the colony; one, Gilles, born at Cherbourg,¹ a secular priest, arrived in 1635 and left in 1647; the other, Peter, who was a sailor, left a short time after Jean's death. I have found no more trace of these two persons than of their brother, in the old deeds that I consulted at Cherbourg.

Nicolet has left no descendants of his name in Canada. His widow married again at Quebec in 1646 a man named Macard. She had given him but one daughter, and she married Jean Baptiste le Gardeur de Repentigny;² several of their descendants occupy prominent places in the history of Canada. Jean Nicolet indeed was somewhat forgotten for

¹ C. W. Butterfield, *loc. cit.*—H. J.

² Ever since the beginning of the colony there have been certain ones in Canada bearing the name of Le Gardeur, distinguished from one another by a manorial name added to their patronymic. Did these belong to the family Le Gardeur de Croisilles who lived at Brillevast (canton of Saint Pierre Eglise)? There is every reason to believe so.—H. J.