

Brunswick historical literature. In reading it, one should remember that the distance from Bathurst where Father LeClerc^q started, to Burnt Church (near which it is altogether probable the Fort of Richard Denys de Fronsac stood) in less than forty miles, (see the map), and that by rail and carriage we could easily traverse the distance to-day within six hours.

Account of the laborious voyage of the author on his way to announce the faith to the Gaspesiens [Micmacs] of port Croix [Miramichi].

(From Chapter IX. of LeClerc^q's "Nouvelle Relation de la Gaspesie, Paris, 1691).

It is very true that it is only God alone who is able to alleviate, by the unction of his grace, the apostolic labors of the arduous missions of New France; also one may as well acknowledge frankly that all the forces of Nature serve only to increase the troubles of the missionaries if the cross of a crucified God does not communicate to them a part of that victorious power by which he triumphed gloriously over all which he suffered most harsh and most sorrowful in the shame of Calvary. It was also without doubt with this thought that the Apostle Paul said that he could endure everything with the favor of him who gave him the power to attempt all things, and to accomplish all for his glory and the salvation of souls.

I have never had an experience more illustrative of this truth than in the voyage in which I undertook to go to administer the sacraments to the French who lived with Monsieur Richard Denys de Fronsac at Miramichi, and to preach the gospel to the Indians of Porte Croix,¹ who had hardly ever at all heard the words of ministers of our holy faith. The charity which I ought to feel for all the Indians of my mission urged me strongly to undertake it, although it was in the winter, the most difficult and rigorous season; and it seemed that God had approved the plan when an Indian, even when we expected it the least, arrived with his wife at Nepisiguit,² who told me that to avoid certain differences which had arisen among the Micmacs of Restigouche, he had left with his wife and child to go to Miramichi in order to live there in peace with his acquaintances. Since this was for me a sufficiently favorable occasion and companionship which would be of very great aid in this journey, I requested him to put off his departure for several days to allow me time and the satisfaction of baptizing some Indians whom I had instructed to receive the first and most necessary of our sacraments. Our Indian waited for me

¹ The Miramichi was called *Rivière de Sainte Croix*, or *Porte Croix*, because of a curious reverence for the symbol of the cross which the Micmacs showed even before they were christianized.

² The present Bathurst.