

order to confound the superstitions of these Infidels.

"This young man was not yet cured when his sister fell ill of the same disease. We enjoyed greater freedom in the discharge of our functions, in view of what had occurred in her brother's case, and I had every opportunity to prepare her for Baptism; and besides that grace, the blessed Virgin, whose name she bore, procured her recovery.

[99] "But hardly was she out of danger when the same disease seized her cousin, in the same Cabin. He appeared to me more dangerously ill than the two others had been, which made me hasten to Baptize him, after the necessary instruction. He was already feeling better, in consequence of this Sacrament, when his father took it into his head to make a feast,—or, rather, a sacrifice to the Sun,—to ask the latter for his son's recovery. I came upon them in the midst of the ceremony, and hastened to embrace my sick Neophyte, and convince him that God alone was the master of life and death. He immediately acknowledged his error, and made atonement to God by the Sacrament of Penance; but I, addressing his Father and all the Sacrificers, [100] said to them: 'I despair now of this patient's recovery, since you have had recourse to others than him who has in his hands both life and death. You have killed this poor man by your impiety, and I give up all hope for him.' He died, in fact, some time afterward; and I trust that God may have accepted his temporal death as penance for his offense, so that he will not deprive him of the everlasting life which this man will have obtained by the intercessions of saint JOSEPH, whose name he bore.

"The gain is more assured in regard to Children,