

and planted in the plains. Let him lower his eyes or raise them on high, the cross must be before him everywhere. It is the sign of combat but it is also that of victory. "*In hoc signo vinces.*"

The fury of the ignorant rabble was raised to such a pitch that Mde d'Youville and her companions were publicly hooted on appearing in the streets, pelted with stones and derisively called "Les Sœurs Grises" (the Grey Nuns). The malicious reports circulated against the ladies, especially that of their furnishing the Indians with alcohol and of making too free a use of it themselves, gave rise to the epithet "Sœur Grise," (Grey Nun), the word grise (grey) bearing a double meaning in French, viz: a color, or tipsy.

Three years of joint suffering and of philanthropic labor had been added to the lives of these Christian heroines, when one of their number was called to her reward, and the Rev. Mr. Normant, the promoter of the budding Institute, and their guide throughout, became seriously indisposed and for a few months his recovery seemed doubtful. As the primitive Christians grew and increased in spite of tyranny and torture, so did the little Society expand and develop, for three young ladies offered themselves to Mde d'Youville to share her trials and her labors. Their offer was accepted and the little band were now six in number. As the helpers increased, so did the poor augment likewise, and the work was developing slowly but surely, when the crowning trial came which was to test their zeal to its utmost. Between the hours of night and morning, on the last day of January 1745, the whole homestead was discovered to be in flames. The inmates were roused from their slumbers by the cries of "Fire, fire," and having no time to vest themselves, rushed out in their night garments. Once free from the devouring element, Mde d'Youville gathered her weeping flock around her—one alone was missing—a poor silly girl had gone back for her wooden shoes (sabots), and had perished in