

of our weakness, we had to bury them under the snow, for we were not able to dig the frozen ground, so feeble were we and devoid of strength. We were also in great fear lest the people of the country should perceive our misery and weakness. To conceal the existence of the disease, when the savages came near the fort, our Captain (whom God kept all through in health) went out with two or three men, sick and well, following him in their sight. When they got outside the fort he made pretence to wish to beat them, and he shouted and threw sticks at them to send them back to the vessels, telling the savages by signs that he was keeping all his men at work in the ships; some to caulk, some to make bread and to do other necessary work, and that it was good for them to leave the vessels. The savages believed him and the Captain set the sick men to make a noise with sticks and stones, as if they were caulking.

Our people were so overwhelmed with this disease that they had almost lost hope of ever returning to France, when God in His infinite goodness and mercy had pity upon them, and gave them knowledge of a remedy against all diseases, the most excellent remedy which was ever seen or found in the world—as will now be related.

From the middle of November to the 15th of April, we were continually enclosed in the ice which was more than two fathoms thick. On land the snow was over four feet deep, so that it was higher than the sides of our vessels. This continued up to the above mentioned time. All our drinkables were frozen in casks and inside the ships, from top to bottom, the ice was four inches thick against the sides; and all the river was frozen as far as it was fresh water, to beyond Hochelaga. During this time twenty-five of the chiefest and best of our people died, while at one time more than fifty had given up all hope of life and all the rest were sick excepting three or four. But God in His blessed grace had pity on us and sent us the knowledge of the remedy to bestow health and healing in the way and manner now related.

One day our Captain, thinking on the height the disease had reached and the hold it had on his people, had gone out of the fort and was walking upon the ice when he saw a band of Stadacona people coming. Among them was Domagaya whom, ten or twelve days before, he had seen very ill of the same disease under which his people were suffering. At that time one of Domagaya's legs was swollen at the knee to the size of a two year old child and all the sinews were shrunk. His teeth were fallen out and his gums mortified and diseased.

The Captain seeing Domagaya sound and free from disease was glad in the hope of learning how he had been cured, so that some means