

and divers animals that lived in Canada; one of these at first glance he thought ought to be called Jupiter's little dog; later, he deemed it unworthy of being called Pluto's dog, no sewer ever smelled so bad; finally (he says) "I believe the sin smelled by St Catherine of Sienna must have had the same vile odor." The humming bird charmed him, he called it a little prodigy of nature, the flower-bird, the flower of birds, God seemed to him more wonderful in it than in the larger animals.

The Language, he says, was both very rich and very poor: all words for piety, devotion, virtue, for the things of the other life, the language of learned men, words referring to government, justice, rewards, punishment, the arts and sciences, were wanting from the lips of the Indians, as the thoughts of them were from their mind. Yet in some directions "this language is fairly gorged with richness". There was an infinite number of proper nouns which could be given in French only by circumlocutions, verbs such as neither the Greeks, nor Latins, nor any Europeans possessed the like; verbs to signify action towards a live object, other verbs to signify the same action towards inanimate things, and yet again other verbs for the same action towards several objects; different words were used to signify the same act upon land and upon water; different adjectives were joined to different nouns (*e. g.* the word for "cold" applied to a "dog," differed from "cold" applied to "wood"). Adjectives and nouns were conjugated like Latin impersonal verbs. Besides the names of each particular thing, they had an infinite number of words which signified several things together. In despair the poor priest exclaims "This is enough to shew the richness of their language. I believe they have other riches which I have not been able to discover up to the present."

Brebeuf tells us that the Huron language had distinctions of genders, number, tense, person, moods. In Cape Breton, according to Father Perrault, the natives were so clever that to disguise their language they added a syllable to every word.

Then we have in this *Relation* of 1634, (Vol. VII) an account of the wretched life, hair breadth escapes, hardships, dangers, and sufferings endured by this devoted missionary during the winter which he spent wandering through the forests and mountains on the southern shore of the St. Lawrence with a small