

dience to the will of God, in this respect, that he completely renounced the world, and even entered holy orders, though he was fifty years of age, in order to render in a manner insurmountable the barrier by which he separated himself from everything worldly.

As the state of the colony of Canada and the conversion of the Indians tilling its forests, had at this epoch awakened a profound interest in France, persons interested in its welfare found it an easy task to induce Mr. de Sillery to engage in this religious work. To set its prosperity on a surer footing he wished to found, in the vicinity of Quebec, a settlement to contain a church, a residence for the missionaries, an hospital for the sick, dwellings for the new converts, and even a fort to protect the village against the fierce Iroquois, whose deadly inroads a terrible experience had taught them to dread. He took upon himself the cost of carrying out this project, destined to be of such importance for the welfare of the rising colony. Such, then, was the origin of the mission at Sillery, which in a short time became a small christian community wherein flourished the fervent piety of the earliest ages of the church.

Mr. de Sillery did not return to Canada, being detained in France by numerous other works requiring his presence there. He became in a measure, the fellow laborer of Saint Vincent de Paul, that priest after God's own heart, to whom no work of charity was unknown, and who afterwards had the sad pleasure of pro-