

When there was question of the salvation of souls they shrank from no humiliation and from no hardship. They suffered hunger and cold; they travelled thousands of miles on foot, and in canoes, over land, and sea, and rivers. Often they lived under the tent and in the hut of the miserable Indian, and partook of his coarse and uninviting fare without manifesting repugnance or disgust, thus making him feel that they loved him, and had come to his country, not in search of furs or gold, but solely to further his eternal, and even temporal interests. In this charity and devotedness lies the secret of the success of the Oblate Fathers.

We may judge, from the following account, of the difficulties and risks encountered in the missionary's travels in quest of souls:

Bishop d'Herbomez had just left Quesnel, and had journeyed until he reached a point where it was necessary to cross the Fraser. At this particular place the current was very strong and rapid. The horses swam across. Having no canoe at their disposal, the Bishop and his party were for some time puzzled as to the means of getting across themselves. At last they discovered the hollow trunk of a huge fallen tree, which they succeeded in launching. Having deposited all their baggage and provisions in the hollow of the floating trunk, they cautiously took their own berths within the narrow space, and then pushed off from the bank. With improvised oars, they managed to prevent their unwieldy barque from being swept down the river by the strong current, and they finally gained the opposite side, not however without getting a thorough wetting, for they were half immersed in the water the whole way.

Having crossed the river, they got again on horseback and rode ten miles, until