

devoted missionary resolves to return thither, that he may preach the Gospel to his former tormentors; he therefore departs on this fateful journey, shortly before the present *Relation* is sent to France.

The residence of St. Joseph, at Sillery, is next discussed. Almost all the Indians who frequent this place are now baptized. They, in turn, have influenced the Attikamègues and Abenakis to seek the truth, and have sent to those tribes some of their own number to preach the Gospel. The Abenakis having asked for a missionary to reside among them, Druillettes has gone to winter with that tribe. Some conversions have occurred among the Algonkins of the Island, but many of these savages "are, in a sense, reprobate." The Sillery Indians watch over not only their neighbors, but themselves; they will not harbor persistent infidels; no obstacles hinder them from daily attendance at mass; they spend whole days quite without eating, rather than break the prescribed fasts; they punish themselves most severely for petty faults. "The Fathers newly arrived tell us that in France one has no conception of what they here see with their own eyes." At the Christmas season they march—in piercing cold, and fasting—to Québec, and back to Sillery, to celebrate a jubilee ordered the previous year.

At Three Rivers,—the central point of intercourse and trade with all the upper tribes,—there are a considerable number of Christians; but they are so exposed to annoyance and temptation, from the many pagans who come and go at that settlement, that the missionaries experience great difficulty in maintaining their station there, and in cultivating the Christian virtues in their converts. The latter, in their