

to draw down on us the light of the Holy Ghost, I would celebrate his Mass on the 26th, and that I was sure our prayers would have the desired effect. All applauded my proposition; I said the Mass of the Holy Ghost, and the same day twenty-four men offered to remain, provided provisions were left them, and a promise made, on the gospel, that relief would be sent as soon as the party got to Mingan.

I told my comrades, that I had made up my mind to stay with the twenty-four men who had offered to remain at the place of our shipwreck, and that I would endeavor to help them to await patiently the promised relief. All, however, opposed my design, and to dissuade me, said, that, as I knew the language of the country, I must go with the party, so that if Mr. de Freneuse and de Senneville should die, I might act as interpreter, in case we met any Indians on the island. Those who remained especially desired I should go; they knew me incapable of breaking my word, and did not doubt, but that, on my arrival at Mingan, my first care would be to relieve them; not but that those who were going were fully disposed to send a boat to their relief as soon as possible, yet they relied apparently more on the word of a priest, than that of one of themselves. When all was arranged, I exhorted those who remained to patience. I told them that the means of drawing upon them the blessings of Heaven, was not to give away to despair, and to abandon themselves entirely to the care of Providence—that they should keep themselves in continual exercise to keep off sickness, and not fall into discouragement,—that prudence required an economical use of the food we had left,

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