

sions, where the finger of God makes its operation felt even by the most incredulous.

1639.

On the other hand, they show the preachers of the gospel ever on the point of falling victims of a popular outbreak, excited by some unforeseen accident; by the resentment of a father, who imagines that the prayer or baptism caused the death of his child; by the caprice of some ill-disposed man, in whom a pretended dream or an evil report has heated the bile or disordered the imagination. The missionaries had the same attacks to meet in other nations; and among the various examples which I find in my authorities, I select one, too characteristic of the Indians to pass in silence.

Father Jerome Lallement, brother of Father Charles Lallement, of whom I have already spoken, was on his way to the Hurons, by the way of the great Ottawa River. He met some Algonquins, who had pitched their cabins on the banks of that river, and his Huron guides thought fit to stop some time with them. The missionary took the opportunity to recite his breviary, and retired a little apart. He had scarcely begun, when he was called and taken to a cabin. Here he was told to sit down beside an Algonquin, whose dark and angry brow heightened the sinister expression of a malignant face.

Singular adventure of Father Lallement.

The missionary was no sooner seated beside him than the Indian, looking at him askant, reproached him that a Frenchman, passing through his village, had bled one of his sick relatives and killed him. With these words he burst out in a fury, seized an axe with one hand and a rope in the other, and told the missionary to prepare to die, to appease the manes of his kinsman, and that he only gave him his choice of the mode of his death. The Father could only use reason with the madman, but he was in no condition to hear it. He even sprang on the missionary, and was endeavoring to strangle him; but either his fury had not reached its height, or left him too little self-possession to know what he was doing. His cord got