

1643. indignation, and with gestures that attracted the attention of the whole village, conjured the Almighty not to permit success to verify the word of the father of lies. "Thy own Glory is at stake," he added; "show that Thou art the only arbiter of our lot. If the promises of the enemy of our salvation are accomplished, these men will blaspheme Thy holy name; but let us rather perish all than witness so great an evil."¹

Its result. These sentiments will perhaps appear to some above the scope of an Indian, and especially of an Indian convert; but it must be remembered that they can come in no man, but from Him to whom it is as easy to inspire the most gross as the most cultivated of men. The young man did not stop there; for addressing his fellow-braves, he said: "My brethren, let us beware of yielding to the enemy of our souls, by following the route he marks out. Let us go westward. We shall, to all appearance, run greater risk, but the God of armies will be on our side." The two bands accordingly separated. The Christians met none of the enemy and no mishap: the idolaters were defeated with severe loss. Then several Indians, struck by an event which attested the ignorance and impotence of Agreskoué, or rather the imposture of the medicine-men, openly declared for the Deity whose power the young Christian had so greatly exalted.²

Information
given by
Father
Jogues to
the govern-
or-general.

Meanwhile, tidings reached Quebec from Father Jogues, who was supposed to be dead. One of the Hurons taken with him escaped and reached the Chevalier de Montmagny. He told him that the missionary was in the hands of an Iroquois chief, who had no power over him, the canton having declined to waive its right to dispose of him; that it seemed, from time to time, disposed to send him back; but that the holy man was in constant danger, and his life hung by a thread, amid a fierce, capricious, and superstitious people, whom the Dutch plied with

¹ Relation de la N. F., 1644, p. 70.

² Ib.