

to a severe test, but who showed Himself no less powerful, or less a Father, by inspiring them with a heroic ^{1650-1.} ~~1650-1.~~ resignation.¹

These reflections, made by the infidels themselves, converted many. The most stiff-necked, in the very midst of their invectives, felt suddenly changed in a manner which astonished them ; and the Iroquois had, during a whole year, an example of that great power of grace which several of them could not but recognize. They had among their prisoners a blind young Algonquin squaw ; and although she was utterly incapable of rendering them any service, they let her live, without well knowing why.

A Christian, well instructed in her religion, she had the courage to assume among her conquerors the office of catechist ; and God wrought many conversions by her ministry. Some of these excited great attention, and exasperated the sachems of the village against her. She was not insensible to the danger to which her zeal exposed her, but nothing could diminish its fervor. She was seriously warned to be cautious in her proceedings ; threats were made against her, and she had every reason to fear their being carried into effect. Nothing, however, deterred her ; and God, whom she served with so much courage, continued to protect her in a manner incomprehensible to those who, able to crush her by a word, never dared to attempt her life or cause her the least uneasiness.²

This was attested then by all who lived in New France or made any stay there, and we have even seen witnesses of it who could not be suspected of exaggeration. I have, perhaps, dwelt a little more on these details than will please some who will read this history ; but I have deemed it necessary, in order to give a just idea of this Indian

¹ Relation de la Nouvelle France, 1650, p. 33 ; Creuxius, Historia Ca-

² Relation de la Nouvelle France, 1650, p. 36 ; Creuxius, Historia Ca-