

confusion, reproaching them with the fact that no one could see in them either the piety, regularity, or disinterestedness which rendered their pastors so worthy of respect, and which had at all times seemed to them a strong argument in favor of the doctrines they taught. 1670.

The Dutch thought that they would succeed better, by intimidation, and gave them to understand that it would not be very safe for them to appear in the settlements of New York with their beads and other marks of the Roman faith; but they laughed at these threats, and declared that they would be only too happy to lay down their lives in defence of their faith. One was even bold enough to enter a meeting while the minister was giving instruction, and there recite her prayers before them all. These heroines, who were generally heads of cabins, showed no less zeal to prevent any thing being done in the towns prejudicial to Christianity; they took very great care to instruct their children well, and their fervor, supported by their influence, led the preachers of the Faith to conceive great hopes of seeing the Christian religion one day become the prevailing religion in this canton.¹

At first very few adults presented themselves to receive baptism, nor did all who sought it obtain their request from lack of perseverance, or because they would not renounce their unjust wars or their superstitions; but a trifle, which Father Pearson² who governed that church, had the dexterity to convert into a serious affair, disposed many to range themselves among his neophytes. A chief one day undertook to silence him in a public assembly, and on another occasion commanded him to leave the council, wishing to be free to perform some superstitious ceremony, which he knew the missionary would not approve. The Father thought it expedient to show his displeasure; he even declared that he could no longer con-

Address
of a
missionary
and its
success.

¹ Relation, 1670, pp. 32-6.

rope in 1678. He belonged to the

² John Pierron came to Canada, Province of Champagne. Carayon, June 27, 1667, and returned to Eu- Doc. Inédits, xiv.