

in the neophyte's name, a great banquet to all the Christian Indians at Quebec, Lorette, and Syllery.<sup>1</sup>

1671.



The Iroquois Christians think of leaving their country

It was also about the same time that most of the Mohawks who had embraced Christianity, foreseeing that they would never enjoy in their own country full liberty to live according to the maxims of their religion, formed a project of going to live with the Hurons of Lorette. Among their number was a woman distinguished by the rank of *Oyender*, which gave her great influence in her canton, together with the right of attending the most secret councils. Her relatives molested her in her devotions, and she at last declared that she was determined to go down to Quebec to end her days with the Christians. Nothing was omitted to dissuade her, and after many useless efforts, she was degraded in full council. Far from being moved by this affront, she showed only greater ardor to obtain that liberty to live as a Christian, which she despaired of finding in her own country, and she proceeded to Lorette, where she adhered to the end in the generous course which she had adopted.<sup>2</sup>

The conversion of another woman of the same canton, was attended with circumstances sufficiently remarkable to entitle it to a place in a history, which purposes to omit nothing remarkable that can edify my readers, and undeceive those among whom it has most inappositely been published that the Indians had turned a deaf ear to the preachers of the gospel. This woman while travelling fell among a party of Mohegans, from whom she received two or three tomahawk blows on the head. She at once felt inspired to have recourse to the God of the Christians, and she conjured him not to permit her to die unbaptized.

Singular conversion of an Iroquois squaw.

Scarcely had she ended her prayer, when she no longer beheld any enemies, nor could she ever say what became of

<sup>1</sup> Relation de la Nouvelle France, 1671, p. 4.

<sup>2</sup> Relation de la N. F., 1671, p. 6. Mary Magdalen Skaouendes.