

rainbow and sometimes were a luminous white, as though a great fire were behind. This spectacle lasted for two whole hours, and began anew on the 14th, although on that day it was less striking.¹ 1663.

What I am going to add has not been as public, and each one will believe what he thinks fit; but I must observe, that the predictions about to be related were not invented after the fact, but were known before the event; that the event, to judge by the effect which it had produced, has all the appearance of a warning from heaven, and that the ordinary conduct of Providence, on such occasions, is to warn the guilty that divine Justice is ready to launch the thunderbolts. Thus did the Almighty act in regard to the Ninevites, who averted the threatened blow by exemplary penance; and in this case, as we shall soon see, there is something still more marked. Predictions of an earthquake.

Be that as it may, in the beginning of February, in the same year, a vague rumor spread that there would soon be an earthquake, unexampled in history, and this rumor was based on the words of a person of eminent piety, who had discoursed on the matter to a small number of friends, and who used great exertions to induce all to make their peace with God, and labor with all their might to appease the wrath of Heaven, justly incensed against New France.

On the third of the same month an Algonquin squaw, a fervent Christian, while in her cabin at night awake, and sitting up in her bed, thought that she heard a voice, which told her that in two days things unheard of would occur; and the next day, as she was in the woods with her sister, getting her supply of wood, she again heard the same voice very distinctly, telling her that the next day, between five and six o'clock in the evening, the earth would tremble at a fearful rate. Her sister did not hear the voice, and perceived nothing.²

¹ Relation de la N. F., 1663, p. 3; M. Marie de l'Incarnation, Lettres, p. 575; Choix de Lettres, p. 284. ² M. Marie de l'Incarnation, Choix de Lettres Historiques, p. 279; Rel. de la N. F., 1663, p. 6.