

purpose. Whereat the writer piously remarks: "What a consolation it was to see God publicly glorified through the mouth of a barbarian and one of Satan's tools! Never had such a thing been seen among the Hurons."

The "sorcerers" cause them much annoyance,—notably one, who is hunchbacked, and whom Le Mercier styles "a demon incarnate;" even when he is confined to his cabin with a broken leg, his influence among the people prevents the missionaries from reaching many; but his death, soon after, removes this obstacle. Another of these gentry, a blind man, has various interviews with demons, which are recounted at length: these evil spirits had, as they told him, brought the plague into the country, and, now relenting, would show him how it might be removed. In pursuance of these directions all the cabins of On-nentisati and villages near by are decorated with rude effigies of the human figure, in straw. "In these monkeys," says Le Mercier, "they place all their confidence, founded on what a wretched blind man has told them, who says that the devils are afraid of these, and have thus ordered for the good of the country."

Several medicine men now attempt, in similar fashion, to drive away the demons, but their incantations and tricks are of no avail; and the disease continues its ravages throughout the winter.

R. G. T.

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