

us as a person who was on the way to recovery; the others had been carried off unexpectedly, at the beginning of their sickness.

On the eleventh, we visited a very sick woman, hoping that God had perhaps changed her heart, for up to that time we had been able to gain nothing from her. But we found her as obstinate as ever; and, to all that we could say to her about hell, she answered nothing except that she would by no means be baptized; she died towards evening. The Captain *Andahiach* made a round of all the cabins, and in a loud voice exhorted the women to take courage and not to allow themselves to be cast down with sorrow on account of the death of their relatives; and that, when the young men should come [182] to bring them some hemp<sup>17</sup> to spin, they should willingly render them this little service; that it was their intention to make weapons to go to war in the Spring against the Hiroquois, and to place them in security and in a position to be able to work peaceably in their fields. However, these weapons [shields] are not proof against muskets, as Your Reverence knows, and it is quite enough if the arrow cannot indent them.<sup>18</sup>

On the 12th, early in the morning, our host addressed his prayer to the demons, throwing some tobacco in the fire for the preservation of his family. Towards evening they publicly made a 3rd sacrifice of 4 cakes of tobacco, which was followed by a din and clatter which arose from all the cabins and lasted a good quarter of an hour. They beat so hard upon the pieces of bark that it was not possible to hear oneself. Their purpose was, according to what they told us afterwards, to frighten the disease and put it to flight; and in order that nothing be want-