

English. Even some of the native Christians think that the Fathers cause their death, through love to them, that they may the sooner enter upon the bliss of Paradise. The converts also are persecuted, threatened, and almost ostracized by their own people; and from this arises the chief anxiety of the missionaries, that their flock may, despite all their efforts, be led back to the paths of evil. Notwithstanding the ignorance and weakness of the neophytes, there are some of them who, through their faith and virtue, daily awaken in the Fathers feelings of consolation and gratitude.

Lalemant describes various feasts, dances, and other superstitious ceremonies, especially those celebrated by the savages as a result of their dreams,—these latter being directly inspired by the devil. This belief of the Fathers is confirmed by the tales of the old men, whose traditions state that these solemnities were taught them by the demons. They regard these observances as affairs of great importance, and by them regulate all their proceedings. The Father describes their ceremony of “marrying the seine” to young girls; also the game of “dish,”—in which latter they think success depends mainly upon their charms and dreams. He recounts their devotion to their *Ascwandics*, or “familiar demons,”—a sort of fetich, which is kept in a pouch, and to which its owner prefers his request for any desired article or event. “Some of these are more positive and efficacious than others. Some buy them from the *Algonquains*, who are reputed to have excellent ones, and this is the most costly and precious merchandise of the country; others have inherited them from their relatives.”

Lalemant again mentions the practices of the med-