

make the announcement for assembling the people, at this very time some [103] evil-minded Captain would come out from his cabin and declaim against this,—warning the people to beware of going there; that we were sorcerers, who had no other purpose than to undo and ruin them; that they ought rather to think of getting rid of us than to believe and do what we said.

These same speeches were made during the Catechisms, where these instruments of the devil interrupted the Catechist to preach their own Sermon, with blasphemies which sank deep into the hearts of our Fathers, but which, nevertheless, did not deprive them of speech to answer these fools, and treat them as they deserved,—not, however, so much according to their merit, as with the patience and compassion with which one should deal with these poor unfortunates.

The insolence of such persons of authority greatly increases the boldness of the children and common people, from whom, consequently, one has to suffer not a little. Snowballs, clubs, cornstalks, and other rubbish, for lack of stones (which are not always to be found in this country when they are wanted), have been seen flying over the Fathers' heads, even during [104] the Catechisms, and, in the course of the day, through the holes of the cabin which serve as window and chimney,—to say nothing of many other indignities that occur every day, living among a barbarous people, against whom we have, and can have, no defense.

Some of the more prudent among the Captains and old men, seeing clearly that this is contrary to the rights of the alliance that they profess with the