

successful issue of their business. And this secret is called "Ondinoc," that is to say, "a desire inspired by the Demon." And, in fact, if you ask, from him who desires in this manner, what is the cause of the desire, he makes no answer except, "ondays ihatonc oki haendaerandic," "the thing under the form of which my familiar Demon appeared to me, gave me this advice."

These Ondinoncs are always accompanied by feasts or dances; the ceremonies of these and even the songs that are sung there are for the most part dictated by the Demon, who utters all with cautions and threats that all will be lost if they fail to carry out the least detail. The result is, that, when the Captains go about publishing the desires of the sick, or other persons who have dreamed, and when they say that it is the Ondinonc of a certain person, each one immediately takes pains and applies himself with all his might to give pleasure and satisfaction to that one to whom it belongs. [131] This seems entirely confirmed by the formula observed by the Captains when they take to the person the things that he desired, at the time of the first assembly. "Listen, such a man or woman," they cry, "and thou, voice of Demon" (meaning the one who has inspired him), "behold what such a man or woman gives;" and, thus saying, they throw the presents upon the patient.

This is the formula used in a ceremony which took place while I was writing the above, in behalf of a sick woman, who, according to one of her desires, had performed for her, by fifty persons, a special dance lasting three hours. Three days were spent in preparing for this dance; and, on the day it took place, the Captains made more than five public announce-