

lief in dreams, that had been almost wholly forgotten. Those who have come from places nearer to the Hurons have brought I know not what dance or diabolical superstition, which has given us much trouble. Pride is reigning here, and the famine which is pinching these poor wretches will not succeed in bringing it down. The fear that they have of their enemies, prevents their going to the hunt so that their lives may be sustained. Every day and every night they have visions; they see, so they say, the Hiroquois behind their corn, they see them in the woods; they see canoes floating, they see them lying still; they [108] see those that pursue them; they observe attentively the tracks of their enemies on the sand; they identify the place where they have slept, the trees from which they have gathered fruit, they even hear them yelling in the depth of the forest,—they give a thousand false alarms to our Frenchmen. And in all this there is but a single truth—to wit, that a vain fear of death engenders all these phantoms in their imagination, and turns them from the true fear which they ought to have of offending Him who alone can strengthen their hearts. *Fugit impius nemine persequente.* The reproaches that were formerly made to us are being recommenced here: these new visitors tell us that prayers cause them to die, that to be baptized and to see very soon the end of life are the same thing. If a Christian be sick, or if he happen to die, it is Baptism which has deprived him of life; it is in vain to tell them that many more Unbelievers die than Believers,—the Devil takes his opportunity, and blinds their eyes to the known truth. This last winter, all the Savages who are here having met together, and being shut up as in a fort, the