

blessed life, for we see to it that not one dies without baptism. Among those people was a little child of one year, who seemed rather a monster than a human being. It was happily baptized; God, it seems, preserved its life only by miracle, so that, being washed in the blood of Jesus Christ, it might bless his mercies forever.

[171] While we try to render some honor to God, the devil continues to be adored; even yesterday, in our cabin, they made him a solemn sacrifice. All the people being assembled there, they repeatedly threw tobacco and fat into the fire, making several invocations; and all that for the cure of a wretch whom his private demon afflicts with a certain disease, because he has not obeyed him in the matter of some feasts which he had commanded him.

“Is it a wonder that we are held in abomination at a place where the devils are acknowledged as masters? Our host orders that his door be barricaded every evening, fearing lest they do us some violence by night; for, if they killed us in his house, he would have the reproaches to bear for it, even from those who desire naught but our death. It is not this which assures us; we have a more powerful protection, although less visible to these poor infidels.”

Hitherto the Fathers.

Those were only the beginnings of their sufferings: in the other [172] villages, since the rumors were continually increasing, they had more to endure; they had not been two days in a place before people could no longer suffer them, and it was necessary to change their location. Some Hurons, who went thither from time to time to effect some trades, incensed minds against them, and even did their utmost to the end