

and calumnies with which the preceding Relations are filled,—that we had bred the malady in our own house; that our writings were only sorceries; that we had caused every one among the Hurons to die, under pretense of presents; that we were arranging to bring all the rest of the world to the grave,—added that they should everywhere boldly close the doors of the cabins against us, unless they wished shortly to see desolation therein; and he was so impudent as to affirm everything in presence of our Fathers, and some aged men of the country, who had desired to confront them with each other.

Now, although Father de Brebeuf pertinently refuted all these evil persons, silencing each one and filling them with confusion, still [69] venom once dropped into the heart of these poor barbarians is not very easily cast out; for they fear everything, since they do not know him who alone is worthy to be feared and dreaded. And many other Hurons arrived unexpectedly at that time, who confirmed all these remarks, and, in fact, inspired the chiefs and Captains with so many suspicions respecting us, that at the end of about two months and a half after the Fathers had entered upon their duties, those to whom they had spoken at first about holding a council, and who had deferred the matter until the return of Tsohahissen, the chief Captain, sent for them and declared that they had power to decide pressing affairs in the absence of Tsohahissen, that they began to think our undertaking was of this nature, and that, therefore, they would deliberate upon it immediately. Thereupon they made a pretense of holding a council to consider this matter, which was already resolved upon among them; and one of them