

men, and killed some of them; they hold one of our fathers as a prisoner." There is but one conclusion—peace must be made with these barbarians, or they must be destroyed.

Vimont relates in detail the pious sentiments and deeds of "the new Christians," especially those at St. Joseph (Sillery). Among them, all the rites and customs of the church are faithfully observed; it is even necessary to restrain their ardent desire to partake often of the sacraments. They leave their elk hunt to come to Quebec for Easter; and even return from the woods in a blinding snowstorm, for St. Andrew's day. They will not eat meat on fast days, and carefully observe those days on which labor is not allowed. Going to fight the Iroquois, they resolve to take no prisoners alive, so that the usual torments may be averted from these. Accordingly, they kill the enemies, and bring home their spoils and scalps; upon reaching St. Joseph, they visit the house of God before entering their own cabins. They weep over their sins, and one man goes farther,—he tells Father Buteux, "Awaking in the night, and remembering my sin, I arose, went into the woods, and cut branches from the trees, with which I beat and scourged myself until I was exhausted. I have a great desire to do so again, when I shall have made my Confession." The Father gives him "a penance three times as severe as I would have given to a Frenchman for the same offense;" whereupon this penitent says: "Is that all that thou dost appoint to me for so great a sin? Make me endure something that will torment my body; command me to fast." This same man, apparently, afterward cuts his fingers with a knife "to show them that