

to him who had made him a Christian, he exclaimed: "My Father, you have delivered me from the fire; you have laid me under a much deeper obligation than if you had freed me from the hands of the Hiroquois, armed with brands to burn me. The fire that never dies is much more ardent than that which cannot live without being fed. [57] Here I am," he added, "in the right road. Heaven will come when it will."

Some time afterward, the Demons again tried to trouble him with a dream. He came one morning to the Father and said to him: "If I believed in my dreams, I would be much frightened. Last night, in my sleep, I saw one of your servants holding a knife in his hand, ready to kill me. I called out to him before he reached me: 'Dost thou intend to take my life?' 'I do, indeed,' he answered. 'Is it of thine own accord, or is it suggested by any other one's malice?' 'The Fathers, with whom I dwell, have ordered me to put thee to death.' 'Approach, then,' I said; 'kill me. I will not abandon the Faith, although they may take my life.' I stopped short; he then fell on me, and gave me two great stabs with his knife. I awoke with a start, greatly disturbed by so ominous a dream." In order to divert his mind from fear, the Father adroitly turned his dream into ridicule. "Let us see," said he, "whether the blows are mortal. He whom thou didst see in thy dreams is a Surgeon. Let us call him to dress the wounds that he has inflicted, and to pour [58] balm on them." Those who were present began to laugh, and the Devil's malice vanished in smoke.

I will conclude this Chapter with the Baptism of