

Eagle in its place. But, as it did not quite fill the cavity, he changed it for the eye of a Turtle. As the latter was dim, and made him see objects imperfectly, he threw it away and [190] used the eye of a Loon (this is a River bird). This eye was so keen that it enabled him to see the bottom of the lakes and rivers over which he paddled, and showed him all the fishes, both great and small, that were in them. When he passed over the great depths of water, the frightful distance from his little canoe to the bottom of those depths inspired him with such terror that he was obliged to discard that bird's eye, and to take the eye of his Dog, which suited him so well that he used it for the rest of his days, with as much ease as his own natural eye. It was a blind woman who related this story of her Grandfather. She is not more credible regarding eyes than she is concerning colors.

The Relation of 1634 states that the Savages imagine that the Moon is wedded to the Sun; that she has borne him a son; and that, when she takes the latter in her arms, she appears Eclipsed. Others say that she suffers great pain and is in danger of death when she appears in that shadow. Some of them dance and sing, to give her relief. They consider Eclipses [191] as omens of mortality, of war, or of sickness; but this augury does not always precede the evil that it predicts. Sometimes it follows it, for the Savages who saw the Eclipse of the Moon that appeared this year, 1642, said that they were no longer astonished at the massacre of their people by the Hiroquois during the winter. They had before them the token and the sign of it, but a little too late to put them on their guard.