

return from fishing and from their journeys, they held a Council among themselves to incite one another more strongly to virtue; and they bound themselves to it anew, by a public protestation of their Faith. Afterward, they called those who were preparing for Baptism, and said to them, " My brothers, not by your lips alone must you testify to the Faith that is in your hearts. Your works will be surer evidence than your words. Abandon at once the [100] idea that you have of becoming Christians, if you are not all resolved to maintain the name by the purity of your lives. You have to fight against the Demons of hell, who for so many ages have kept us in their bondage. We have as many enemies of our salvation as there are men in these countries. Consider that your fathers and mothers, and even your children, are those whom you have most to fear. Resist the emotions of nature, and listen not to your hearts, that will be the first to betray you if you rely too much upon them. In a word, to be a Christian, my brothers, is to detest evil; and it is better to die than to sin." At these words, the Catechumens exclaimed that therefore they were Christians; that they were all resolved to believe in God, and to obey him unto death. Indeed, they begged so earnestly for Baptism that we could not defer it. But it is necessary that Faith meet with resistance everywhere; and, if it be not born in persecutions, it is to be feared that it will not have enough strength to sustain itself, and to grow in holy actions.

[101] Some Island Algonquins wintered here this year with the Hurons; and one of their Captains, called Agwachimagan, and by the Frenchmen le Charbon [" the Coal "], did not fail to play one of