

have not his courage cannot resolve to buy at the cost of the calumnies with which they see him persecuted.

The faith finds no distinction between the sexes. A woman of that same [40] Village, named Luce Andotraaon, having become a Christian, had given up a certain dance,—the most celebrated in the country, because it is believed the most powerful over the Demons to procure, by their means, the healing of certain diseases. Be this as it may, that dance is only for chosen people, who are admitted to it with ceremony, with great gifts, and after a declaration which they make to the grand masters of this Brotherhood, to keep secret the mysteries that are intrusted to them, as things holy and sacred.<sup>1</sup>

A Captain of high standing among the chief officers of these mysterious ceremonies, came to find that Christian woman who had renounced their dance; having taken her aside, he told her in confidence, that he came to give her warning of the design which they had against her. He said that, in a secret council which the leaders of that dance had held, they had resolved to surprise her the next Summer in her field, to split her head, and remove her scalp,—by that means concealing the murder that would be committed, the suspicion of it being likely to fall on the Iroquois enemies. He told her that the only means of averting this blow was [41] to abandon the faith, and come back into the dance from which she had gone forth.

This woman made manifest, on this occasion, that her faith was stronger than death. “They will oblige me,” she said to him, “by making me die for so good a cause; and thou obligest me by warning me of it as a friend: for now I shall think, with more