

truth than ever, that I am dead to the world, and that I must live to God alone."

We shall see this Summer what will be the effects of that threat. However, the grand masters of that dance have not long deferred the revelation of the designs which they have of opposing themselves to the progress of the faith. They have solicited many Christians to renounce Christianity, and to array themselves on their side; their importunate pursuit, their promises, their threats, and the gifts which they have not spared, have carried away some of the weakest of these. But, after all, the small number, notwithstanding all these great efforts, of those who have allowed themselves to fall away, has caused us to recognize the lively faith of the majority, and has served to animate the good Christians [42] in the expectation of a ruder war, and of a combat which may proceed even to blood, and which may make for us Martyrs; these, they plainly see, cannot fail them if they continue to be true to their faith.

But it seems that the infidels themselves distrust their forces; or, rather, they well judge that the faith so lifts a soul above all the misfortunes of the earth, that it can have no dread of an evil which is not eternal. In order, then, to sap the foundations of our faith, they have tried to shake them by falsehoods which they invent, and with which they fill the whole country.

At one time they circulate the rumor that some Algonquins have recently returned from a very distant journey,—in which, having gone astray in countries till then unknown, they have found very populous cities, inhabited only by the souls which formerly had lived a life similar to ours. They say that