

and that—if he makes himself felt from so far, if he warms or burns according as he approaches us—one cannot doubt that he makes a powerful conflagration in the Sky, and that he furnishes flames more than are required in order to burn [48] all the Hurons whom the French try to send thither.

These falsehoods and similar discourses are so many clouds, with which untruth incessantly strives to obscure the light of our faith, which, after all, renders itself ever victorious over them, but yet never stays without an enemy,—one fog being no sooner scattered than another rises from the earth, sometimes thicker and more difficult to clear away than the one which preceded it.

The infidels, having seen all these resources and so many batteries result with little success for them, have had recourse to what they have judged most powerful in nature, and to arms, the blows of which they did not suppose the faith could parry. They have incited, even publicly and in the midst of their feasts, lewd girls to win the hearts of the Christians—hoping that, having lost their chastity, their faith would no longer be so vigorous, and would perish in debauchery. But if some one has made it appear, on that side, that his faith had not altogether detached him from the body, and had left him in the number of men, [49] the courage of most has given those firebrands of hell to understand that their fires and their flames have no hold on a heart which is possessed of a more holy ardor. And what has appeared to us more delightful in most of these victories is, that several in such encounters, after having imitated the purity of the most chaste Joseph, judged