

Christ, and of those who publish and who profess it. Hardly had he stoutly declared himself, when he saw himself assailed by a disease, so prompt and so sudden that he could never doubt that it was a scourge sent from him who wills to be obeyed. But oh, woe! instead of coming to his senses, he revolts more than ever against the arm which struck him only to cure him; he vomits millions of blasphemies against God. He is counseled to quiet himself, he is promised that all his crimes shall be effaced in the waters of baptism, if he will receive it; he is made to understand the misfortunes into which he will dash himself unless he open his eyes. To that, he made no other response than this, that a Law which made men die was abominable. His rage was the Catastrophe of his life; his two wives, terrified by this [232] death so strange and sudden, became converted. Some Savages were touched by it; but as the ears are not as near to the soul, so to speak, as the eyes, it was necessary that some Apostates and some hardened Pagans should see another blow, in order to be shaken.

This blow happened to the person of an Apostate named Joseph Oumosotiscouchie,—in vulgar parlance, *la Grenouille* [“the Frog”]. That name, which had been borne by several Captains of his country, and which had been given to him in order to make them live again, rendered him proud and insolent.<sup>11</sup> His vehement nature sometimes caused him to break forth into excesses which carried him far into contempt; and, as the Faith does not well agree with pride, he conceived such a horror for it that he could not, at times, contain his blasphemies. Last Autumn, the Savages fell into a disease which was