

mission. After a journey full of danger and privation, he reaches Mackinac too late in the season to proceed farther; he accordingly spends the winter there, and labors in that mission. He gives a curious account of the legends current among the Ottawas regarding their origin and the creation of the world, and of their superstitious belief in manitous.

In the spring of 1692, *Rale* proceeds to his field. He describes the great Illinois village, the feast with which those savages greeted him, and their eloquence; their dress, occupations, and dances; their weapons and hunting, and the abundance of game in their country — especially the buffalo, of which animals they kill over 2,000 every year. *Rale* describes the methods of war pursued by these savages, and the cruel torments inflicted upon their captives. After two years' stay with the Illinois, *Rale* is recalled to Quebec (1694), in order to undertake the Abenaki mission in Maine, which he has since that time served.

The piety of these savages is a source of great joy to their missionary. Most of them "preserve the innocence that they received at baptism;" and, in the confessional, "it is often with difficulty that I can find anything that requires absolution." In 1697, envoys from a neighboring tribe come to *Rale's* village, to offer their sympathy for the death of a prominent chief. The missionary harangues them, to induce them to embrace the Christian religion. Several months later, *Rale* visits this tribe, and baptizes all its members.

He discusses the relations between these Indians and the English; the heretics have never been able to secure any foothold among these zealous Christian