

the Indians the way to heaven, and they also reprimand the latter for the current disturbances. On this occasion some of the warriors attempt to imitate the appearance and drill of the French soldiers at Quebec, but make themselves "the more ridiculous, the more they tried to comport themselves seriously. We had difficulty in refraining from laughter, although we were treating of only the most important matters—the Mysteries of our Religion, and what must be done in order not to burn forever in Hell."

The Fathers proceed up the Fox river, to visit the tribes thereon; they find at the De Pere rapids a sort of idol, adored by the savages—a rock, resembling a human bust. This the missionaries remove, and cast to the bottom of the river. After passing all the rapids, they reach the prairies and "oak-openings" of Winnebago county—"the fairest land possible to behold;" its beauty is vividly portrayed in their account. Here the abundance of game and wild rice renders the savages sedentary. They reach the Mascoutens and Miamis, who have fixed their abode in the same place, for common defense against the Iroquois. The Fathers address these people upon their need of the Christian religion, reinforcing their appeals, as usual, with a picture of the judgment-day, and a description of "the happiness of the Saints and the torments of the damned." The Indians listen with great wonder and respect; and afterward, not satisfied with the instruction given them through the day, "assembled during the night, in crowds, to hear a more detailed account of the Mysteries about which they had been told." The Fathers are regaled with many feasts, and have free access to the cabins; they avail themselves of every opportunity to instruct the people. Among three thousand souls they find but one sick person—a child who is dying of consumption. After receiving baptism, this child is restored to health.

Dablon devotes a chapter to the character, manners, and customs of the Illinois Indians, some of whom have come to dwell with the Mascoutens; and to the Mississippi river and valley, so far as he has learned about that region from the reports of the savages. He is delighted with the mildness and politeness of the Illinois tribe, and dilates upon the noble character and