

hors de crainte pour leurs viures; car les moules sont a la coste et avec tout sorte de poissons et de coquillages, et les nauires françois avec les quels ils troquent; et sçauvez-vous s'ils entendent bien à re faire courtiser, ils traictent de freres avec de roy, et ne leur faut rien rabattre de toute la piece, il faut leur faire des presens et les bien haranguer aut ant qu'ils accordent la traicte, et celle-cy faicte, il faut encore les tabagier, c'est à dire, les banqueter; alors ils danseront, harangueront et chanteront, "*Adesquidez, Adesquidez*" à sçauoir, qu'ils sont les bons amis, alliez, associèz, confederez et comperes du roy et des François."

"From the month of May until the middle of September, they have nothing to fear on account of food; for the muscles on the shore, with all sorts of fish and shell-fish, and the French ships for them to traffic with. It is needful to make them (the Indians) presents, and to harangue them well as often as they agree to trade: and, this done, it is necessary to smoke tobacco with them, that means, to feast them: then they will dance, they will make speeches and, they will sing "*Adesquidez, Adesquidez*," that is to say, that they are the good friends, allies, confederates, and companions of the king and of the French."

My inference is that this word, *Adesquidez*, is the good Jesuit Father's attempt to render in French characters some Micmac word, or expression, meaning *good fellowship*, or *jolly good fellows all together*; and that the more recent word, *Aspinquid*, used in our time, is an English corruption of the French corruption. But it will *do* just as well. My further explanation would be, that these jollifications which could, at first, take place only rarely,—as often as there was an opportunity of traffic—would, in course of time and in the natural order of events, become a more momentous affair, gradually acquiring something of the dignity of a national feast, *fete*, or *fiesta*, recurring periodically—that is, upon the great annual arrival of the French ships out from France, or some time about the month of May. What was, for a long time, kept up as an annual festival in honour