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or have they any Temples or Altars agreeable to June the Practice of the most antient People amongst 1747. the Barbarians. The Persians had not either Temples, Idols or Altars, even in the Time of Herodotus. Neither do these People worship Manatou, but to Vitico sometimes they make an Offering; where there is wanted a Removal of a present Evil, or to avert a suture one. This is agreeable to that of St. Augustin, Lib. 8. Decivit Dei: Chap. xiii. Labeo numina mala visti mis cruentis, atq; bujusmodi supplicationibus placari existimat: bona verò ludis & talibus, quasi ad latitiam pertinentibus rebus.

In a Time of great Scarcity or Sickness, the Indians will make a Fire, take a Dog and tie his Mouth, then singe him at the Fire, afterwards tie him to a Pole lying along the Ground, to which Pole they have also sastened a Blanket, or a Parcel of Beaver Skins sewed together; they then set the Pole erect, and one of the Elders of the Indians addresses himself to Vitico, mentioning their Missortune, and hopes, that he will let them have Health, or, as the Case is, more Plenty. When the Indian hath done speaking, the other Indians who stood by attentive and silent, make a Shout and then depart; leaving the Dog upon the Pole, never meddling with the Pole until it falls.

When the Ice is breaking up, they will throw Tobacco on the Ice, that it may not stop and cause a Deluge.

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