

1611. was married in the time of Jacques Cartier. Yet all who knew him, found him so hale and vigorous that they should not have judged him a man of sixty.<sup>1</sup>

History of  
the Saga-  
more Mam-  
bertou.

Our two missionaries deemed it their first duty, on arriving at Port Royal, to learn the language of the country; but they were quite astonished to find no one among the French who could or would aid them in this study. Pontgravé even, who was more capable than any other of rendering this service, not daring to have too much intercourse with them for fear of irritating Mr. de Poutrincourt, with whom he was not on good terms.<sup>2</sup> Fortunately for the Fathers, the sagamo Mambertou had learned a little French, and eagerly sought their friendship. This chief, who enjoyed a high repute in his nation, had not consented to receive baptism, as some of his subjects did, without knowing what Christianity was; and the little that had been taught him on the subject, before his baptism, inspired him with a great desire for thorough instruction. Nothing could have been more seasonable for the missionaries. They attached themselves to him, and found him indeed a man of ability.<sup>3</sup>

He was not, in fact, in any way a barbarian except in his outward man and his pride. Lescarbot, who was often in his company, makes a eulogy on him which will doubtless sound exaggerated to those who do not know that everywhere are to be found men thus happily born, whom neither defect of culture nor a savage education prevent from rising, by their own genius, above most of those even who have enjoyed the greatest aid to form the mind and heart. He had received in baptism the name of Henry, the great Henry IV. being still alive. He was a brave and able warrior, after the manner of the Indians; and

<sup>1</sup> Lescarbot, pp. 588, 589.

<sup>2</sup> Biard, Relation de la Nouvelle France, p. 31.

<sup>3</sup> Mambertou could not have aided much, as he died, Sept. 18, 1611 (Le-

scarbot, p. 672), within three months after their arrival there, proposing to teach them. Biard, Relation, pp. 32, 33; Carayon, Documents Inédits, xii. p. 99.