

its, he said to us, " Now listen to me in your turn,— I wish to speak. If you had no more knowledge of the Scriptures than we, if God had not taught you any more, if your ancestors had left to you only eating and fighting, as they have to us, perhaps you would be no better people than we are."

Another time, when one of our Fathers who had taught him passed near him without speaking to him, as if slighting him for having lost zeal, he stopped him short, and said in a loud voice, " What dost thou think Pigarouich is?" (This was his name before his baptism.) " He is a great tree, strongly rooted in the ground; dost thou think [124] to throw it down all at once? Strike, strike heavy blows of the axe, and continue a long time, and at last thou wilt overthrow it. It desires to fall, but it cannot,— its roots, that is, its bad habits, hold it down, in spite of itself. Do not lose courage, thou wilt succeed."

At the same time that we rejected him, he was solicited to return to his sorceries; they made him presents, they promised him that everything should be done in secret; however, although he was in great need of the things they offered him, he would never accept them, or resume his drum. In fine, we did not discover that he had lost the faith, notwithstanding his debauches or his license. He prayed to God every day, morning and evening, in his Cabin; and, wherever he happened to be, he published our belief without fear of his countrymen. Respect for what others say, which does so much harm here, as well as in France, prevented him but little from saying what he thought. His is a bold and active mind, which the fear of hell restrained, to some extent, after the Faith took possession of his soul. Now,