

CHAP. IV.

OF THE PERMANENT RESIDENCE OF SAINTE MARIE.

I WROTE last year that we had two Residences in the country of the Hurons,—the one of St. Joseph, at Teanausteyé; the other of la Conception, at Ossossane; besides these, we were purposing to erect other new ones in certain more distant villages. But, since then,—having ascertained that the multiplicity of so many Residences was subject to many inconveniences, and that the conversion of these peoples could be further advanced through the channel of missions,—we resolved to combine our two houses into one. And—so that in the course of years we should not be obliged to [43] change places, as the Savages do, who transfer their village from one place to another after eight or nine years—we chose a place where we judged we could settle permanently; whence we might, according as we should have a supply at hand, detach a goodly number of missionaries who would have been trained for the purpose, to go with much more liberty, and convey to the villages and surrounding nations the holy Name of Our Lord.

This place is situated in the middle of the country, on the shore of a beautiful river which, being not more than a quarter of a league in length, joins together two lakes,—one, which extends to the West, verging a little toward the North, which might