

## [68] CHAP. V.

## OF THE MISSION OF SAINTE MARIE TO THE ATARONCHRONONS.

THIS house of sainte Marie bears not only the character of a Residence but also of a Mission, as having four villages depending on the care and the attention of those who make their abode in it. These four villages are sainte Anne, St. Louys, St. Denys, and St. Jean; the number of souls may reach fourteen hundred.<sup>9</sup>

The village of sainte Anne was the first which gave us exercise,—having been the very first afflicted with the disease. It pleased God to give us this blessing, that almost no one died in it, except baptized, or sufficiently instructed to enjoy this good fortune. It was not without experiencing many humiliations that we gained this advantage; for, as the baptisms had not the result which many [69] had claimed,—the restoration of bodily health,—they were soon denounced, and the report was immediately spread abroad that this sacred water of baptism was fatal to those who were bathed with it.

In consequence of that, the cabins of many were closed to us; they regard us as bringing disaster to the country; they threaten us, and tell us aloud that never had a Huron sorcerer been killed who had given more occasion for it than we. Nevertheless, we follow up our point, continually gaining some