

[49] CHAPTER III.

OF SOME VERY REMARKABLE BAPTISMS AT THE RESIDENCE OF SAINT JOSEPH.

THE number of those who have become Christians this year, at the Residences of la Conception and of St. Joseph, is not less than that of previous years; we have now this consolation that not only children and the sick are baptized, but even adults who are full of life and health.¹⁰ The mercies that God shows to some of these simple Neophytes are striking; I shall touch upon some of them in this chapter, which I shall offer as a rich recompense to all those who procure, before God and before men, the conversion of these peoples.

We baptized on one day three heads of families who generally have withdrawn to Tadoussac, but the desire for their salvation made them join the [50] Christians of the Residence of Saint Joseph. The most remarkable of the three is named Charles Meichkawat; Monsieur the Chevalier de Montmagny, our Governor, seeing him so zealous for our belief, wished to be his godfather. I would willingly say of him what our Lord said of Nathanaël: *Ecce verè Israëlita in quo dolus non est*; this good man is a true Israelite,—he is made up neither of fraud nor deceit, he has the same candor, he has always been inclined to good; but about two years ago God touched him mightily. He related to us that, being one day in the woods, he saw a man clothed like us, and he