

charms which he had for hunting,—declaring aloud that he would like to believe in God, but earnestly, and without pretense,—renouncing publicly all his old customs and all the superstitions of his ancestors. Having gone to the war, he became acquainted with two Christians; and, seeing them retire to the woods to flee the idolatrous rites of their Countrymen, and offer up apart their little prayers, he followed them and prayed as they did. In all the voyage from the country of the Hurons to Kebec, which is very long, he passed no day without invoking the holy Name of God; [74] and he never undertook any rapid, or any dangerous effort, without offering up a prayer and being armed with the sign of the holy Cross. He said sometimes to the Father, that if he returned to his own country without being baptized, he would dread meeting his wife. “She will not fail,” said he, “to cast at me this reproach: ‘It is easily seen that there is something lacking in thy faith; if the Fathers with whom thou hast been a great while, during so long a journey, had judged thee worthy of baptism, they would not have refused it to thee. Perhaps the love of some other woman has hindered thee from pursuing so great a good.’ This,” said he, “is the first salutation that I expect from my wife on arriving at home.” Monsieur the Governor seeing a soul so well disposed, said for this good Neophyte what the Eunuch of Queen Candace said to saint Philip: *Ecce aqua: quid prohibet eum baptisari?* “There is sufficient water in the country, what then should hinder his baptism since he believes with all his heart in Jesus Christ?” The Fathers readily acquiesced; Monsieur the Governor wished to be his Godfather, and the [75] day was fixed for the twen-