

CHAPTER VI.

OF THE HOSPITAL.

I HAVE thought that this chapter ought to be put next to what we have said concerning the Residence of St. Joseph, not only because this House is built in the neighborhood of the Savages, but also because the charity of these good Sisters coöperates powerfully with the settling down of those who withdraw to this newly-begun Village. [86] It is a strange thing how cold these people are, and how exempt they appear from marveling at those things which astonish us; however they are not so, their heart is touched as well as ours, but does not betray itself so much. I have sometimes heard Savages use this language: "Nikanis, we are amazed that these good Sisters, so delicate, have left so goodly a country as you have described to us; that they have abandoned their parents to come and dwell among us; and, what is more wonderful, that they give us food, and take care of us in our sickness, Chekher," that is to say, without expectation of any recompense.

Our Lord, who has given to Madame the Duchess d'Aiguillon the thought of founding a House of Mercy at this end of the World, also suggested to her the place where it ought to be built. Now, as she had wisely referred the matter to those who were in the country, they, in the beginning, conceived thoughts contrary to her inclinations; but, after having carefully considered the affair before God, they judged