

[122] CHAPTER VIII.

OF SOME BAPTISMS AT THE RESIDENCE OF LA CONCEP-
TION AT THE THREE RIVERS.

THERE is a certain Apostate in the district of this Residence, called by his own people Oumasatikweie, that is to say, "the toad:"¹⁶ this wicked man has more venom in his heart and in his tongue than that unsightly creature has in its whole body. He was baptized during a severe sickness; having recovered, he did not imitate those who openly confessed in health the faith which they had received in their sickness,—he has publicly declared himself the enemy of God and of Christianity, using his utmost efforts to dissuade those who would be inclined to embrace it. He wished to prevent a certain man named Piescars, of whom I shall speak, a man somewhat noted among his people, from receiving holy Baptism; but the Devil has been overcome in one of [123] his most powerful instruments, and God has triumphed in a soul which has borne faithful witness; this good Neophyte was named Simon by Monsieur de Chanflour, the commandant of the fort at the Three Rivers. When he saw that the Unbelievers, and especially this wretched Apostate, tormented him about the plan he had for being baptized, he desired to make his baptism as solemn as was possible,—protesting by this very public act that he did not wish to believe in secret like Nicodemus, *propter metum Judæorum*, but that he wished