

and blessings; and, seeing them touched, I asked them if they would be content that these poor peoples of their acquaintance should fall into those fires. They answered, 'Certainly not.' 'They must then be instructed,' I replied; 'who will do it, if you shut the door to me?' 'It is true,' said one of the chiefs; 'the Father must be permitted to go anywhere; he is not laden with knives, or hatchets, or any goods,—he is our Father, and he loves us; I am of opinion that he should go wherever he will.' All the others having agreed to this, a Captain exclaimed: 'Go whither thou wilt, my Father; the door is open to thee, [198] to all the Tribes with which we have acquaintance. We will take thee there in our canoes; but remain with us for this Spring, because, having come to instruct us, thou oughtst not to leave us until we have learned the prayers; thou canst go and visit these good people another year.' When I saw them thus afraid, I told them that they were well aware of my purpose. 'It is true,' said one of the chiefs; 'the Father does not come here for our furs; he has no merchandise in his hands. He loves us, he is our Father; the door to all the Tribes with which we have acquaintance must be opened for him.' All the others were of the same opinion, but they, nevertheless, besought me to remain there. Those who had not been baptized asked me for Christians who might embark with them, and speak in my place to these peoples. I put some presents into the hands of two Christians in order that they might invite two Tribes to come and lend ear to the good news of the Gospel. They sent back to me other presents, with a message that, if I would stay at Tadoussac, they would come there. One of our Christians of [199]