CHAPTER VII.

OF THE MISSION CALLED "THE HOLY GHOST," TO THE NIPISSIRINIENS.

THE Askikwanehronons, according to our Hurons; or Nipissiriniens, according to the Algonquins,—form a Nation of the Algonquin tongue which contains more wandering than settled people. They seem to have as many abodes as the year has seasons,—in the Spring a part of them remain for fishing, where they consider it the best; a part go away to trade with the tribes which gather on the shore of the North or icy sea, [87] upon which they voyage ten days, after having spent thirty days upon the rivers, in order to reach it.

In summer, they all gather together, on the road of the Hurons to the French, on the border of a large lake which bears their name, and is about two hundred leagues distant from Quebeq, and about seventy from our Hurons; so that their principal dwelling place is, as it were, two-thirds of the way from Quebecq to the country of our Hurons.

About the middle of Autumn, they begin to approach our Hurons, upon whose lands they generally spend the winter; but, before reaching them, they catch as many fish as possible, which they dry. This is the ordinary money with which they buy their main stock of corn, although they come supplied with all other goods, as they are a rich people and live in comfort. They cultivate a little land near