

[182] CHAPTER XII.

OF A MISSION HELD AT TADOUSSAC.

ALTHOUGH the Savages of Tadoussac are almost the first ones that our vessels meet, yet the good news of the Gospel was carried to them only after it had been taken to many others; and still it must be confessed that it was not we who won them, but our Neophytes, or new Christians of the Residence of Saint Joseph. When they visited one another on both sides, and saw that the chief Savages of this Residence made public profession of the faith, they derided them in the beginning; but, at length, the good example and the good conversation of their Tribesmen made them love that which they had hated, and seek that which they had abhorred. Last year our Neophytes, as I have observed, went to invite them by means of a fine present to come and dwell with them at Saint Joseph, [183] that they might hear of the blessings of the other life. They answered by another present that they were not estranged from the faith, but desired that some one should come and instruct them in their own country. Indeed, they appointed Charles Meiachawat, who was not yet baptized, to come for a Father of our Society, and conduct him to Tadoussac, where would also be found some Savages of the tribes from the Sagné; as the Father for whom they asked was occupied elsewhere, they were promised that we would not fail to assist them in the Spring.