

for the Queen, for their little Princes, and for the whole of their Empire. This the Savages did with much affection. And thus did we unite our desires with all those of France.

After the Festival, we visited the great forest which covers this Island; and when we had been led to the mountain from which it takes its name, two of the chief Savages of the band stopped on its summit, and told us that they belonged to the nation of those who had formerly dwelt on this Island. Then, stretching out their hands towards the hills that lie to the East and South of the mountain, "There," said they, "are the places where stood Villages filled with great numbers of Savages. The Hurons, who then were our enemies, drove our Forefathers from this country. Some [133] went towards the country of the Abnakiouis, others towards the country of the Hiroquois, some to the Hurons themselves, and joined them. And that is how this Island became deserted." "My grandfather," said an aged man, "tilled the soil on this spot. Maize grew very well on it, for the Sun is very strong there." And, taking in his hands some earth, he said: "See the richness of the soil; it is excellent." Thereupon we did not fail to invite and urge them to return to their country, and to inform them of the plans of the Captains who send people here to succor them, promising that assistance would be given them to build their little houses, and to till the soil, of which work they have lost the habit. One of them, named Atcheast, the father of little Joseph,—who seems a peaceable man, and who has a wife as staid as himself,—assured us that he would return in the Spring with all his family. The others were equally willing, but were afraid to