

[135] CHAPTER X.

OF THE MISSION OF THE HOLY CROSS AT TADOUSSAC.

IN order that this new vine may bear good fruit, a House should be erected at Tadoussac, to which two Fathers of our Society would go down in the Spring, and return only in the Autumn. They would do as much good to the French, who are there all Summer, as to the Savages. They would collect together some small Nations that are scattered here and there throughout the country, and who ask nothing better than to receive instruction. Such a House would not interfere with the plans of the Gentlemen of New France, for many reasons. Moreover, the Savages of Tadousac, those of the Sagne, the Bersiamites, and the Papinachiwekhi, earnestly beg that it be built,—asserting that the more distant tribes will come in from all sides to receive instruction, and, by the same means, to trade with the French. But let us come [136] to the subject of this Relation.

It has already been mentioned that the new Christians of Saint Joseph made the first attempts at converting the Savages of Tadousac. At first, when they spoke of God, they were jeered and scoffed at, as people who had no sense, for having given up their old customs,—these good Neophytes enduring patiently, and with sweet humility, the insults and affronts offered to them.