

CHAPTER III.

CONTINUATION OF THE GOOD SENTIMENTS AND GOOD
ACTIONS OF THE CHRISTIANS.

ONE of the Fathers who teach the Savages at the residence of St. Joseph, read out one day a list of the sins to which these peoples are liable before their Baptism. When he spoke of their [31] superstitions,—of their invocations to the Demons, or to the Genii of the light;⁴ of a certain tacit compact that they have with the Devil by means of a mysterious stone, which we have already mentioned,—a good Christian called out: “That, my Father, still remains among us. Let us go into the cabins and look about everywhere; we shall find some of those little Idols hidden away. No one makes use of them before you, but those who have any, carry them with them into the woods. The Devil tempts them, and makes them believe that they will be unlucky if they throw them away,—that they will not have a successful hunt; and, by this means, he keeps them always in chains. I do not say this because I wish them evil; my desire that they should send away the Demons from the cabins, and take the straightest road to Paradise, makes me speak.”

This man is so zealous for the conversion of the Savages that he went last spring very far inland, to a Nation that hardly ever approaches the French, to give them presents, and to urge them to embrace the Faith [32] of JESUS CHRIST. He had already