

at the ceremony, and was honored with a present as well as the others; he therefore wished to say a few words. "Now," said he, "Jesus Christ will be honored in Tadoussac, and will be acknowledged in these vast forests, because the Captain is a Christian, and holds his Faith in higher esteem than his life." He continued his discourse which was listened to in great silence, and approved by all present.

The Captain, who until then had [254] not opened his mouth except to place in it his Calumet or tobacco pipe,—which with the savages takes the place of conversation, and serves to sustain their demeanor,—said to all the tribes present there: "I am not worthy of the honor that you do me. I do not deserve to bear the name of a man who should not have died, of a man whom you loved so much, and whom you honored with so great respect. That man had two qualities in which I am deficient,—he was liberal, and he had abundance of wisdom and of ability to manage affairs. You will confer this latter quality on me by your good counsels, and I will endeavor to gain the first by my own industry. If he who has made all gives me anything, you may rest assured that it will belong more to you than to me." When he had pronounced these words, the feast began. The women and girls were brought in. All danced, enjoyed themselves, and feasted; everything passed without discussion, without dispute, and without any insolent acts. At the end, an old Captain—living far within the mountains of the North, who had come to Tadoussac for the first time—delivered, in animated language, this short harangue: [255] "Hunger and hardships have killed a portion of my people in the very cold region that we inhabit;