

imitation of the holy Penitents of whom they had heard. They at once made a great discipline of heavy cords, full of large knots, which they tied to the end of a stick, to serve as a handle. They kept it all night, and on the following day, when they assembled at the sound of the Father's voice calling them to Mass, one of the leading Christians begged every one, without distinction,— [41] both the infidels and the baptized,— to go to the Church to hear something of importance that he had to tell them. There were at the time at Tadoussac 6 or 7 different tribes who were in or near the Chapel. Then this zealous man stood up in the middle of the assembly, and spoke as follows: "I greatly fear," he said, "that the people of Tadoussac will not be saved; I see that they are too wicked a people, and that, after committing so many offenses, they have as yet manifested but few, if any, signs of improvement. Here, look, see how the earth is made," he said, showing his closed hand; "the earth is round, like my fist; it is everywhere inhabited, we are told, and there is hardly a place where there are not faithful ones who firmly believe in God. It is only at this end of the world that there are very few Christians; and even those who profess to be such are so weak in the faith, that the Devil easily overcomes them when he attacks them. The French who believe in God are like a strong wall; the Devil meets with resistance when he approaches it. But those of Tadoussac are like that shabby, [42] torn cloth" (this was an old cloth that served as curtain in the Church, for want of something better). "We are," said he, "like that cloth, full of holes; the Devil passes through our hearts as my finger passes through that hole. That