

## CHAPTER II.

SOME WOMEN ESCAPE FROM THE COUNTRY OF THE  
HIROQUOIS.

THERE are unaccountable charms in the country of our birth, which do not allow men to lose the memory thereof. What was there formerly more splendid than the city of Rome? or more [26] harsh than the cold and the ice of Scythia? And yet a barbarian fled from that great city, in order to return to the rigor of those snows. The country of the Algonquins has been, for some years past, nothing but a field of dead and sick; and, nevertheless, the women whom the Hiroquois set at liberty in their country, in order to marry them to their children, have always so great a desire and so great an inclination toward their native land, that many cast themselves into horrible dangers, and into frightful difficulties and toils, in order to see it again. Here are some examples of this.

On the eighth of June, a canoe appeared above the habitation of Montreal, in which was seen only one person. Having approached, she was recognized as Marie *Ka makatewingwetch*, wife of the worthy Jean Baptiste *Manitounagouch*, murdered by the Hiroquois; this poor creature had escaped with toils that can hardly be expressed. Being led into the room of Monsieur and Mademoiselle d'Aillebourts, her eyes made the preamble of her address; her tears and sobs robbed her of speech, and inspired compassion