

[194] CHAPTER XI.

THE COMING OF THE ATTICAMEGUES.

WE have already said, in the preceding Relations, that there are many small nations back in the country, situated North of three Rivers. One of these is called, in the Savage tongue, *Attikamegouek*, and by the French, the Attikamegues, or "the white fish,"—because the word *Attikamegue* means a fish, which is found in this new world, to which the French have assigned the name of "white fish" on account of its color. All these tribes make war only on animals; their life is nothing but a continual hunt; the peace is profound in their great forests. They all assemble, each one in its own district, on certain days of the year; and, although they have their own limits, if any one advances upon the lands, or rather into the woods, of his neighbors, that occurs without quarrel, without dispute, without jealousy. They have trade with the Hurons, and some of them with the French. Their rendezvous takes place in certain months of the year, at a spot which they [195] have agreed upon; and there the Hurons bring them corn and meal from their country, Nets, and other small wares, which they exchange for skins of deer, elks, beavers, and other animals. Those who communicate with the French approach them once or twice in the year, by the stream called the Three Rivers,—or even also by the Sagné, which discharges itself at Tadousac into