[212 i.e., 210] CHAPTER XII.

OF THE HOLY CROSS MISSION AT TADOUSSAC.

T is certain that all men are created in order to know, to love, and to enjoy their God; all have the means to do this, but very diversely. Some are in plenty, and are none the richer for it; others are wealthy in their want. A silly woman can confess to a hundred Priests in Paris, and hear a hundred Masses daily, if she had the time; and a hundred Savages will very often have only one Priest, and even then for a very little while. That results from their respective methods of living, and from the providence of the great God who disposes of his creatures as he pleases, - without, however, failing a single one. The roving Savages become dispersed hither and thither in the Autumn, and toward the Spring they reassemble, - some at Tadoussac, others in the places which they regard as their country. [213 i.e., 211] The Fathers who have charge of these Missions go to find them, in order to have them give account of the past, to maintain them during the present, and to animate them to hold firm for the future. Father Jean de Quen, who has had charge, for some years, of the Mission at Tadoussac, went down to it this Spring. He was received with open heart by all the Christians; but the peoples of the North, who had given him so many hopes last year, have shown themselves colder. We will soon tell the reason of this.