

his fervor at three Rivers; he never entered our houses, and never did we visit his cabin, when joy was not seen spreading over his face. "You are truly our Fathers," he said to us; "a mother does not love her children, it is you who love us; but I assure you that I also love you very tenderly. Know that wherever you are, that is my country and my village; and that, as soon as I am absent from you, [246] it seems to me that I am in a strange country. When I am in the woods and you do not appear, I say, 'I have gone astray, and must seek my road;' and my heart always looks in the direction of the house of prayer." He uttered these words with an ingenuousness and candor which savored naught of the Barbarian. "Whence comes it," he said, "that you indeed allow me to set forth to you my little needs, and that you never ask anything of me? I wish to ask you for two things. Here we are, ready to start for our great hunt; give me a catalogue of the Feast-days, that we may keep them in the woods; and a little salt, in order to preserve for you some Moose tongues." "Keep them for thyself and thy family," we said to him. "Why, who will better deserve to eat them," he answered, "than those who know God? For the rest, if I knew the *massinahigan*,"—that is to say, "if I knew how to write,"—"I would fill a large piece of paper with the faults that I shall commit; I would also write the errors of my people, in order to give you account of them. I fear nothing; I will openly reprove all those who shall do anything contrary to God's will." This good Neophyte had a wife and a mother-in-law, who responded [247] piously to his devotion.

Taouchkaron, one of the Captains of that Iroquet