

us in the same Church?" "Thou knowest well," she replied, "that neither my husband nor I have ever asked you for anything except to be made children of God. That is our sole request. Truly, my Father, if Baptism were sold, I would buy it, no matter what it might cost me; and I am sure that my husband has the same feeling." "That is enough," said the Father, "you shall both be baptized." God knows what joy took possession of the heart of that good shunamite. But let us proceed. A Captain of that tribe had desired Baptism for two years. The Father asked him what he was doing to prepare himself for it. "I keep away from my heart and from my mouth everything that seems to me to be evil; and, if anything appears to me to be agreeable to God, that is what I love. I know all the prayers that thou hast taught; I recite them very frequently; and [127] not a festival day passes that I do not say my rosary three times." "Yes, but dost thou firmly believe all the things that are taught thee?" "Thou must know, my Father, that before I had heard any one speak of the doctrine that you teach, I had sometimes passed eight years without coming to see the French; fear of the Agnerronons barred the way to me. But when I learned the importance of these truths, from my people who came to see you, I passed through all those dangers. I came to listen to you, and from the moment that I learned from thy lips that there was another life, of joy or of pain, and that it was necessary that our souls be cleansed in the waters of Baptism, I have so earnestly desired those waters that I will never leave thee any rest until thou hast granted them to me. When my Countrymen saw me leave my country, they bade me a final