

the inclination they have to the Faith, and of our insignificant labors.

As to the first, the little paper and leisure we have compels me to say in a few words what might justly fill a volume. The Huron country is not large, its greatest extent can be traversed in three or four days. Its situation is fine, the greater part of it consisting of plains. It is surrounded and intersected by a number of very beautiful lakes or rather seas, whence it comes that the one to the North and to the North-northwest is called "fresh-water sea" [mer douce].<sup>33</sup> We pass through it in coming from the Bissiriniens. The soil of this country is quite sandy, although not equally so. However, it produces a quantity of very good Indian corn, and one may [164] say that it is the granary of most of the Algonquains. There are twenty Towns, which indicate about 30,000 souls speaking the same tongue, which is not difficult to one who has a master. It has distinction of genders, number, tense, person, moods; and, in short, it is very complete and very regular, contrary to the opinion of many. I am rejoiced to find that this language is common to some twelve other Nations, all settled and numerous; these are, the *Conkhandeerrhonons*, *khionontaterrhonons*, *Atiouandarons*, *Sonontoerrhonons*, *Onontaerrhonons*, *Oüioenrrhonons*, *Onoiochrrhonons*, *Agnierrhonons*, *Andastoerrhonons*, *Schahentoarrhonons*, *Rhierrhonons*, and *Ahouenrochrhonons*.<sup>34</sup> The Hurons are friends of all these people, except the *Sonontoerrhonons*, *Onontaerrhonons*, *Oüioenrrhonons*, *Onoiochrrhonons* [165] and *Agnierrhonons*, all of whom we comprise under the name Hiroquois. But they have already made peace with the *Sonontoerrhonons*, since they were defeated by them a year past in the Spring.