

answered, "they speak the truth." Whereupon Father Buteux asked her whether, if she was restored to health, she would promise to be faithful to the belief she wished to embrace. "Whether I live or whether I die, I will always believe in God," she answered. Being sufficiently instructed, her husband one day sent for the Fathers and all the relatives of the sick woman, as she was dying. Father Buteux, approaching her, wished to question her; but they told him she had lost her speech since midnight, and that he should hasten to baptize her, [77] since she was dying. The Father looked at her, and told her to open her eyes as a sign of her belief, and as a proof that she desired holy Baptism. She immediately opened her eyes, looked at the Father, and said to him, "I believe in God, and I believe also what thou hast told me." This was more than could have been hoped for from a woman in the grasp of death. She was then baptized, and her sponsor gave her the name Michelle. As soon as she had been cleansed in this sacred bath, she spoke more freely, and, calling her husband, she begged him to send out many of the people who had come into the Cabin. "Shall I make the Fathers go out also?" he asked her. "No," she replied, "but all the others." After the Father had consoled her, he praised her husband for having loved his wife with a true love. "If I had not loved her," he answered, "I would not have urged her to believe in him who has made all; but I rejoice that she will see in Heaven him who is all good, being baptized in his name." It is strange that these Barbarians find our truths very adorable,—I mean that many of them approve our belief,—and yet do not wish to receive it until they are dying;