

[80] CHAPTER VIII.

OF THE MISSION TO THE OUTAOUACS, KISKAKOUMAC,
AND OUTAOUASINAGOU.

“ I GROUP these three nations together because they have the same tongue, the Algonquin,¹ and form collectively one village, which corresponds to that of the Tionnontateheronnons, among whom we are dwelling.

“ The Outaouacs claim that the great river belongs to them, and that no nation can launch a boat on it [81] without their consent. Therefore all who go to trade with the French, although of widely different nations, bear the general name of Outaouacs, under whose auspices they make the journey.

“ The old home of the Outaouacs was a district on the Lake of the Hurons, whence the fear of the Iroquois had driven them, and whither all their longings are directed as to their native land.

“ These peoples have very little inclination to receive the faith, since they are extremely addicted to Idolatry, superstitions, legends, polygamy, unstable marriages, and every sort of licentiousness, which makes them renounce all natural shame. All these obstacles did not deter me from preaching to them the name of Jesus Christ, and [82] proclaiming the Gospel in all their cabins and in our Chapel. The latter was filled from morning till night, and there I gave constant instruction in our Mysteries and in God's commandments.