

CHAPTER X.

OF THE MISSION TO THE OUSAKIOUEK AND OUTAGAMIOUEK.

“**I** NEXT add these two nations because they are mingled with and allied to the preceding, and have, besides, the same language, the Algonquin,—although differing greatly in various Idioms, a fact which makes it very difficult to understand them. Nevertheless, [102] after some labor on my part, they understand me now, and I understand them, sufficiently for their instruction.

“The country of the Outagami lies Southward toward the Lake of the Ilimouek. They are a populous tribe, of about a thousand men bearing arms, and given to hunting and warfare. They have fields of Indian corn, and live in a country offering excellent facilities for the hunting of the Wildcat, Stag, wild Ox, and Beaver. Canoes they do not use, but commonly make their journeys by land, bearing their packages and their game on their shoulders. These people are as much addicted to idolatry as the other nations. One day, on entering the Cabin of an Outagamy, I found his parents dangerously ill; and [103] when I told him that bleeding would cure them, the poor man took some powdered tobacco and sprinkled it completely over my gown, saying to me: ‘Thou art a spirit; come now, restore these sick people to health; I offer thee this tobacco in sacrifice.’ ‘What art thou doing, my brother?’