

wish him to be baptized, and that all those who were baptized would die. She was told that all the French were baptized, and named some of her own tribe who also had been, and who nevertheless enjoyed perfect health; that, if some Savages died after baptism, it did not result from the Sacrament, but from the disease, which would not fail to kill them even if they were not baptized, as she could see in the cases of some who died without receiving this Sacrament. Her husband chided her: "Is it baptism," said he, "that makes thy son die now? And yet he lies there dying. I wish him to be a Christian." The mother continued to object, while the child was approaching nearer to death, being hardly able to breathe. The Father, on his part, urged the mother, assuring her that baptism not only did not make one die, but on the contrary sometimes restored the life of the body [54] and the life of the soul together; and that, if she would believe God could perform this wonder, her son might recover. Instantly, upon hearing this suggestion, the woman begins to open her ears: "If thou canst cure him," she replies, "baptize him; if not, do not touch him." "As for me," says the father of the child, "I believe that he who has made all can cure him." "If thy wife had the same belief," said some one, "thou wouldst soon see thy son alive." He began to urge her: "Thou hast no sense; thou fearest that baptism will make him die, and thou seest he is dying without baptism; he who has made all, and can do all, is strong enough to restore him to life; and, even if he does not restore him, he will at least have pity on his soul." "Let them baptize him then," said the mother. "Take courage," replied her husband,