

1645. portable to the whole cabin, and there being no prospect, mutilated as he was, that he would ever be in a condition to render any service, his mistress sent him to the nearest Dutch post to sell him, if any one there would buy him. The Dutch received him cordially, satisfied the Indians, and gave him proper medical care.¹ As soon as he was able to endure a voyage he was placed on a vessel, which landed him in Rochelle towards the close of November.²

Sad condition of the colony.

To return to the Iroquois. Bent, as these savages seemed to be, on pushing the war to extremity against us as well as against our allies, they nevertheless, from time to time, showed some inclination to peace. The Chevalier de Montmagny ardently desired it, both because he saw himself not in a condition to sustain a war, and because, even could he do so successfully, he had nothing to gain. Even had it been possible for him to conceal his weakness from his enemies, he might, indeed, have profited, by some fortunate occasion, to make terms not inconsistent with the honor of France; but this resource was wanting, and the Iroquois boasted aloud that they would soon force the French to return across the sea.³

Thus satisfied as the governor was that the means of disarming these savages was not to seek them, he never saw a moment when he could assume the tone which alone could have retained them in a strict neutrality towards us.

¹ Bressani, *Breve Relatione*, pp. 42, 43. This work contains three letters of the author, dated July 15, 1644, Aug. 31, 1644, and a third from Isle de Rhé, Nov. 16, 1644. He was given up to the Dutch Aug. 19, 1644. Kieft's passport, dated Sept. 20, is in Creuxius, *Historia Canadensis*, p. 403. See O'Callaghan's *New Netherland*, i., pp. 336, 337. Mother Juchereau (*Histoire de l'Hotel Dieu*) says he went to Rome and was presented to Pope Innocent X., who received him as an apostle and kissed his scars (p. 53). For Bressani, see

a life by Rev. Felix Martin, S. J., in his French edition of Bressani; *Relation Abrégée*, Montreal, 1852; also Creuxius, *Historia Canadensis*, pp. 395-403; *Relation de la Nouvelle France*, 1644, pp. 41-5, etc.; Shea, *Perils of the Ocean and Wilderness*, pp. 104-30. Father Bressani, a native of Rome, entered the Society of Jesus at the age of fifteen, came to Canada in 1642, and died at Florence, Sept. 9, 1672.

² Nov. 15: *Relation de la Nouvelle France*, 1644, p. 45.

³ *Relation de la N. F.*, 1644, p. 105.