

1645. Their journey was, in fact, without mishap, and on their arrival in the Huron country, it was decided, in a general council, to send the two Iroquois prisoners to the Chevalier de Montmagny. That governor had already set at liberty the prisoner placed in his hands by the Algonquins;¹ and the cantons, to show their inclination for peace, had sent back Couture, the young Frenchman who allowed himself to be taken with Father Jogues.² He was attended by the same Iroquois prisoner just mentioned, and by deputies from the cantons, invested with full powers, as the governor-general had required.

Public audience given them. What happened there.

As soon as their arrival at Three Rivers was known, de Montmagny repaired to that place with Father Vimond, and, after regaling them, set a day³ on which to give them audience. On that day the general appeared in the place of the fort of Three Rivers, which he had had covered with sails from the ships. He was seated in an armchair, with Mr. de Champflour and Father Vimond⁴ at his side, and many officers, and the chief inhabitants of the colony around. The Iroquois deputies, to the number of five, were at his feet, seated on a mat; they had chosen that spot to show more respect to Ononthio, whom they never addressed except as their father.

The Algonquins, Montagnez, Attikamegues, and some other Indians of the same language, were opposite, and the Hurons remained intermingled with the French. All the middle of the place was open, to allow evolutions to be made without interruption, for this kind of action is a sort of comedy, where very sensible things are said and

¹ He set out May 21: *Lettres Historiques de la M. Marie de l'Incarnation*, p. 115.

² *Relation de la Nouvelle France*, 1645, p. 23; *Lettres Historiques de la M. Marie de l'Incarnation*, p. 116.

³ July 2, 1645: *Creuxius, Historia Canadensis*, p. 417.

⁴ Bartholomew Vimont came to

Cape Breton Sept. 18, 1629, and after a year's stay returned to France. He came to Quebec in August, 1639, and was superior from 1639 to 1645. He returned to France Oct. 26, 1659, and died at Vannes, July 13, 1667. He prepared six volumes of the published Relations.