

1646. He set out from Three Rivers on the 30th of January, to go and confess the garrison of Fort Richelieu, and prepare them to celebrate the feast of Candlemas. He wandered from the two soldiers and the Huron who accompanied him, in attempting to go on ahead ; but he lost his way beyond recovery, and on the very day of the feast he was found dead, kneeling amid the snow.¹

His body was carried to Three Rivers, where he was in great odor of sanctity. His obsequies were celebrated with all possible pomp ; but more prayers were addressed to him than recited for him. Many even have declared that they found it impossible to pray for him. Others, at the sight of his body, were penetrated with a sincere repentance for their sins and made long-deferred confessions : so that we may say that his bones prophesied even more happily than those of Eliseus, which restored bodily life to a corpse by the mere touch ; whereas many recovered spiritual life on casting their eyes on the sad remains of a missionary fallen in the exercise of his ministry.²

The colony had scarcely begun to enjoy the delights of peace, when war had well-nigh been enkindled anew.

The Journal here has after Massé's name the words, "premier missionnaire du Canada," in Charlevoix's handwriting ; yet, with the Journal to guide him, he made de Noue's death follow : Relation de la Nouvelle France, 1646, p. 11 ; Bressani, Breve Relatione, p. 75 ; Lettres Historiques de la M. Marie de l'Incarnation, pp. 148-52 ; Creuxius, Historia Canadensis, p. 445. Enemond Masse was born at Lyons ; and having been socius to Father Coton, was sent to Acadia in 1611. He was at St. Sauveur when it was attacked by Argal. He returned to Canada in 1625, and was carried off by Kirk. He again returned in 1633, and died at the age of 72.

¹ Relation de la Nouvelle France, 1646, p. 11 ; Bressani, Breve Relatione, pp. 72-5 ; Creuxius, Historia Canadensis, p. 449.

² Lalemant, Journal, February 12, 1645 ; Bressani, Breve Relatione, pp. 73, 74 ; Relation de la Nouvelle France, 1646, pp. 9-11 ; Lettres Historiques de la M. Marie de l'Incarnation, p. 152 ; Memoires touchant les vertus, (manuscript, 1652) ; Creuxius, Historia Canadensis, p. 440. He was of a noble family, his father being Lord of Prières, near Rheims. A page at court, he became a religious and a missionary. He came to Canada July 14, 1626. He died at the age of sixty-three, says Du Creux.