

1652. standing to advance the work of God, that in a short time he beheld himself at the head of a numerous and flourishing church. In the sequel, when the Abénaquis were attached to the French by the bond of religion, New England had every reason to repent her having unwisely made them irreconcilable enemies.¹

Father Buteux goes northward with a presentiment that he will not return.

About the same time some families of Attikamegues invited Father Buteux to accompany them to their country, in order to assemble the sad remnants of the nation. He consented the more willingly, as several other tribes, who did not yet know Christ, were to be at the rendezvous appointed by the Attikamegues. The day of departure was fixed for the 4th of April, 1652, and the evening previous the missionary wrote to his superior a note couched in these terms:² "They at last give me hope, Reverend Father, that we are about to start. God grant that they do not change their purpose, and that Heaven may be the bourn of our journey. Our convoy is composed of sixty persons, men, women, and children. All are in extreme languor. As to provisions, they are in the hands of Him who nourishes the birds of heaven. I set out burdened with my sins and my misery, and I greatly need prayers on my behalf. My heart tells me that the time of my happiness approaches. Dominus est: quod bonum est in oculis suis faciat."³

He is killed by the Iroquois.

There was need, indeed, to be prepared for any event, to undertake such a journey. After the religious had suffered for a month all the hardships of want of provisions and most frightful routes, it was deemed best for the party to separate, both to subsist more easily and to be better able to avoid hostile war-parties; but, before separating, all wished to confess and receive the Sacrament of the Altar. Father Buteux retained with him only a

¹ Father Gabriel Druillettes arrived in Canada, Aug. 15, 1643. He died at Quebec, April 8, 1681.

² Relation de la Nouvelle France, 1652, p. 2.

³ 1 Kings, iii. 18.