

The next year, Father le Moyne was sent to Onondaga to ratify the treaty in the name of the governor-general, and all passed with great satisfaction on both sides. The missionary told the Indians that he wished to have his cabin in their canton, and his offer was not only accepted, but a site was marked out, of which he took possession. He was then feasted in several towns, loaded with presents on behalf of all the sachems, and taken back to Quebec according to their promise.¹

1654.
Father le
Moyne goes
to Onon-
daga to
ratify the
treaty.

But the joy inspired by the happy success of his negotiation was nothing compared to that which he felt at the sight of a multitude of Huron captives, who formed amid the heathen a church quite similar to that of the Jews during the captivity of Babylon. Their faith had been put to the severest tests, and was only the more lively.² The example of their virtues, and the pathetic exhortations of some of them, had inspired the Iroquois with an exalted esteem for the religion which they professed. Several even seemed disposed to embrace it. Father le Moyne baptized some; and his extreme desire to see an Iroquois church well established, as soon as possible, made him, on his return, observe silence as to an event which befell him on his route, and which was only subsequently learned from the Iroquois themselves.

Fervor of
the Huron
captives
among the
Iroquois.

He was in a canoe with two Onondagas. Hurons and

made their presents, Nov. 6, and they were returned on the 9th: Le Mercier, *Journal*; M. Marie de l'Incarnation, *Lettres Historiques*, p. 226. A large Iroquois party menaced Three Rivers, but they were brought to terms of peace by the defeat of a party near Montreal by the Huron chief, Annontaha or Kanontaga. The brave Huron took prisoners several great war-chiefs, and went to Three Rivers to propose negotiation: Le Mercier, *Journal*, Aug. 21, 1653; Dollier de Casson, *Histoire de Montreal* (MS.);

Belmont, *Histoire du Canada*, p. 7; Faillon, *Histoire de la Colonie Française*, p. 163.

¹ He left Quebec, July 2, 1654, and returned to it, Sept. 11: *Relation de la Nouvelle France*, 1654, p. 11; Creuxius, *Historia Canadensis*, p. 705; M. Marie de l'Incarnation, *Lettres Historiques*, p. 226. He at this time discovered the Onondaga salt-springs: N. Y. Doc. Hist., i., p. 33.

² *Relation de la Nouvelle France*, 1654, p. 13; Creuxius, *Historia Canadensis*, p. 707; M. Marie de l'Incarnation, *Lettres Historiques*, p. 228.