

1654. no one moved. As to Father le Moyne, neither an incident showing so conclusively that it was not yet time to trust to the Mohawks, nor many other events, coming in quick succession, could undeceive him. Persuaded that, by dint of cultivating that savage people, they would ultimately tame them, he did not take pains enough to study their character—a study very necessary to any one who forms a project so difficult as that of destroying all the prejudices of the mind and all the passions of the heart.¹

Two other
mission-
aries pro-
ceed to On-
ondaga.

1655. The Onondagas seemed to act with more frankness, and Fathers Chaumonot and Dablon were sent to them.² The former was of Italian origin,³ and at the time the oldest of

the missionaries in New France, where he labored to an extreme old age with unwearied zeal, and where his mem-

¹ Copie de deux Lettres, 1655, p. 2; M. Marie de l'Incarnation, Lettres Historiques, pp. 235-9. They are not so severe on le Moyne.

² Copie de deux Lettres, 1655, pp. 2-6; Creuxius, Historia Canadensis, p. 746. Chaumonot (in his Autobiographie, p. 66) says that Menard was selected, but that he was sent at the instance of Governor de Lauzon: M. Marie de l'Incarnation, Lettres Historiques, p. 240.

³ Peter Joseph Mary Chaumonot was not of Italian origin. Charlevoix was misled by an allusion of Dablon to his Italian style. From his own very curious account of his life it appears that he was born near Chatillon-sur-Seine, in 1611, and after running away, and meeting many strange adventures, entered the Jesuit novitiate in Rome, on the 18th of May, 1632. Father Poncet induced him to solicit the American mission, and they came out together in 1639. Chaumonot was at once sent to the Huron mission, and there spent eleven years, visiting Hurons, Petuns, and Neuters. He founded

the colony on Isle Orleans. After his return from Onondaga, he resumed his care of the Hurons at Quebec, Beauport, and finally at Lorette, which he founded. During a visit to Montreal, he established a still-subsisting confraternity of the Holy Family. He died, February 21, 1693. His Indian name was Hechon. Besides his Autobiography (with sequel, New York, 1858), he wrote a thorough Huron grammar, of which a translation has been published in the Transactions of the Quebec Literary and Historical Society, vol. ii., and several letters, preserved in the Relations and in Carayon, Documents Inédits. Claude Dablon was apparently from Dieppe. He arrived in 1655, and after laboring at Onondaga, explored the Upper Saguenay, and attempted to reach Hudson's Bay. In 1668 he was sent to Lake Superior. He became superior of the missions in 1670, and was in office in 1688. He died at Quebec, in 1697. He is the author of the Relations for 1671 to 1679.