

in concert with them, proceeded to Quebec, to endeavor to induce Mr. de Lauson to send a good number of French among them.¹ 1655.

He started on the 2d of March, 1656, with a numerous escort, and reached Quebec only in the early part of April.² He had no difficulty in bringing Mr. de Lauson into the views of the Iroquois; and notwithstanding all that was told that general by a Huron, who had lived long among the Onondagas, to dissuade him from trusting to those Indians, he could not alter his resolve.³ Fifty Frenchmen were chosen to go and form the proposed settlement, and the Sieur Dupuys, an officer of the garrison, was assigned to them as commandant.⁴ Father Francis le Mercier, who had succeeded Father Jerome Lallemant in the office of superior-general of the missions, wished to conduct in person those of his religious whom he had selected to establish the first Iroquois church. These were Fathers Fremin, Mesnard, and Dablon.⁵ Their departure was fixed for the 7th of May; and although the harvest had been by no means abundant, the Sieur Dupuys was plentifully supplied with means to support all

Project of a French colony at Onondaga.

1656.

for Dablon to go, especially as there was a report that Onondagas were imprisoned at Montreal: Chaumonot Autobiographie, p. 68; Relation de la Nouvelle France, 1656, p. 35; Creuxius, Hist. Canadensis, p. 791.

¹ In July, 1655, the Duke de Dampville, Count de Biron, was again made viceroy of New France: Mem. Hist. Soc. Montreal, p. 110.

² He reached Montreal, March 30, 1656: Creuxius, Hist. Canad., p. 793.

³ Relation de la N. F., 1656, p. 38.

⁴ Zachary du Puys was commandant of the fort of Quebec (Ferland, Cours d'Histoire, i., p. 426) and became subsequently Major of Montreal: Faillon, ii., pp. 388, 517; Mem. Soc. Hist. Montreal, p. 135. M. Mary of the Incarnation speaks highly of

him: Lettres Historiques, p. 531. He took ten soldiers of the garrison (Rel., 1658, p. 3), and apparently forty other Frenchmen: Relation, 1656, p. 38.

⁵ Francis le Mercier entered the order Oct. 14, 1620; came to Canada in 1635; was on the Huron mission till its ruin; Superior from 1653 to 1656, and from 1665 to 1670, and as such published six Relations. He was for a time director of M. Mary of the Incarnation. After leaving Canada in 1673, he was sent to the West Indies as visitor, and died at Martinique, June 12, 1690. Jerome Lallemant, born at Paris in 1593, came to Canada in 1638; on Huron mission till 1645; Superior from 1644 to 1650; in France from 1656 to 1659; again Superior, 1659 to 1665; died