

1617. had also gone from village to village to lay the plan of the missions which he proposed to establish among the Hurons, and he had turned every moment to profit in studying the language. But he had no time to make great progress, this study not being a matter of one or two years, give it what application you will.¹

A Recollect
Brother
renders a
great ser-
vice to the
colony.

Mr. de Champlain and Father Joseph did not remain over a month at Quebec after their return. They embarked,² with the Superior of the Mission, to return to France, and there remained in the colony only one priest, Father John d'Olbeau, and Brother Pacificus Duplessys, who had been appointed to instruct the children of the French and Indians recently settled at Three Rivers, and where he rendered, the next year, a still more essential service to New France. Our allies, by I know not what discontent, had plotted to make away with the French. It seems evident, however, that they came to this resolve only in their fear that Mr. de Champlain, just returned from France,³ would take summary vengeance for the death of two settlers⁴ whom they had murdered, perhaps to rob. The fact is, that they assembled at Three Rivers, to the number of eight hundred,⁵ to deliberate on the means of cutting off all the French at once ; that Brother Pacificus was warned of their design by one of them ; that he gained several others ; that he gradually brought all the rest to take steps towards a perfect reconciliation, and that he undertook to negotiate with the commandant.

¹ As to le Caron's Huron mission, see Sagard, *Histoire du Canada*, pp. 27-30, briefly, and le Clercq, *Etablissement*, i., pp. 72-88. Le Caron returned in March, 1617, and celebrated the first marriage with the usual ceremonies ; the parties being Stephen Jonquest and Anne Hebert : Sagard, p. 41.

² July 20. They reached Honfleur, Sept. 10, 1616 : Champlain, *Voyages, 1615-8* (ed. 1619), p. 178 ; Sagard,

Histoire du Canada, p. 31 ; Le Clercq, *Etablissement*, i., p. 100.

³ Champlain sailed from Honfleur, May 24, 1618 (p. 122), and reached Quebec, June 27 (p. 138).

⁴ A locksmith and Charles Pillet, killed in April, 1617. The locksmith had beaten an Indian, who killed him and his companion in revenge.

⁵ Sagard, *Hist. du Canada*, p. 42. He gives no date to the Indian plot.