

Several Iroquois were killed ; some remained prisoners ; the rest escaped. Our men, however, learning that these fugitives were carrying off the Recollect Father, William Poulain, gave chase. Unable to overtake them, they released one of their prisoners, giving him his liberty, and charging him to propose the exchange of the missionary for one of their chiefs. This man arrived at the moment when all preparations were made to burn the religious. The proposition which he bore was accepted, and the exchange made in good faith.¹

The second company embarked in thirty canoes, approached Quebec, and proceeded to invest the Recollect convent on the St. Charles River, where there was a little fort. Not daring to attack this place, they fell on some Hurons not far off, surprised several, and burnt them. They then ravaged the neighborhood of the convent and retired.² The memoir from which I draw this does not say what became of the third party, but it adds that the Iroquois had sufficiently declared their intention to exterminate all the French. Mr. de Champlain was far from having sufficient strength to repress these savages. Hence he deemed it his duty to lay before the king and the Duke de Montmorenci the necessity of relieving the colony, and the disregard shown to that time by the company of his repeated instances to induce them to fulfil their obligations. He accordingly, with the consent of the most notable inhabitants, deputed Father George le Baillif to his majesty, to whom that religious was personally known. He was very well received by the king, and obtained all he asked.³ The company was suppressed, and two private individuals, William de Caen and his nephew, Emeric de Caen, entered on all their rights.⁴

¹ Le Clercq, *Etablissement de la Foi*, i, p. 206. The event belongs evidently to 1622. Sagard makes no allusion to the circumstance, but notes Poulain's arrival in 1619 (p. 49).

² Ib., p. 209.

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³ Sagard, *Histoire du Canada*, p. 72 ; Le Clercq, *Etablissement*, i, p. 179. Both give the address, dated August 18, 1621, with the letter to the king.

⁴ This new company, called the