

1634. It was in vain that the Fathers removed this difficulty by offering to embark with no luggage but simply their chapel service, and to help them paddle ; for nothing puts men alleging a false motive to conceal ill-will in worse humor, than a reasonable proposition to which there is no reply. The Hurons at last evinced their unfriendliness by a formal stubborn refusal. It was only by dint of persuasions and presents, made with more zeal than prudence, that they were induced to consent to give a place in their canoes to Fathers de Brebeuf and Daniel and their servant. Father Davost, who was to accompany them, was forced to await another opportunity.<sup>1</sup>

Father Davost follows them. Their sufferings on the way.

Aug. 5.

He did not wait long : three canoes of Hurons having come to Three Rivers a few days later, he was taken on the terms offered by himself and the other two Fathers, and these Indians took good care that they were strictly fulfilled. Two Frenchmen embarked with Father Davost,<sup>2</sup> and at the end of August reached their journey's end, where they found the two first Jesuits, who had arrived three weeks before, but in a wretched plight. The surly humor of their conductors had been augmented by sickness, which broke out among them on the route, and it subjected them to many unpleasant moments. They were even more than once in danger of being killed, or left without food or guide in totally deserted spots.

Nor did the Hurons show any indulgence in exacting the promise to paddle,—a very painful exercise, when kept up long by one unaccustomed to it. Finally, one of them lost part of his baggage, which was stolen.<sup>3</sup> The Hurons had already, in the minds of the French, a reputation as bold and adroit thieves. They are not alone now; and even among those in whom you find most disinterestedness and

<sup>1</sup> Relation de la Nouvelle France (1634), p. 90 ; Relation (1635), p. 25 ; (1634), pp. 88, 89 ; Brebeuf, Relation Creuxius, p. 158.  
 (1635), p. 24 ; Creuxius, Historia Canadensis, p. 158.

<sup>2</sup> Relation de la Nouvelle France (1635), pp. 25, 26 ; Creuxius, Historia Canadensis, pp. 160-2.