

1670. establishment, has remained deserted.¹ This mortality was caused especially by small-pox,² which some years later entirely destroyed the town of Syllery. Fifteen hundred Indians were attacked and not one recovered.

Establishment of the Huron town of Lorette.

The Hurons, although always intermingled with the French, who communicated the disease to the Indians, escaped it better than other tribes;³ and it was about this time that Father Chaumonot having collected them all two leagues from Quebec, founded the Mission of Lorette,⁴ now more flourishing in the fervor of those who inhabit that settlement than by their number. At this time, too, an event occurred which showed that not in vain did they labor to sow the seed of the Word in the Iroquois cantons, and especially in that of the Mohawk, at all times most opposed to the missionaries.

The Dutch and the Iroquois Christian squaws.

Some Dutch people settled near this canton, attempted to disseminate their dogmas among these neophytes, and tried the women first, hoping to succeed more easily. They attacked them especially on the Devotion to the Mother of God, the worship of Saints, the Cross, and Images; but they found instructed Christian women, firm in the belief of what had been taught them on these points. Ministers then tried to inspire them with distrust of their missionaries. This plan met with still less success; these good Christians replied even in a way that covered them with

¹ Jefferys, French Dominions, p. 3.

² Father Albanel the missionary at Tadoussac, was likewise attacked by it. Relation, 1670, p. 10.

³ Almost all the Hurons were seized with the small-pox. Chaumonot in Relation, 1670, p. 20, who attributes their recovery to Our Lady of Foye. The mission was then called "Annunciation of our Lady," and was near Quebec, at a place which now bears the name of Ste. Foie, a corruption of Notre Dame de Foye, so called by Chaumonot after a sanctuary of that name near

Dinan in Belgium. Relation, 1671, p. 7; 1672, p. 2; 1673, p. 1; Relations Inédites, i., pp. 149, 295.

⁴ Lorette, Ancienne Lorette, was founded in pursuance of a long-cherished desire of Father Chaumonot, who had visited the celebrated sanctuary in Italy. He erected a chapel, which was an exact counterpart in size and arrangement of the Santa Casa. See Chaumonot, Autobiographie, pp. 90-4; Relation de la Nouvelle France, 1673-9, pp. 260-1; Relations Inédites, i., p. 305. It was opened, November 4, 1674.