

dated at Onondaga, reached Quebec.<sup>1</sup> That missionary had, on his way, run many dangers from the Mohawks, Oneidas, and Senecas, who had not taken part in the deputation of the other two cantons.<sup>2</sup> He at last, without any untoward accident, arrived within two leagues of Onondaga,<sup>3</sup> and there found the great chief of that canton, named Garakonthié,<sup>4</sup> who awaited him with a numerous retinue to do him honor. He was the more surprised at this, as it is not the custom among the Indians to go more than a quarter of a league to meet deputies; but his astonishment ceased when he knew well the chief who paid him this compliment.

Garakonthié was Indian only in birth and education; and with all the good qualities that it is impossible not to recognize in his nation, he had an excellent disposition, great mildness, a superior intellect, and great uprightness. His exploits in war,<sup>5</sup> and his dexterity in swaying minds in council, had acquired for him great influence in his nation; and it was his most ordinary employment to use it in all cases to prevent violent measures, and to bring about peace with the French, whom he loved sincerely. He had given strong proofs of this feeling, by rescuing from the hands of the Mohawks a great many of the French; and all who were at the time prisoners in his canton, or in the others, owed their lives to him.

By a refinement of policy, which surprises us in an In-

1661.

Reception given to Father le Moyne at Onondaga.

Character of Garakonthié.

<sup>1</sup> Letters Aug. 25 and Sept. 11, 1661, dated from the Onnontaghé Chapel: *Relation de la Nouvelle France*, 1661, p. 31.

<sup>2</sup> Senecas are not mentioned: *Ib.*, p. 32.

<sup>3</sup> They landed first at Otiatanhegué.

<sup>4</sup> Garakonthié (The Sun who Walks) was apparently an orator, not a sachem, and not a war-chief exerting a personal influence, as Red Jacket did. He is not men-

tioned in connection with the settlement of St. Mary of Ganentaha by any of the writers at that time, and it is absolutely contrary to all authority to make him the projector of that movement. He probably, with true Indian caution, watched the French and their missionaries, and at last came to the conclusion that guided all his subsequent conduct, that the true policy for the Indians was to adopt the civilization of the French.

<sup>5</sup> I find no authority for this.