

his death, on his Superior suggesting that it was time for him to take steps to withdraw from the fury of the English, who had sworn to destroy him, he replied that his measures were taken. "God has confided this flock to me, I will follow its lot, too happy to lay down my life for it." He often repeated the same thing to his neophytes. After his death, these fervent Christians said: "We have seen but too well that this dear Father spoke to us in the fullness of his heart; we have seen him face death with a tranquil air, and alone meet the rage of the enemy, to give us time to put our lives in safety." Nor was he less regretted in the Colony than among his Indians; but men thought rather of exalting his happiness, than of offering prayers for the repose of his soul. When Father de la Chasse requested of the Abbé de Belmont, Superior of the Seminary of Montreal, the suffrages of the church for Father Rasle, according to the communion of prayers existing between the Sulpitians and the Jesuits, that venerable and aged priest replied only in the words of St. Augustine: "He wrongs a martyr who prays for him."¹

The war between the Indians and the English still continued for a time, always to the disadvantage of the latter, whose hostilities only served to render invincible the aversion always entertained for them by the Indians. The English at last were forced to adopt the course of leaving the Indians at peace. France had not entered this con-

1713-22.

Rale's Life has been written at some length by Rev. Convers Francis. (Sparks' American Biography, volume 17,) and in Die Katholische Kirche in dem Vereinigten Staaten, Regensburg, 1864. The authorities are chiefly the Letters in the Lettres Edifiantes, and in the Mass. Hist. Coll., series II. vol. viii.

¹ Father La Chasse's Letter in the Lettres Edifiantes, (Kip, 76.) The spot where his village and chapel stood, is now called Indian Old Point, and a monument to the missionary was erected here by

Bishop Benedict Fenwick, in 1833. It was subsequently thrown down.

Father Sebastian Rale, born in Franche Comté, January 4, 1657; entered the Society of Jesus in the Province of Lyons, Sept. 25, 1674; taught in the College at Nismes; reached America, Oct. 13, 1689; was first sent to the Abnaki mission at St. Francis; was in Illinois in 1693-4, and on the Kennebec from 1695 till his death, Aug. 23, 1724.

His successor was Father James de Syresme, born Oct. 22, 1695; be-