

PREFACE TO VOL. XIII

Part I. of the *Relation* of 1637 (Document XXIX.) was given in Vols. XI. and XII. of our series. In the present volume, we publish the first installment (about two-thirds) of Part II. of the same *Relation*, being the portion devoted to the Hurons; the remainder of Part II., concluding the entire document, will appear in Vol. XIV.

The Huron section of the *Relation* of 1637 is written by Le Mercier, who closes his report at Ihonatiaria, June 21 of that year. He opens his account of the year's work in the Huron country with a "Journal" of events transpiring there from July, 1636, to June, 1637. The death is recorded of Soranhes (father of Amantacha, *alias* Louis de Sainte-Foi, the principal native convert of the district), who is suspected of having committed suicide. The arrival at the mission of Fathers Chastellain and Garnier, is noted, and above all, the harvest of baptisms—over one hundred during the year.

A long chapter is devoted to the hideous cruelties inflicted by the Hurons upon an Iroquois prisoner,—whom, however, the missionaries find opportunity to instruct before his death, and for whom they are thus able to open Heaven's gate.

In September, the mission family is afflicted by illness,—a fever, which successively attacks all ex-